

Planets Orbiting the Smallest Stars

[James Lloyd](#)

Astronomy

The remarkable progress in the field of exoplanet research over the last decade has resulted in the discovery of more than 200 planets orbiting sun-like stars, using optical high resolution spectroscopy. So far, however, the lowest mass stars, M dwarfs, remain largely unexplored for planets due to their faintness at optical wavelengths. We are developing a new infrared radial velocity spectrometer, TripleSpec-EDI to search for earth-like planets orbiting M dwarfs. This instrument will be the first such instrument sufficiently sensitive to detect terrestrial planets orbiting in the habitable zone. Opportunities exist to assist with the commissioning, analysis of data, and planning of observations.