Observing Exoplanets with the James Webb Space Telescope

The search for exoplanets and characterization of their properties has seen increasing success over the last few years. In excess of 500 explanets are known and Kepler has ~1000 additional candidates. Recently, progress has been made in direct imaging planets, both from the ground and in space. This presentation will discuss the history and current state of technology used for such discoveries, and highlight the new capabilities that will be enabled by the James Webb Space Telescope.