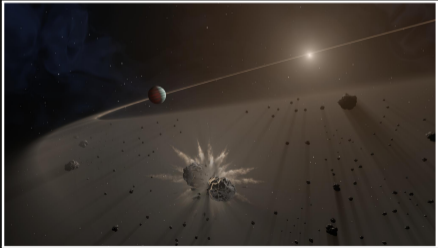
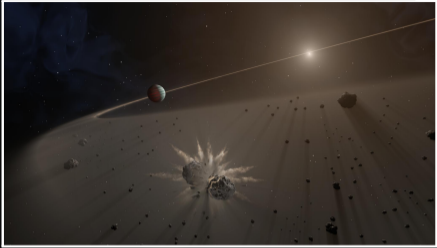


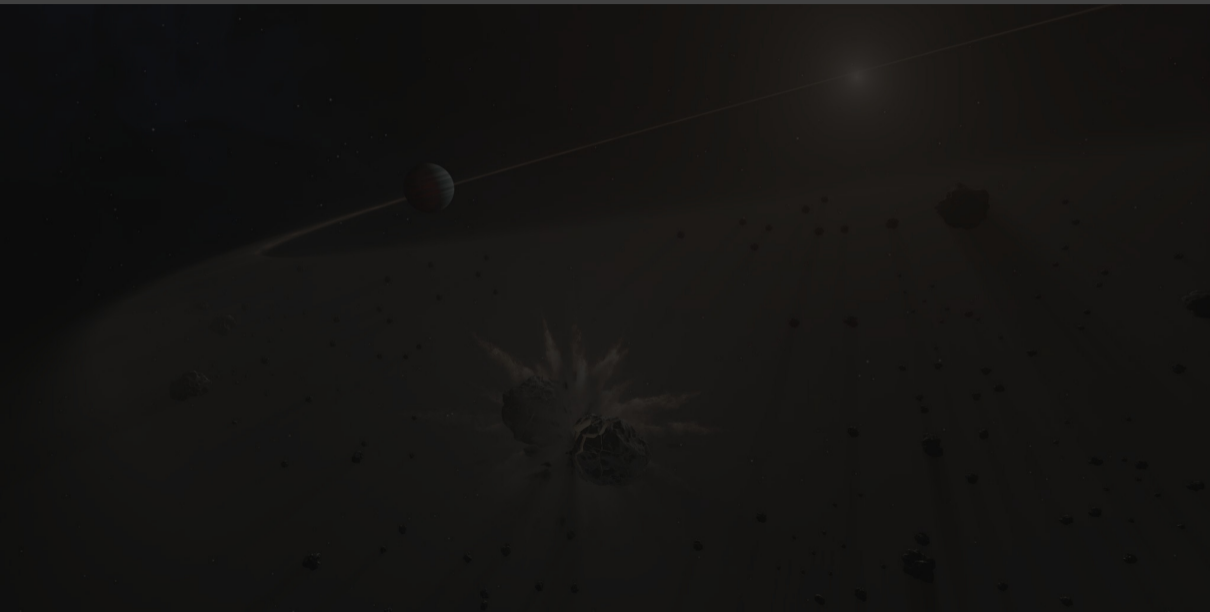
Leaving and re-entering academia

My weird career path

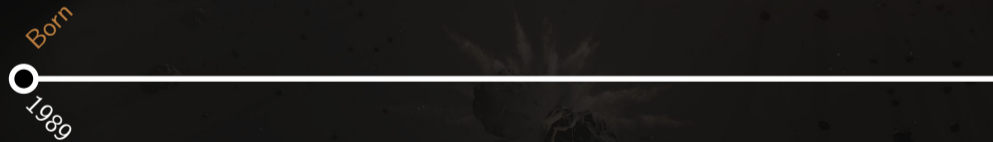
Tim Pearce



Timeline



Timeline



Timeline



Timeline



Timeline



Timeline



Timeline



Timeline

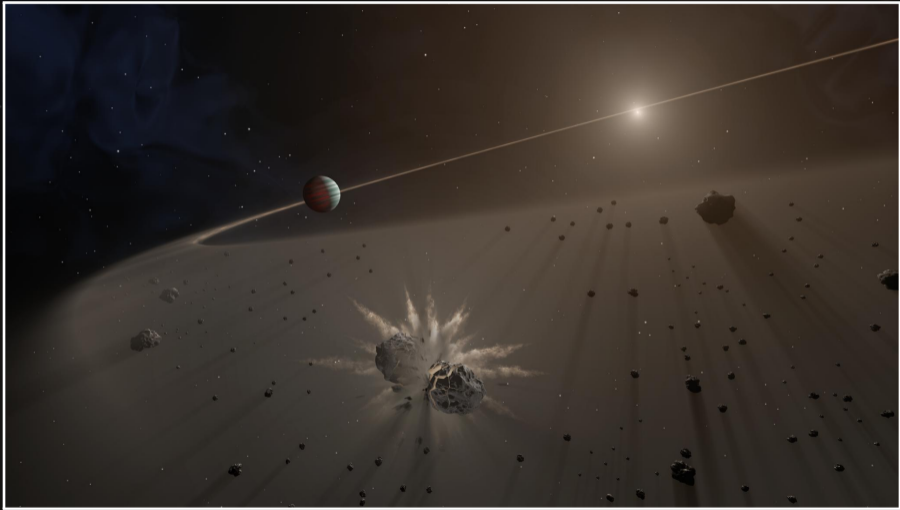


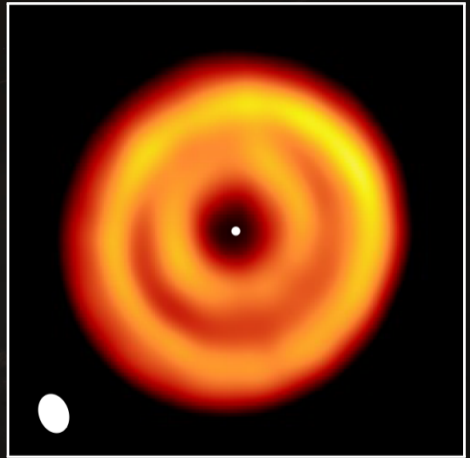
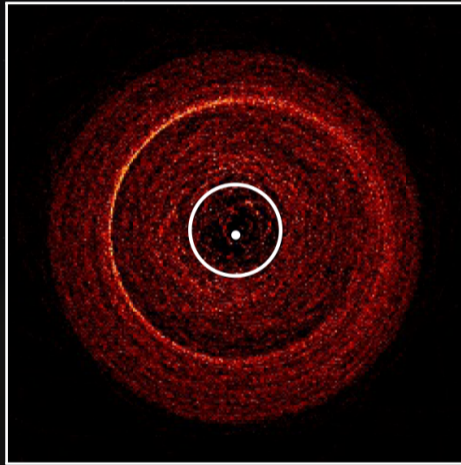
Timeline

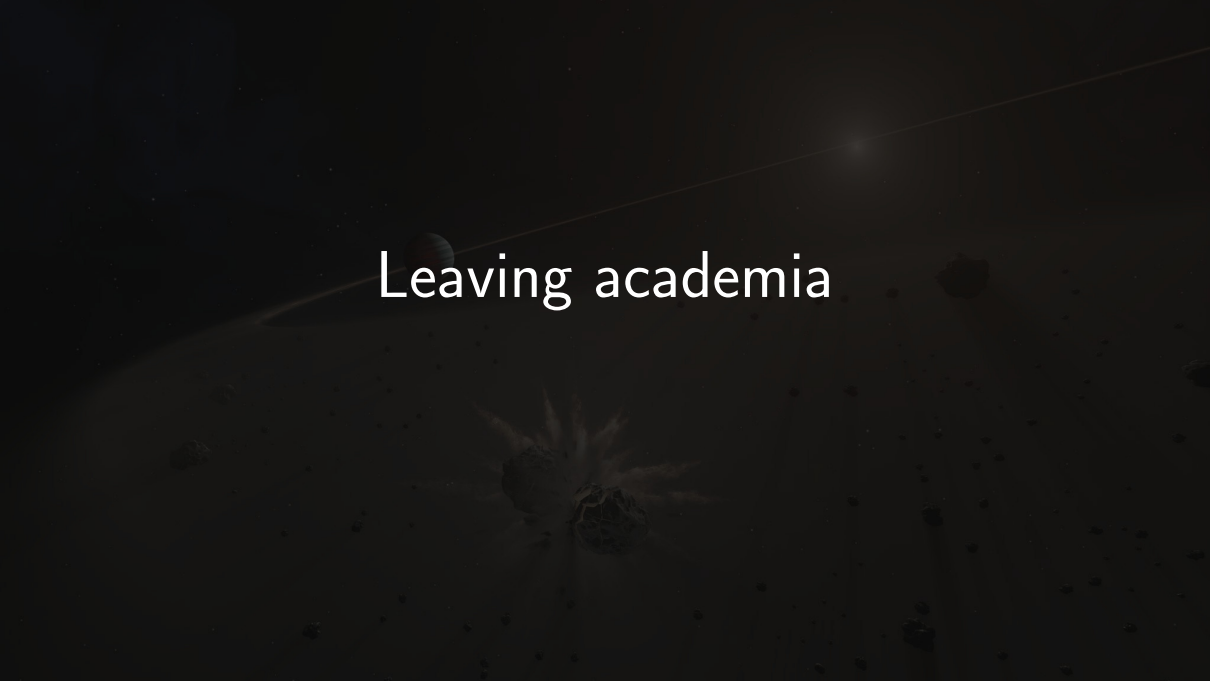


Timeline



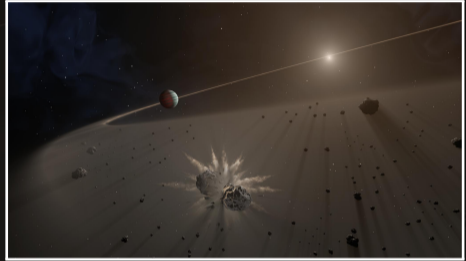




The background is a dark, black space filled with numerous small, white stars of varying sizes. A bright, glowing light source is positioned in the upper right quadrant, creating a lens flare effect that extends across the top of the frame. On the left side, a small, dark planet or moon is visible, partially obscured by the text. The overall atmosphere is mysterious and cosmic.

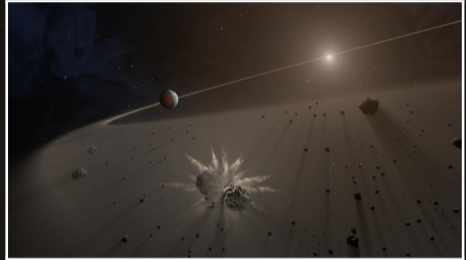
Leaving academia

Why did I leave academia?



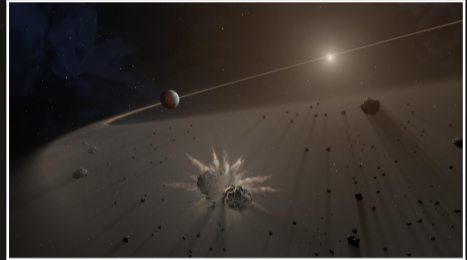
Why did I leave academia?

- To try something different



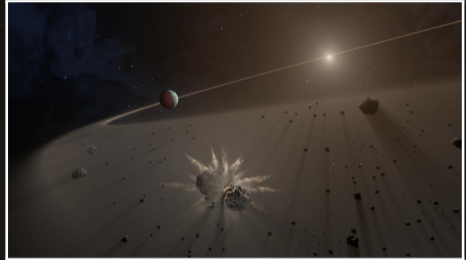
Why did I leave academia?

- To try something different
- Multiple interests



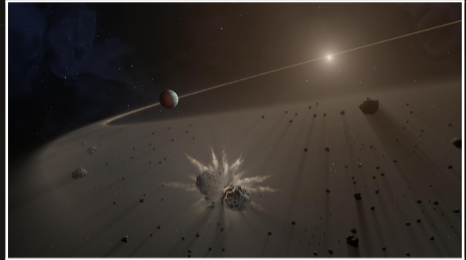
Why did I leave academia?

- To try something different
- Multiple interests
- Wasn't sure academia was for me

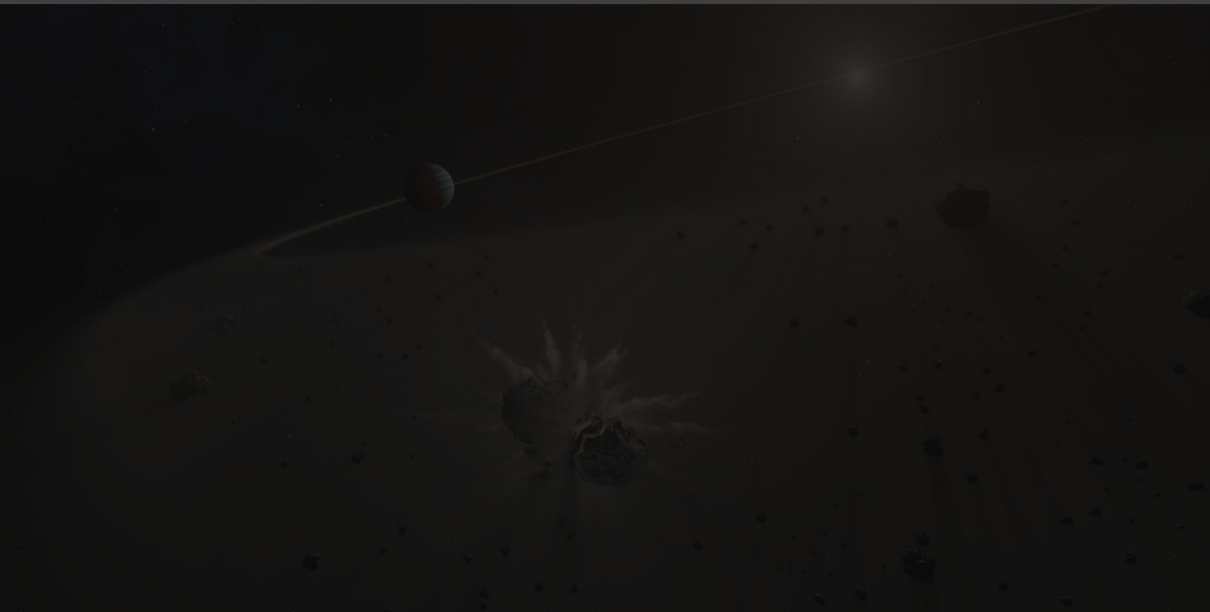


Why did I leave academia?

- To try something different
- Multiple interests
- Wasn't sure academia was for me
- Worried about lack of permanent positions



Royal Navy officer



Royal Navy officer



Royal Navy officer



Royal Navy officer



Royal Navy officer

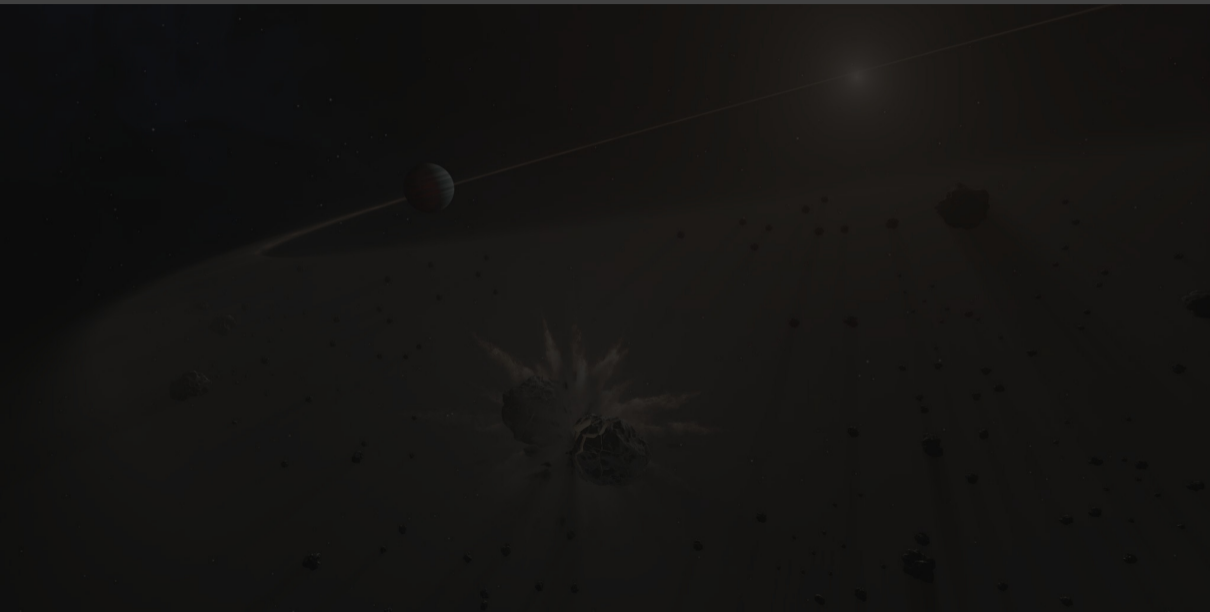


Why did I leave the Navy?

⇒ Not technical enough



Lead Mathematical Developer - JCT Consultancy



Lead Mathematical Developer - JCT Consultancy



Why did I leave JCT?



Why did I leave JCT?

- Less passion for subject



Why did I leave JCT?

- Less passion for subject
- Everyone thought I was a spy



Why did I leave JCT?

- Less passion for subject
- Everyone thought I was a spy
- Saw an opportunity to get back into academia



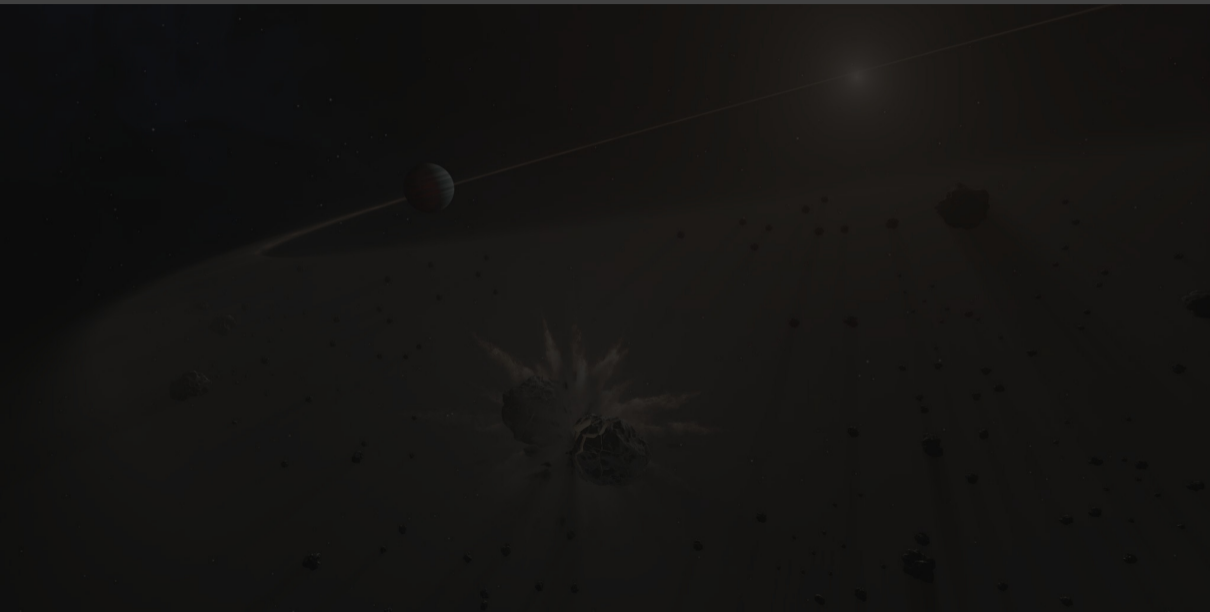
A dark, starry space background with a bright star and a planet visible. The text "Returning to academia" is centered in white.

Returning to academia

Postdoc - Jena, Germany

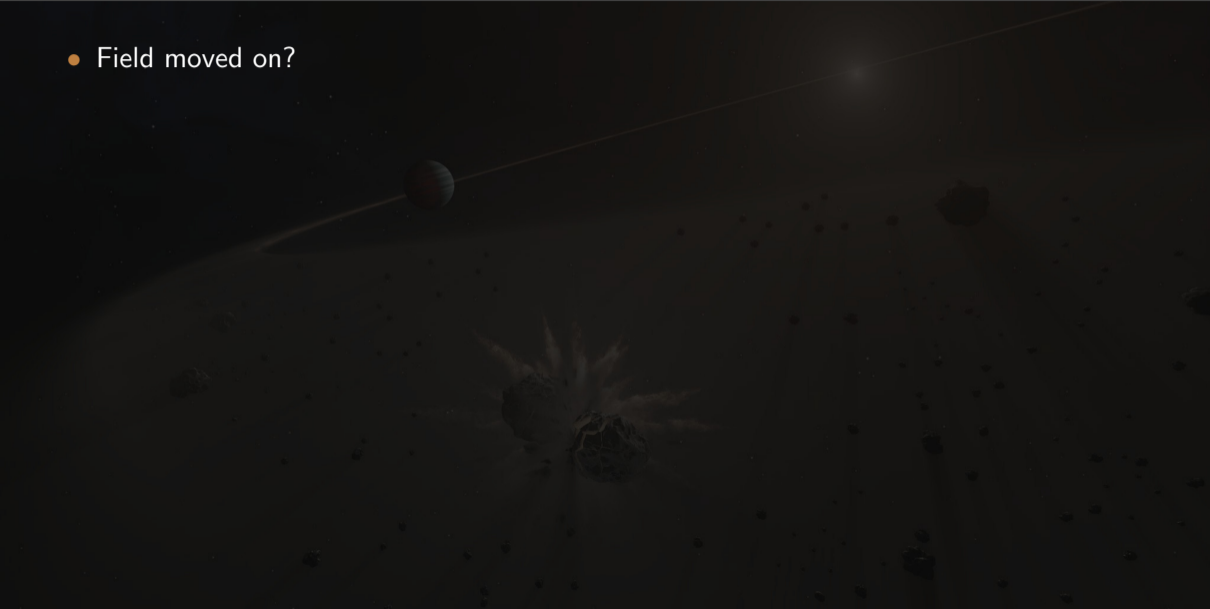


Was returning difficult?



Was returning difficult?

- Field moved on?



Was returning difficult?

- Field moved on?



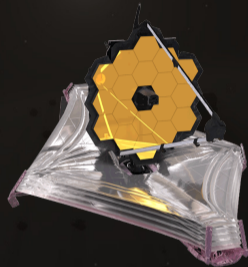
ESO

Was returning difficult?

- Field moved on?



ESO



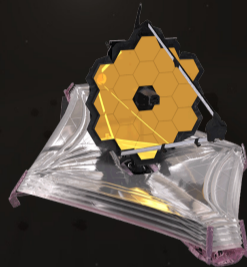
NASA

Was returning difficult?

- Field moved on?




ESO



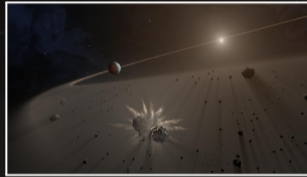
NASA

- Lost technical skills?

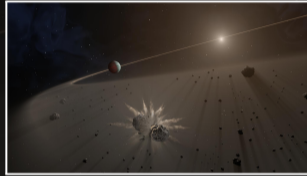
A dark space background featuring a bright star in the upper right, a planet with a ring system in the upper left, and a nebula-like structure in the lower center. The word "Advantages" is written in white text in the center.

Advantages

Transferable skills



Transferable skills

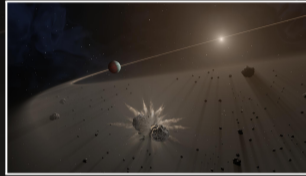


- Science & maths
- Coding
- Teaching
- Supervision

Transferable skills



- Leadership
- Management
- Responsibility for others
- Organisation
- Communication
- Adaptability & resilience



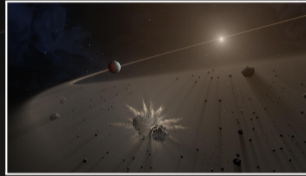
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Transferable skills



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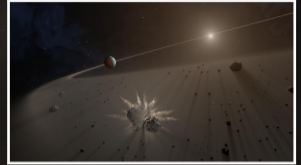


- Science & maths
- Coding
- Teaching
- Supervision



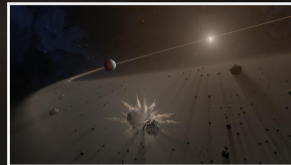
- Shared coding
- Coding practices
- Front + backend dev.
- Team management

Other advantages



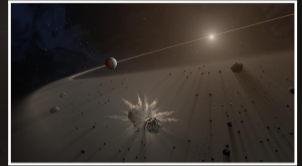
Other advantages

- Gave perspective



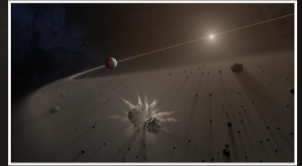
Other advantages

- Gave perspective
- Lets me share experiences



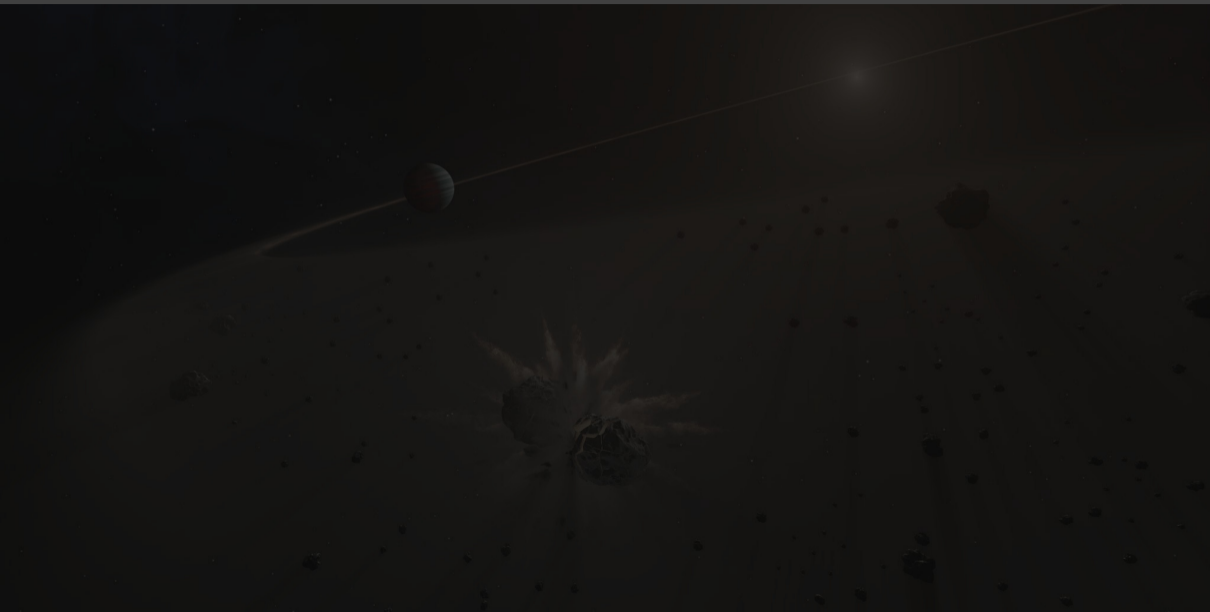
Other advantages

- Gave perspective
- Lets me share experiences
- Means I'm sure I want to stay



Disadvantages

Disadvantages



Disadvantages

- No guarantee of getting back in



Disadvantages

- No guarantee of getting back in
- Field might have moved on



Disadvantages

- No guarantee of getting back in
- Field might have moved on
- Fellowship-application windows



LEVERHULME
TRUST _____

Disadvantages

- No guarantee of getting back in
- Field might have moved on
- Fellowship-application windows



LEVERHULME
TRUST _____

- Impact on relationships and family

Disadvantages

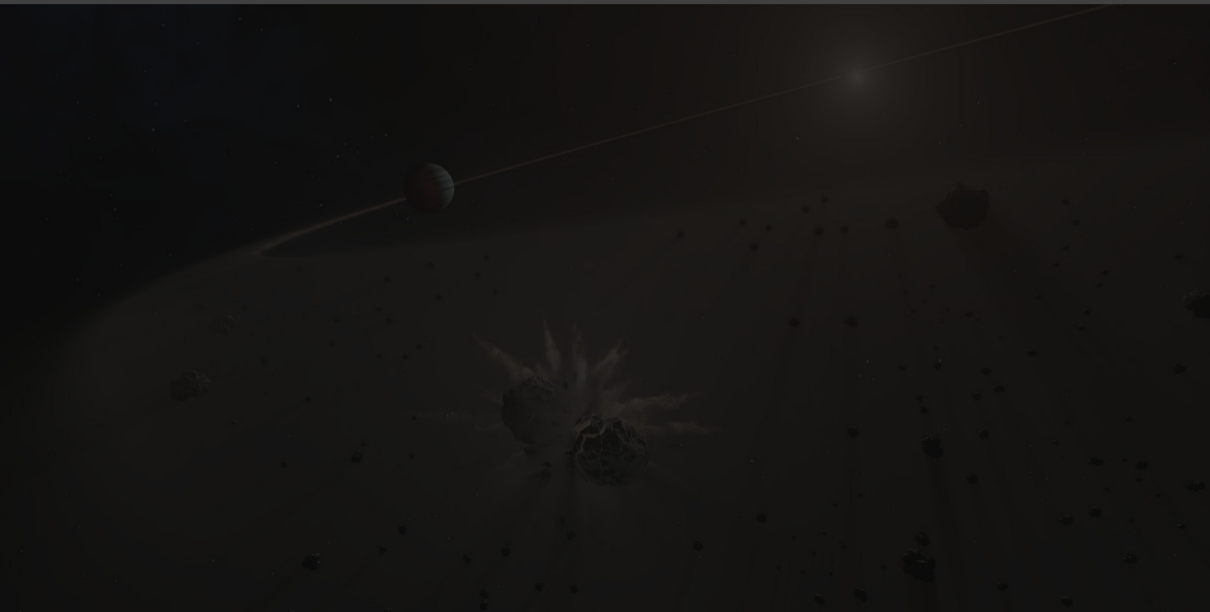
- No guarantee of getting back in
- Field might have moved on
- Fellowship-application windows



LEVERHULME
TRUST _____

- Impact on relationships and family
- Some of your PhD friends are already professors 🤖

Other routes back in



Other routes back in

- Fellowships for people re-entering academia



Other routes back in

- Fellowships for people re-entering academia



- Most fellowships accept career breaks for certain reasons

Other routes back in

- Fellowships for people re-entering academia



- Most fellowships accept career breaks for certain reasons
- Watching postdoc job sites

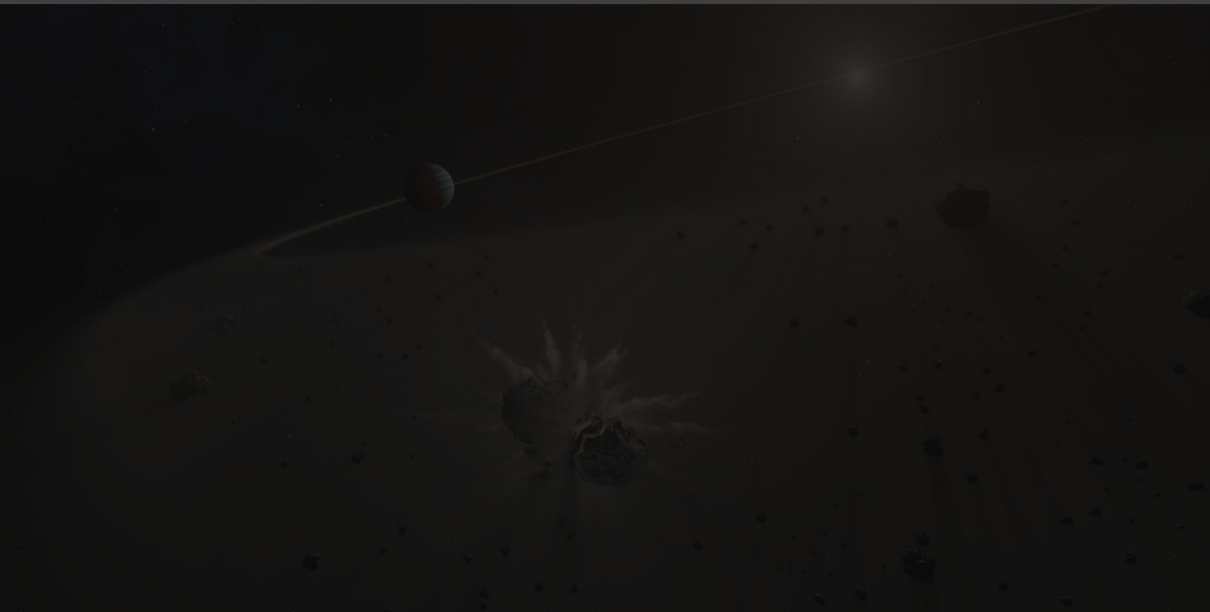
Other routes back in

- Fellowships for people re-entering academia



- Most fellowships accept career breaks **for certain reasons**
- Watching postdoc job sites
- Keeping in contact with supervisors & colleagues

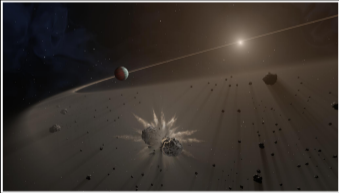
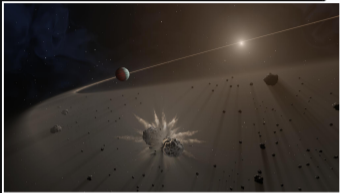
Conclusions



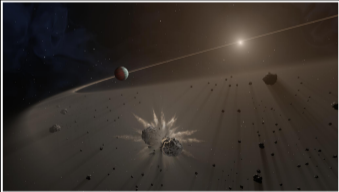
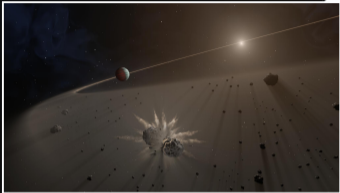
A dark space background featuring a bright star in the upper right, a planet in the upper left, and a comet with a long tail in the lower center. The text "It's not as hard as you might think" is centered in white.

It's not as hard as you might think

Conclusions



Conclusions



Questions?

Bibliography

Pearce T. D., Wyatt M. C., 2015, MNRAS, 453, 3329

A dark, artistic rendering of a solar system. A bright star is visible in the upper right, with a thin line representing an orbital path. A planet is shown on this path in the upper left. In the lower center, a comet with a long tail is depicted. The background is filled with numerous small, distant stars.