




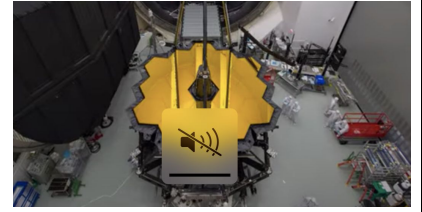


ESO, Karl-Schwarzschild-Str.2  
 D-85748 Garching bei München,  
 Germany  
 Telephone: +49 (0)89 3200 6855  
 Telefax: +49 (0)89 3200 6480  
 hubble@eso.org

www.spacetelescope.org

<b>Hubblecast 132 Light: Hubble Identifies Strange Exoplanet That Behaves Like the Long-Sought “Planet Nine”</b>	<b>Visual notes</b>
Intro	
<p>The NASA/ESA Hubble Space Telescope has studied an 11-Jupiter-mass exoplanet called <b>HD106906 b</b> that occupies an unlikely orbit around a double star 336 light-years away.</p>	
<p>This is the <b>first time</b> that astronomers have been able to measure the motion of a massive Jupiter-like planet that is orbiting very far away from its host stars and visible debris disc.</p>	
<p>The exoplanet <b>resides extremely far</b> from its host pair of bright, young stars — more than <b>730 times</b> the distance of Earth from the Sun.</p>	
<p>This wide separation made it <b>enormously challenging</b> to determine the 15 000-year-long orbit in such a short time span of Hubble observations that span several years.</p>	
<p>The team behind this new result was surprised to find that the strange world has an <b>extreme orbit</b> that is very inclined, elongated and external to the debris disc that surrounds the exoplanet’s twin host stars.</p>	
<p>The exoplanet may be offering clues to something that might be much closer to home: a hypothesized distant member of our Solar System dubbed <b>“Planet Nine.”</b></p>	 
<p>The mechanism that caused HD106906 b’s bizarre orbit is similar in some ways to what may have caused the hypothetical Planet Nine to end up in the outer reaches of our own Solar System.</p>	
<p>Planet Nine could have formed in the inner Solar System and was then <b>kicked out</b> by interactions with Jupiter.</p>	

Scientists using the upcoming NASA/ESA/CSA **James Webb Space Telescope** plan to get additional data on HD106906 b to better understand the planet's system.



**Ends: 0:00**