

Jun YANG
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Jun Yang is an assistant professor in the Dept. of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences of Peking University, Beijing, China. Between 2003-2007, he studied Physics as an undergraduate at Beijing Normal University. After that, he went to Peking University for studying atmospheric and oceanic sciences and received his PhD in Meteorology in 2012. Between 2009-2011, he was a visiting student in the University of Toronto. After the PhD, he went to University of Chicago as postdoc research fellow for studying the climate and habitability of planets beyond the solar system, called exoplanets.

In pursuit of the ultimate question: “Are we alone in the universe?”, Jun’s studies have promoted better understanding of the climate and evolution of terrestrial planets in and beyond the solar system. His research interests include Earth’s climate, planetary climate and habitability, and exoplanet characterization. In particular, he found that the width of the habitable zone for tidally locked planets is about twice that for rapidly rotating planets, such as Earth, and that as the stars become brighter with time, icy moons and planets would become too hot to be habitable after the surface ice melts. These results are important for finding habitable exoplanets.