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KELT-20b: A Giant Planet with a Period of $P \sim 3.5$ days Transiting the $V \sim 7.6$ Early A Star HD 185603

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Abstract

We report the discovery of KELT-20b, a hot Jupiter transiting a $V \sim 7.6$ early A star, HD 185603, with an orbital period of $P \sim 3.47$ days. Archival and follow-up photometry, Gaia parallaxes, radial velocities, Doppler tomography, and AO imaging were used to confirm the planetary nature of KELT-20b and characterize the system. From global modeling we infer that KELT-20 is a rapidly rotating early A star, HD 185603, and AO imaging were used to con...
measurements indicate that the planetary orbit normal is well aligned with the projected spin axis of the star ($\lambda = 3°4 \pm 2°1$). The inclination of the star is constrained to $24°4 < \psi < 69°8$. KELT-20b receives an insolation flux of $\sim8 \times 10^9$ erg s$^{-1}$ cm$^{-2}$, implying an equilibrium temperature of $\sim2250$ K, assuming zero albedo and complete heat redistribution. Due to the high stellar $T_{\text{eff}}$, KELT-20b also receives an ultraviolet (wavelength $\lambda \lesssim 91.2$ nm) insolation flux of $\sim9.1 \times 10^4$ erg s$^{-1}$ cm$^{-2}$, possibly indicating significant atmospheric ablation. Together with WASP-33, Kepler-13 A, HAT-P-57, KELT-17, and KELT-9, KELT-20 is the sixth A star host of a transiting giant planet, and the third-brightest host (in $V$) of a transiting planet.

**Key words:** methods: observational – planets and satellites: detection – planets and satellites: gaseous planets – stars: individual (HD 185603) – techniques: photometric – techniques: radial velocities

**Supporting material:** data behind figures

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1. Introduction

The first surveys for exoplanets, which primarily used the radial velocity (RV) method,$^{39}$ focused on Sun-like (G, late F, and early K) dwarf stars. This was due to the fact that old stars with $T_{\text{eff}}$ below the Kraft break (Kraft 1967) at $T_{\text{eff}} \sim 6250$ K tend to be slowly rotating and have plentiful absorption lines, therefore enabling the subrains of meters per second precision that was expected to be needed to detect analogs of the planets in our solar system. Stars cooler than early K also have plentiful lines, but are generally faint in the optical, where these initial surveys were carried out. Given the high-resolution ($R \gtrsim 50,000$) spectra needed to resolve the stellar spectral lines, high photon counts were difficult to acquire for cooler stars with the modest-aperture telescopes that were available at the time.

Of course, it came as a surprise when the first exoplanets discovered around main-sequence stars (Campbell et al. 1988; Latham et al. 1989; Mayor & Queloz 1995; Marcy & Butler 1996) did not resemble the planets in our solar system and typically induced much higher RV amplitudes than even our own giant planets. Indeed, the Jupiter-like planetary companion to 51 Pegasi (Mayor & Queloz 1995), which jump-started the field of exoplanets (despite not being the first exoplanet discovered), has such a short period that it creates a reflex RV amplitude on its host star of hundreds of meters per second. It is the prototypical “hot Jupiter,” a class of planets that are now known to orbit $\sim0.5\%–1\%$ of stars (Gould et al. 2006; Howard et al. 2012; Wright et al. 2012), but whose origins and characteristics remain important topics of study.

Subsequent surveys for exoplanets, including those using the transit (Winn et al. 2010) and microlensing (Gaudi 2012) methods, began to more fully explore the planet populations of lower-mass stars, in particular around M dwarfs. The reasons for this are clear: RV, transit, and microlensing surveys are all more sensitive to planets orbiting low-mass stars (albeit for different reasons; see Wright & Gaudi 2013). For potentially habitable planets, in particular, transit surveys have an enormous advantage over other detection methods when targeting low-mass stars (Gould et al. 2003). This advantage has since been dubbed the “small star opportunity” and has been one of the many reasons that the Kepler (Borucki et al. 2010) mission, as well as other ground-based surveys such as MEarth (Nutzman & Charbonneau 2008; Charbonneau et al. 2009; Berta et al. 2012) and TRAPPIST (Gillon et al. 2014), have been so impactful.

Indeed, in the more than 25 yr since the first confirmed exoplanets were discovered, the number of known exoplanets has increased dramatically, to almost 3500 confirmed exoplanets and an additional 2200 unconfirmed planet candidates.$^{40}$ As the field of exoplanets has developed, there have been two broad goals: determining the overall demographics of exoplanets and how these demographics depend on the properties of the planets and their host stars, and finding individual exoplanets that can be characterized in detail, in particular their atmospheres. The primary techniques for characterizing exoplanet atmospheres are transits and direct imaging. The combination of transit photometry and RV measurements can provide a planet’s radius and mass and, by extension, its density and bulk composition. Beyond this, phase curves and spectroscopy of transits and eclipses can shed light on the atmospheric properties of the system. Although planet densities can be determined even for quite faint host stars, detailed spectra and phase curves benefit greatly from having host stars that are bright (Seager & Deming 2010). Indeed, finding such bright transit hosts is one of the primary motivations of the Transiting Exoplanet Survey satellite (Ricker et al. 2015).

The Kilodegree Extremely Little Telescope Survey (KELT; Pepper et al. 2003, 2007, 2012) was originally designed to find transiting hot Jupiters orbiting bright ($8 \lesssim V \lesssim 10$) stars, precisely the targets best suited for follow-up and atmospheric characterization. Nevertheless, the KELT survey did not start actively vetting targets until around 2011, by which point many ground-based transit surveys had discovered a number of transiting planets orbiting moderately bright stars (Alonso et al. 2004; McCullough et al. 2005; Bakos et al. 2007; Collier Cameron et al. 2007).

Concurrently, while the overall picture of the demographics of planetary systems orbiting late F to M stars was starting to become clear, the properties of planetary systems orbiting more massive and hotter stars remained relatively murky. This was largely because the workhorse planet detection technique, RVs, begins to have difficulties achieving precisions of better than a few hundred meters per second for stars above $T_{\text{eff}} \sim 6250$ K, both because these stars have thin convective envelopes and so do not spin down with age owing to magnetic braking, and because they have fewer spectral lines than cooler stars. Although there were some RV surveys that targeted A and F stars, these did not result in many detections (e.g., Galland et al. 2005). Part of the difficulty with discovering planets via RVs is that one does know a priori the ephemeris of any extant planet; as a result, one must search over many epochs and periods, thereby requiring a higher statistical significance

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$^{39}$ While not the focus of this introduction, we would be remiss not to note the discovery of the planetary companions to the pulsar PSR 1257+12 by Wolszczan & Frail (1992).

$^{40}$ From https://exoplanetarchive.ipac.caltech.edu/, accessed 2017 July 3.
for detection. With transit surveys, on the other hand, the ephemeris is known precisely, and as a result only a few relatively imprecise RVs are needed to confirm the planet and measure its mass or place an upper limit on the mass that places it in the planetary mass range. Furthermore, of course, if one can measure the mass, one can measure (or place an upper limit) on the planet density.

Another avenue to studying planets orbiting more massive stars was to survey “Retired A Stars” (Johnson et al. 2007), giant stars whose progenitors were, ostensibly, A stars while on the main sequence. However, the difficulty of inferring the mass of a giant star through its observable properties led some to question whether this sample of stars was, indeed, evolved from more massive progenitors, or simply solar-mass analogs (Lloyd 2011). In recent years, several papers have provided multiple lines of evidence showing that the initial spectroscopic estimates of the masses of the “Retired A Stars” were likely generally slightly overestimated and the uncertainties in their masses likely underestimated. Indeed, it appears that the majority of the members of the “Retired A Star” sample that have accurate mass measurements (via astroseismology or transits; Johnson et al. 2014; Pepper et al. 2017; Campante et al. 2017; North et al. 2017; Stassun et al. 2017; Stello et al. 2017) appear to actually be “Retired F Stars,” i.e., more massive than the solar-type stars that dominated early RV surveys (and are therefore more massive than the Kraft break), but less massive than a zero-age main-sequence (ZAMS) A star. In retrospect, this fact should not be very surprising, as the average age of the Galactic thin disk (whose stars dominate the local solar neighborhood) is ~7.4-8.2 Gyr (Kilic et al. 2017), corresponding to the hydrogen-fusing lifetime of a ZAMS late F star.

Although (as demonstrated by the discovery announced in this paper) photometric transit surveys are certainly sensitive to hot Jupiters orbiting hotter and more massive main-sequence stars, the conventional wisdom for many years was that a positive RV detection was required to confirm a transiting planet candidate. This perception began to change around nearly the same time for independent but related reasons. First, the discovery of WASP-33b (Collier Cameron et al. 2010) demonstrated that a combination of Doppler tomography and a robust upper limit on the companion mass from RV can confirm a transiting planet. Second, the use of statistical tools by the Kepler mission also relaxed the perception that RV confirmation was needed to validate a planet (Torres et al. 2011; Morton 2012; Lissauer et al. 2014; although see Shporer et al. 2017, for an example of the pitfalls of statistical validation). These changes, together with the somewhat fortuitous and accidental discovery of KELT-1b (Siverd et al. 2012), led the KELT Collaboration to pursue planets around more massive and hotter stars.

To date, including the planet KELT-20b announced here, six transiting giant planet companions to main-sequence A stars are known: WASP-33, Kepler-13 A, HAT-P-57, KELT-17, and KELT-9. A few additional companions to hot stars or remnants have been announced from the Kepler mission via transits, pulsation timing, or Doppler beaming (e.g., Silvotti et al. 2007, 2014; Charpinet et al. 2011; Ahlers et al. 2015; Murphy et al. 2016). Finally, several directly imaged planets orbiting young stars with $T_{\text{eff}} \gtrsim 7500$ K have been announced, 41 the three hottest of which have very large uncertainties in the masses and radii of the planets owing to the uncertain age of their parent stars, which may put them in the brown dwarf regime (Acke & van den Ancker 2006; Lafrenière et al. 2011; Carson et al. 2013). One of the advantages of discovering transiting planets orbiting bright stars is that it is possible to estimate the mass and radius of the host star to good precision (see Section 3.2).

KELT-9b is an exemplar with regard to understanding exoplanet structure around hot stars, as it is both the brightest ($V$ magnitude of 7.55) and hottest (10,170 K) star known to host a transiting hot Jupiter and provides an excellent opportunity to characterize a planet that is receiving an extreme amount of stellar radiation (Gaudi et al. 2017). In this paper, we present the discovery and characterization of KELT-20b, a system that provides a comparison to KELT-9b of a hot Jupiter orbiting a very hot main-sequence host star. In particular, KELT-20 is the third-brightest star to host a transiting planet (in $V$) and the second-brightest star to host a hot Jupiter ($V = 7.58$), as well as the second-hottest host star ($T_{\text{eff}} = 8730$ K). KELT-20b is comparatively much cooler than KELT-9b, but at $T_{\text{eq}} \sim 2260$ K it is still one of the hottest exoplanets yet discovered.

2. Discovery and Follow-up Observations

2.1. Discovery

From a reduction of KELT-North field 11, KELT-20 (HD 185603) was identified as an exoplanet candidate following the same reduction and candidate selection process as described in detail in Siverd et al. (2012). KELT-North field 11 is a 26$^\circ$ x 26$^\circ$ area of the sky centered on $\alpha = 19^h 27^m 00^s$, $\delta = 31^\circ 39^\prime 56^\prime\prime 16$ (J2000) and was observed 6740 times from UT 2007 May 30 to UT 2014 November 25. From our periodicity search using the VARTOOLS (Hartman et al. 2016) implementation of box-least-squares fitting (Kovács et al. 2002), KELT-20b was identified as a candidate with a 3.4739926-day period, 3.06 hr transit duration, and 0.81% transit depth. The phase-folded discovery light curve containing all 6740 points is shown in Figure 1. We note that KELT-20b was first identified as a candidate in a prior reduction of KELT-North field 11 using data that ended in UT 2013 June 14 (~700 fewer observations than are shown in Figure 1). The BLS results mentioned above are those of the initial discovery parameters. See Table 1 for the photometric and kinematic properties of KELT-20 from the literature and this work.

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41 We note that the primary to the directly imaged planetary system, HR 8799 (Morois et al. 2008), is often referred to as an A star but has an effective temperature that is on the border between an APV and PV star (Pecaut & Mamajek 2013) and properties that are more reminiscent of a λ Boo star.

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Figure 1. Discovery light curve for KELT-20b based on 6740 observations from the KELT-North telescope. The data have been phase-folded on the preliminary value for the period, 3.4739926 days. The data used to create this figure are available.
Table 1

| Parameter | Description | Value | References |
|-----------|-------------|-------|------------|
| $\delta_{2000}$ | Right Ascension (R.A.) | 19h38m38.73 | 1 |
| $\delta_{2000}$ | Declination (decl.) | $+31^\circ 13' 09'' 21''$ | 1 |
| 156.5 nm | USST ($cW/\text{m}^2/\text{nm}/10^{12}$) | 1.51 ± 0.17 | 2 |
| 196.5 nm | USST ($cW/\text{m}^2/\text{nm}/10^{12}$) | 3.30 ± 0.24 | 2 |
| 236.5 nm | USST ($cW/\text{m}^2/\text{nm}/10^{12}$) | 2.55 ± 0.15 | 2 |
| 274.0 nm | USST ($cW/\text{m}^2/\text{nm}/10^{12}$) | 2.27 ± 0.07 | 2 |
| $\beta_T$ | Tycho $B_T$ mag | 7.697 ± 0.015 | 3 |
| $\gamma_T$ | Tycho $V_T$ mag | 7.92 ± 0.010 | 3 |
| $\delta_{\text{Str}}$ | Stro¨mgren–Crawford mag | 9.094 ± 0.039 | 4 |
| $\gamma_{\text{Str}}$ | Stro¨mgren–Crawford mag | 7.874 ± 0.024 | 4 |
| $\beta_{\text{Str}}$ | Stro¨mgren–Crawford mag | 7.645 ± 0.014 | 4 |
| $\gamma_{\text{Str}}$ | Stro¨mgren–Crawford mag | 7.610 ± 0.010 | 4 |
| $J$ | 2MASS $J$ mag | 7.424 ± 0.024 | 5 |
| $H$ | 2MASS $H$ mag | 7.466 ± 0.018 | 5 |
| $K_s$ | 2MASS $K_s$ mag | 7.415 ± 0.017 | 5 |
| WISE1 | WISE1 mag | 7.394 ± 0.027 | 6 |
| WISE2 | WISE2 mag | 7.437 ± 0.020 | 6 |
| WISE3 | WISE3 mag | 7.439 ± 0.016 | 6 |
| WISE4 | WISE4 mag | 7.350 ± 0.097 | 6 |
| $v_u$ | Gaia DR1 proper motion in R.A. (mas yr$^{-1}$) | 3.261 ± 0.026 | 7 |
| $v_d$ | Gaia DR1 proper motion in decl. (mas yr$^{-1}$) | $-6.041 ± 0.032$ | 7 |
| $RV$ | Systemic radial velocity (km s$^{-1}$) | $-23.3 ± 0.3$ | Section 2.3 |
| $v \sin I_*$ | Projected stellar rotational velocity (km s$^{-1}$) | 114.0 ± 4.3 | Section 4.3 |
| Spec. type | Spectral type | A2V | Section 3.1 |
| Age | Age (Myr) | $<600$ | Section 3.3 |
| $\pi$ | Gaia parallax (mas) | 7.41 ± 0.39 | 5$^*$ |
| $d$ | Gaia-inferred distance (pc) | 139.7 ± 6.6 | 5$^*$ |
| $A_V$ | Visual extinction (mag) | 0.07 ± 0.07 | Section 3.1 |
| $\Theta$ | Angular diameter (mas) | 0.0555 ± 0.0070 | Section 3.1 |
| $U'$ | Space motion (km s$^{-1}$) | 1.13 ± 0.17 | Section 3.4 |
| $V'$ | Space motion (km s$^{-1}$) | $-8.98 ± 0.27$ | Section 3.4 |
| $W$ | Space motion (km s$^{-1}$) | 0.75 ± 0.18 | Section 3.4 |

Note.

$^*$ Gaia parallax after correcting for the systematic offset of $-0.21$ mas as described in Stassun & Torres (2016).

References. (1) van Leeuwen 2007; (2) Thompson et al. 1995; (3) Høg et al. 2000; (4) Paunzen 2015; (5) Cutri et al. 2003; (6) Cutri et al. 2012; (7) Gaia Collaboration et al. 2016, Gaia DR1; http://gea.esac.esa.int/archive/.

2.2. Photometric Follow-up from KELT-FUN

We obtained follow-up time-series photometry from the KELT Follow-Up Network (KELT-FUN) to better characterize the transit depth, duration, and shape, as well as to check for potential astrophysical false positives. We used a custom version of the TAPIR software package (Jensen 2013) to predict transits, and we observed 13 transits in a variety of bands between 2014 August and 2017 June, as listed in Table 2. In Figure 2 we display the photometry from all KELT-FUN observations, as well as the transit light curve when all follow-up observations are combined. Unless otherwise stated, all data were calibrated and analyzed using the AstroImageJ package42 (Collins & Kielkopf 2013; Collins et al. 2017).

2.2.1. Peter van de Kamp Observatory (PvdK)

We observed KELT-20b from the Swarthmore College Peter van de Kamp Observatory (PvdK) on UT 2014 August 29 and UT 2017 May 08 in the $i'$ band. The observations came from a 0.6 m RCOS telescope with an Apogee U16M 4K × 4K CCD, giving a 26' × 26' field of view. Using 2 × 2 binning, it has a pixel scale of 0.076 pixel$^{-1}$.

2.2.2. GCO

We observed KELT-20b from Giorgio Corfini’s private observatory (GCO) in Lucca, Italy, on UT 2014 September 25. The observations came from a 0.2 m Newtonian telescope with an SBIG ST-6303 ME CCD 1536 × 1024 pixel camera, having a 59' × 39' field of view and a pixel scale of 2.3 pixel$^{-1}$.

2.2.3. WCO

We observed KELT-20b from the Westminster College Observatory (WCO) on UT 2015 October 06, UT 2017 May 08, and UT 2017 May 15 in the $z$ band. The observations came from a 0.35 m $f/11$ Celestron C14 Schmidt–Cassegrain telescope and SBIG STL-6303E CCD with a 3k × 2k array of 9 μm pixels, having a 24' × 16' field of view and 1.4 pixel$^{-1}$ image scale at 3 × 3 pixel binning.

2.2.4. Demonext

We observed KELT-20b using the DEMONEXT telescope (Villanueva et al. 2016) at Winer Observatory in Sonorita, Arizona, on UT 2016 May 21, UT 2016 June 04, and UT 2016 June 11 in the $i'$ band. DEMONEXT is a 0.5 m PlaneWave CDK20 f/6.8 Corrected Dall–Kirkham Astrograph telescope with a 2048 × 2048 pixel FLI Proline CCD3041 camera, having a 30''7 × 30''7 field of view and a pixel scale of 0.90 pixel$^{-1}$.

2.2.5. MINERVA

We observed KELT-20b using one of the MINERVA project telescopes (Swift et al. 2015) on UT 2016 November 05. MINERVA consists of four 0.7 m PlaneWave CDK-700 telescopes, located at the Fred L. Whipple Observatory on Mount Hopkins, Arizona. A single MINERVA telescope has an Andor iKON-L 2048 × 2048 camera, giving a field of view of 20''9 × 20''9 and a plate scale of 0.6 pixel$^{-1}$.

2.2.6. MORC

We observed KELT-20b from Moore Observatory (MORC), operated by the University of Louisville, on UT 2017 May 08 in the $i'$ band. The observations came from a 0.6 m RCOS telescope with an Apogee U16M 4K × 4K CCD, giving a 26' × 26' and 0.09 pixel$^{-1}$

2.2.7. CDK20N

We observed KELT-20b from Moore Observatory (CDK20N), operated by the University of Louisville, on UT
2017 May 08 in the $z'$ band. The observations came from a 0.5 m planewave-corrected Dall-Kirkham telescope with an Apogee U16M $4K \times 4K$ CCD, giving it a $37'' \times 37''$ field at 0.54 pixel$^{-1}$.

2.2.8. CROW

We observed KELT-20b from Canelas Robotic Observatory (CROW) in Portalegre, Portugal, on UT 2017 June 11 in the $z'$ band. The observations came from a 0.3 m Schmidt–Cassegrain telescope with a KAF-3200E CCD, having a $30' \times 20'$ field of view and a pixel scale of 0.84 pixel$^{-1}$.

2.3. Spectroscopic Follow-up

We obtained a series of spectroscopic follow-up observations of KELT-20b with the Tillinghast Reflector Echelle Spectrograph (TRES) on the 1.5 m telescope at the Fred Lawrence Whipple Observatory, Mount Hopkins, Arizona, USA. TRES is a fiber-fed echelle spectrograph, with a spectral resolution of $\lambda/\Delta \lambda \sim 44,000$ and a wavelength coverage of 3900–9100 Å over the 51 orders. RVs obtained over 11 out-of-transit orbital phases were used to constrain the mass of the planetary companion. Relative RVs were derived by cross-correlating selected orders in each observed spectrum against the strongest observed spectrum of KELT-20, order by order, and this analysis excludes all orders contaminated by telluric lines or with poor signal-to-noise ratio. These “multiorder” velocities are listed in Table 3 and plotted in Figure 3. In addition, 21 in-transit observations were obtained on the night of UT 2017 April 24 to measure the Doppler tomographic transit of the planet. The analysis of these observations is described in Section 4.3.

2.4. High-contrast AO Imaging

We obtained high-resolution imaging for KELT-20 with the infrared camera PHARO behind the adaptive optics (AO) system P3K on the Palomar 200-inch Hale telescope. PHARO has a pixel scale of 0.025 pixel$^{-1}$ (Hayward et al. 2001), and the data were obtained in the narrowband filter Br-$\gamma$ on UT 2017 May 05.

The AO data were obtained in a five-point quincunx dither pattern with each dither position separated by 5''. Each dither position was observed 3 times, each offset from the previous image by 1'' for a total of 15 frames; the integration time per frame was 45 s. We use the dithered images to remove sky background and dark current and then align, flat-field, and stack the individual images. The PHARO AO data have a resolution of 0.009 (FWHM).

The sensitivity of the AO data was determined by injecting simulated sources into the final combined images with separations from the primary targets in integer multiples of the central source’s FWHM (Furlan et al. 2017). The sensitivity curve shown in Figure 4 represents the 5σ limits of the imaging data.

For KELT-20, no stellar companions were detected in the infrared adaptive optics, indicating (to the limits of the data) that the star likely has no additional components to either dilute the transit depth or confuse the determination of the origin of the transit signal (e.g., Ciardi et al. 2015).

Note that to exclude a false positive due to an eclipsing binary within the photometric aperture, we have to exclude a companion that is ~4.7 mag fainter in the visual, given the transit depth of 1.3%. We can exclude companions that are brighter than ~7.5 mag outside of ~0.8 arcsec in $K$ using the AO images. Because the contrast ratios of stars are typically maximized in the Rayleigh–Jeans tail, it is unlikely that there is a companion that is less than ~4.7 mag fainter in the optical in the same aperture. Thus, it is unlikely that an eclipsing binary is causing the photometric signal. Further evidence against a dilute eclipsing binary comes from the achromaticity of the transit signals. Finally, note also that the Doppler tomographic observation further eliminates the possibility of a blended eclipsing binary causing the transit signal. We discuss further evidence against a false-positive scenario in the next section.

2.5. False-positive Analysis

Despite the unusual nature of this system and the lack of a definitive measurement of the companion mass, we are confident that this system is truly a hot Jupiter transiting an early A star. The evidence for this comes from several sources that we will briefly review; however, we invite the reader to

| Observatory | Location | Aperture (m) | Plate Scale (pixel$^{-1}$) | Date (UT) | Filter | Exposure Time (s) | Detrending Parameters$^a$ |
|-------------|----------|-------------|-----------------------------|-----------|--------|-------------------|------------------------|
| PvdK        | PA, USA  | 0.6         | 0.76                        | 2014 Aug 29 | $i'$   | 20                | airmass, time           |
| GCO         | Lucca, Italy | 0.2          | 2.3                         | 2014 Sep 25 | $V$    | 90                | airmass                |
| WCO         | PA, USA  | 0.35        | 1.45                        | 2015 Oct 06 | $z'$   | 12                | airmass                |
| DEMONEXT    | AZ, USA  | 0.5         | 0.90                        | 2016 May 21 | $i'$   | 31                | None                   |
| DEMONEXT    | AZ, USA  | 0.5         | 0.90                        | 2016 Jun 04 | $i'$   | 31                | None                   |
| DEMONEXT    | AZ, USA  | 0.5         | 0.90                        | 2016 Jun 11 | $i'$   | 31                | None                   |
| MINERVA     | AZ, USA  | 0.7         | 0.60                        | 2016 Nov 05 | $g'$   | 31                | airmass                |
| PvdK        | PA, USA  | 0.6         | 0.76                        | 2017 May 08 | $i'$   | 20                | airmass                |
| MORC        | KY, USA  | 0.6         | 0.39                        | 2017 May 08 | $i'$   | 20                | airmass                |
| CDK20N      | KY, USA  | 0.5         | 0.54                        | 2017 May 08 | $z'$   | 60, 40, 30        | airmass                |
| WCO         | PA, USA  | 0.35        | 1.45                        | 2017 May 08 | $z'$   | 12                | airmass                |
| WCO         | PA, USA  | 0.35        | 1.45                        | 2017 May 15 | $z'$   | 12                | airmass                |
| CROW        | Portalegre, Portugal | 0.3 | 0.84                       | 2017 Jun 11 | $z'$   | 150               | airmass                |

Note.

$^a$ Photometric parameters allowed to vary in global fits as described in the text.

---

**Table 2**

Photometric Follow-up Observations of KELT-20b

| Observatory | Location | Aperture (m) | Plate Scale (pixel$^{-1}$) | Date (UT) | Filter | Exposure Time (s) | Detrending Parameters$^a$ |
|-------------|----------|-------------|-----------------------------|-----------|--------|-------------------|------------------------|
| PvdK        | PA, USA  | 0.6         | 0.76                        | 2014 Aug 29 | $i'$   | 20                | airmass, time           |
| GCO         | Lucca, Italy | 0.2          | 2.3                         | 2014 Sep 25 | $V$    | 90                | airmass                |
| WCO         | PA, USA  | 0.35        | 1.45                        | 2015 Oct 06 | $z'$   | 12                | airmass                |
| DEMONEXT    | AZ, USA  | 0.5         | 0.90                        | 2016 May 21 | $i'$   | 31                | None                   |
| DEMONEXT    | AZ, USA  | 0.5         | 0.90                        | 2016 Jun 04 | $i'$   | 31                | None                   |
| DEMONEXT    | AZ, USA  | 0.5         | 0.90                        | 2016 Jun 11 | $i'$   | 31                | None                   |
| MINERVA     | AZ, USA  | 0.7         | 0.60                        | 2016 Nov 05 | $g'$   | 31                | airmass                |
| PvdK        | PA, USA  | 0.6         | 0.76                        | 2017 May 08 | $i'$   | 20                | airmass                |
| MORC        | KY, USA  | 0.6         | 0.39                        | 2017 May 08 | $i'$   | 20                | airmass                |
| CDK20N      | KY, USA  | 0.5         | 0.54                        | 2017 May 08 | $z'$   | 60, 40, 30        | airmass                |
| WCO         | PA, USA  | 0.35        | 1.45                        | 2017 May 08 | $z'$   | 12                | airmass                |
| WCO         | PA, USA  | 0.35        | 1.45                        | 2017 May 15 | $z'$   | 12                | airmass                |
| CROW        | Portalegre, Portugal | 0.3 | 0.84                       | 2017 Jun 11 | $z'$   | 150               | airmass                |
review Bieryla et al. (2015), Zhou et al. (2016a, 2016b), and Hartman et al. (2015) for a more detailed explanation. Of course, the first system to have been validated in this way was WASP-33b (Collier Cameron et al. 2010).

The Doppler tomographic observation eliminates the possibility of a blended eclipsing binary causing the transit signal. The line profile derived from the least-squares deconvolution shows a lack of spectroscopic companions blended with KELT-20. The spectroscopic transit is seen crossing the entirety of the rapidly rotating target star’s line profile, confirming that it is indeed orbiting KELT-20. The summed flux underneath the Doppler tomographic shadow and the

### Table 3

| BJD_{TDB}     | RV (m s^{-1}) | \sigma_{RV} (m s^{-1}) |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| 2,457.885.970564 | 0            | 397.81                  |
| 2,457.890.927060 | 328.01       | 313.63                  |
| 2,457.900.866772 | 409.74       | 397.81                  |
| 2,457.901.852101 | 230.49       | 390.78                  |
| 2,457.902.775118 | 759.53       | 355.68                  |
| 2,457.903.851423 | 354.69       | 261.69                  |
| 2,457.905.775362 | 418.55       | 424.11                  |
| 2,457.906.798723 | 217.00       | 377.87                  |
| 2,457.907.772196 | 447.92       | 347.19                  |
| 2,457.908.828699 | −66.87       | 367.83                  |
| 2,457.909.823202 | −263.25      | 287.26                  |
| 2,457.910.774902 | 257.09       | 802.67                  |

**Note.** The TRES RV zero-point is arbitrarily set to the first TRES value.

![Figure 2](image1.png)

**Figure 2.** Top: follow-up observations of KELT-20b by the KELT Follow-Up Network. The red line represents the best-fit model for each transit. Bottom: all follow-up transits combined into one light curve (gray) and a 5-minute binned light curve (black). The red line is the combined and binned models for each transit. The data used to create this figure are available.

![Figure 3](image2.png)

**Figure 3.** Top: TRES RV measurements of KELT-20b, with the best-fit model shown in red. The residuals to the fit are shown below. Bottom: RV measurements phase-folded to the global-fit-determined ephemeris. The predicted RM effect is shown at 0.25 phase. The residuals are shown below.

![Figure 4](image3.png)

**Figure 4.** The 5σ contrast limit around KELT-20 in the PHARO AO data. **Inset:** PHARO AO image of KELT-20.
distance of closest approach of the shadow from the zero velocity at the center of the predicted transit time are consistent with both the photometric transit depth and impact parameter, suggesting that the photometric transit is not diluted by background stars and is fully consistent with the spectroscopic analysis.

Finally, the planetary nature of KELT-20b is confirmed by the TRES RV measurements, which constrain the mass of the companion to be $\lesssim 3.5 M_{\text{Jup}}$ at 3σ significance. This eliminates the possibility that the transiting companion is a stellar-mass or brown-dwarf-mass object. As such, KELT-20b is confirmed as a planetary-mass companion transiting the rapidly rotating A star HD 185603.

Thus, we conclude that all the available evidence suggests that the most plausible interpretation is that KELT-20b is a Jupiter-size planet transiting an early A star with a projected spin–orbit alignment that is (perhaps surprisingly) well aligned (see Section 5.2.1).

3. Host Star Characterization

3.1. SED Analysis

We assembled the available broadband photometry of KELT-20 (see Table 1) in order to construct a spectral energy distribution (SED) spanning a large range of wavelengths from $\sim 0.15$ to $22 \mu m$ (Figure 5). We fit the SED using the model atmospheres of Kurucz (1992), the free parameters being the stellar effective temperature ($T_{\text{eff}}$), extinction ($A_V$), and a flux normalization factor (effectively the ratio of the stellar radius to the distance). The stellar surface gravity ($\log g_\ast$) and metallicity ([Fe/H]) have only a minor effect on the SED and are poorly constrained by this type of fit, so we simply adopted a solar metallicity and $\log g_\ast = 4.3$ (corroborated by the final global fit; see Section 4.1 and Table 4). The extinction was limited to the maximum value from the dust maps of Schlegel et al. (1998) for this line of sight, $A_V = 1.43$ mag.

The resulting best-fit parameters are $A_V = 0.07 \pm 0.07$ mag and $T_{\text{eff}} = 8800 \pm 500$ K, with a reduced chi-square of $\chi^2 = 3.05$ (Figure 5). By directly integrating the (unextincted) fitted SED model, we obtain a semi-empirical measure of the stellar bolometric flux at Earth, $F_{\text{bol}} = (2.46 \pm 0.27) \times 10^{-8}$ erg s$^{-1}$ cm$^{-2}$. From $F_{\text{bol}}$ and $T_{\text{eff}}$ we obtain a measure of the stellar angular radius, $\Theta$, which in turn provides a constraint on the stellar radius via the distance from the corrected Gaia parallax of $R_\star = 1.61 \pm 0.22$ $R_\odot$. This estimate of $R_\star$ is used as a constraint in the global system fit below (Section 4.1). The $T_{\text{eff}}$ of 8800 K corresponds to an A2V-type star (Pecaut & Mamajek 2013).

3.2. Nearly Empirical Estimate of the Stellar Mass

As was originally demonstrated in the context of transiting planets by Seager & Mallén-Ornelas (2003), under the assumption that $k \equiv R_\star/R_\ast \ll 1$, it is possible to estimate the density ($\rho_\ast$) of a host star via a measurement of the FWHM ($T_{\text{FWHM}}$) of the transit, the period ($P$), the impact parameter ($b$), the eccentricity, and the argument of periastron. As these quantities can be measured essentially directly (i.e., without reliance on models), one can obtain an empirical estimate of $\rho_\ast$. This can then be combined with the essentially direct estimate of $R_\ast$ as determined from $T_{\text{eff}}$, the bolometric flux, and parallax above to estimate the stellar mass ($M_\ast$), again without reliance on theoretical models (e.g., isochrones) or externally calibrated relations (e.g., Torres et al. 2010). This technique was recently applied to all transiting planets in the first Gaia data release by Stassun et al. (2017).

We do not have a constraint on the eccentricity or argument of periastron, but given the short period, it is reasonable to assume that the orbit has been circularized. In the limit $e = 0$ and $k \ll 1$,

$$M_\ast = \left( \frac{4PR_\ast^3}{\pi GT_{\text{FWHM}}^3} \right) (1 - b^2)^{3/2}. \quad (1)$$

We adopt the estimates of $P$, $T_{\text{FWHM}}$, and $b$ derived from global modeling (see Section 4.1) using the Yonsei–Yale (YY) isochrone-constrained circular fits given in Tables 4 and 5. We note that while these parameters formally rely on the constraints from the YY isochrones, since they are derived (almost) directly from data, their measurements are not, in fact, affected by these constraints. This can be seen by comparing the values of these parameters measured from the global modeling using the YY isochrones with those from the global modeling using the Torres relations; these parameters differ by <1% between these two fits in all cases. Adopting the Gaia-inferred radius of $R_\star = 1.61 \pm 0.22$ $R_\odot$, we find $M_\ast = 1.90 \pm 0.47$ $M_\odot$, with an uncertainty of $\sim 25\%$. We note that this uncertainty is dominated by the uncertainty in $R_\star$.

Interestingly, this inferred mass is nearly identical to the mass inferred from the Torres-constrained global fit, and indeed the radius inferred from this global fit is nearly identical to the Gaia-determined radius. However, in both cases the uncertainties are somewhat smaller. This implies that the mass and radius of the host are largely determined by the direct (model-independent) constraints in the Torres-constrained global fits and completely consistent with the Torres relations. The Torres relations are therefore primarily serving to decrease the uncertainties (slightly).
Table 4
Median Values and 68% Confidence Intervals for the Physical and Orbital Parameters of the KELT-20 System

| Parameter |Description (Units) |Adopted Value (YY Circular) | Value (Torres Circular) |
|-----------|--------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Stellar Parameters | | | |
| $M_*$ | Mass ($M_\odot$) | 1.76$^{+0.11}_{-0.19}$ | 1.91$^{+0.22}_{-0.20}$ |
| $R_*$ | Radius ($R_\odot$) | 1.565$^{+0.017}_{-0.064}$ | 1.609$^{+0.065}_{-0.064}$ |
| $L_*$ | Luminosity ($L_\odot$) | 12.7$^{+2.2}_{-1.9}$ | 13.2$^{+2.3}_{-2.1}$ |
| $\rho_*$ | Density (cgs) | 0.641$^{+0.035}_{-0.033}$ | 0.646$^{+0.036}_{-0.033}$ |
| log $g_*$ | Surface gravity (cgs) | 4.290$^{+0.017}_{-0.020}$ | 4.305$^{+0.022}_{-0.020}$ |
| $T_{\text{eff}}$ | Effective temperature (K) | 8720$^{+260}_{-250}$ | 8690$^{+280}_{-260}$ |
| [Fe/H] | Metallicity | $-0.29^{+0.32}_{-0.36}$ | $-0.01^{+0.30}_{-0.049}$ |
| $\varv \sin I_*$ | Rotational velocity (m s$^{-1}$) | 117400$^{+2900}_{-2900}$ | 117100$^{+2900}_{-2900}$ |
| $\lambda$ | Spin–orbit alignment (degrees) | 3.1$^{+1.3}_{-1.3}$ | 3.2$^{+1.3}_{-1.3}$ |
| $\text{NRVel.W.}$ | Nonrotating line width (m s$^{-1}$) | 1460$^{+300}_{-180}$ | 1470$^{+400}_{-160}$ |

Planet Parameters

| Parameter | | |
|-----------|------------------|------|------|
| $P$ | Period (days) | 3.4741085 ± 0.0000019 | 3.4741085 ± 0.0000020 |
| $a$ | Semimajor axis (au) | 0.0542$^{+0.0014}_{-0.0021}$ | 0.0557 ± 0.0020 |
| $M_P$ | 3σ Mass Limit ($M_J$) | <3.382 | <3.590 |
| $R_P$ | Radius ($R_\oplus$) | 1.741$^{+0.049}_{-0.074}$ | 1.789 ± 0.075 |
| $\rho_P$ | 3σ Limit Density (cgs) | <0.806 | <0.781 |
| log $g_P$ | 3σ Surface gravity | <3.467 | <3.611 |
| $T_{\text{eq}}$ | Equilibrium temperature (K) | 2262 ± 73 | 2252 ± 75 |
| $\Theta$ | Safronov number | 0.0048$^{+0.0040}_{-0.0040}$ | 0.0047$^{+0.0022}_{-0.0039}$ |
| $(F)$ | Incident flux (10$^9$ erg s$^{-1}$ cm$^{-2}$) | 5.94$^{+0.83}_{-0.73}$ | 5.84$^{+0.71}_{-0.73}$ |

Radial Velocity Parameters

| Parameter | | |
|-----------|------------------|------|------|
| $T_C$ | Time of inferior conjunction (BJD$_\text{TDB}$) | 2,457,485.74965 ± 0.00020 | 2,457,485.74965 ± 0.00020 |
| $K$ | 3σ RV semi-amplitude (m s$^{-1}$) | <311.3 | <306.7 |
| $M_p \sin i$ | 3σ Minimum mass ($M_\oplus$) | <3.372 | <3.580 |
| $M_p/M_*\sin i$ | 3σ Mass ratio | <0.001863 | <0.001788 |
| $u$ | RM linear limb darkening | 0.532$^{+0.014}_{-0.015}$ | 0.533$^{+0.011}_{-0.015}$ |
| $v_{\text{TRES}}$ | Velocity (m s$^{-1}$) | 248.95$^{+96}_{-96}$ | 248 ± 96 |

Linear Ephemeris from Follow-up Transits

| Parameter | | |
|-----------|------------------|------|------|
| $P_{\text{Trans}}$ | Period (days) | 3.4741070 ± 0.0000019 | ... |
| $T_0$ | Linear ephemeris from transits (BJD$_\text{TDB}$) | 2,457,503.120049 ± 0.000190 | ... |

Note. 3σ limits reported for KELT-20b’s mass and parameters dependent on mass. The gamma velocity reported here uses an arbitrary zero-point for the multiorder relative velocities. The absolute gamma velocity based on the Mg b order analysis is 23.8 ± 0.3 km s$^{-1}$.

Importantly, the inferred log $g_*$ ≈ 4.3 is at the higher end of what is typically expected from A stars of this $T_{\text{eff}}$ and solar metallicity (see, e.g., Torres et al. 2010). This implies that the host is exceptionally close to (and perhaps lower than) the ZAMS for solar-metallicity stars in the parameter space of log $g_*$ versus $T_{\text{eff}}$. This can be explained in several ways. First, the star could indeed have nearly solar metallicity but be very young. Second, the star could be older but have subsolar metallicity, since the ZAMS is at a lower log $g_*$ at fixed $T_{\text{eff}}$ for stars of lower metallicity. Finally, the measurement of $R_*$ from the SED and parallax could have a small systematic error.

Since the Torres relations do not encode age, it is possible for this star to have a higher log $g_*$ at solar metallicity without resulting in any tension with the empirical parameters using those relations. On the other hand, the YY isochrones do encode age, thus enforcing a maximum log $g_*$ for a given metallicity (i.e., that of the ZAMS), and thus the inferred high log $g_*$ disfavors this star having solar metallicity. The YY isochrone fits therefore “prefer” lower metallicities for the host star, although we note that a solar metallicity is still allowed within ~1σ. The lower metallicity inferred by the YY fits also results in a somewhat smaller mass and radius than inferred from the empirical methods above and the Torres-constrained global fits.

Overall, we are agnostic about which of these three explanations are correct. Generally, we note that A stars with metallicities of [Fe/H] ~ −0.3 are not common, and we note that the kinematics of this star (i.e., the low UVW velocities presented in Section 3.4) support the interpretation that the star is young. Of course, we cannot rule out the simpler explanation that there are unrecognized subtle systematics affecting our inference of the radius, mass, and surface gravity of the star.

We note that a *Hipparcos* parallax also exists for this star and is 8.73 ± 0.50 mas. The radius and mass inferred from the *Hipparcos* parallax are $R_* = 1.37 ± 0.09$ $R_\odot$ and $M_* = 1.17 ± 0.23 M_\odot$. These stellar parameters are inconsistent with those inferred from the *Gaia* parallax of 7.716 ± 0.37 mas. In particular, as can be seen in Figures 5...
| Parameter          | Description (Units)                                                                 | Adopted Value (YY circular)                  | Value (Torres circular)                  |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| $R_p/R_*$          | Radius of the planet in stellar radii                                              | 0.11440±0.00062                            | 0.11431±0.00064                          |
| $a/R_*$            | Semimajor axis in stellar radii                                                    | 7.4 ± 0.13                                 | 7.44 ± 0.13                              |
| $i$                | Inclination (degrees)                                                              | 86.12±0.28                                 | 86.16±0.27                               |
| $b$                | Impact parameter                                                                  | 0.503±0.028                                | 0.499±0.028                              |
| $\delta$           | Transit depth                                                                      | 0.01309±0.00014                            | 0.01307±0.00014                          |
| $T_{FWHM}$         | FWHM duration (days)                                                               | 0.12901±0.00048                            | 0.12904±0.00049                          |
| $\tau$             | Ingress/egress duration (days)                                                    | 0.01996±0.00077                            | 0.01984±0.00078                          |
| $T_{14}$           | Total duration (days)                                                              | 0.14898±0.00088                            | 0.14889±0.00088                          |
| $P_r$              | A priori nongrazing transit probability                                           | 0.1193±0.0020                              | 0.1190±0.0021                            |
| $P_{r, G}$         | A priori transit probability                                                        | 0.1502±0.0027                              | 0.1498±0.0027                            |
| $u_{1, Sloanz}$    | Linear limb darkening                                                              | 0.3427±0.0017                              | 0.3399±0.0017                            |
| $u_{2, Sloanz}$    | Linear limb darkening                                                              | 0.3362±0.00034                             | 0.3421±0.00034                           |
| $u_{3, Sloan}$     | Quadratic limb darkening                                                           | 0.1924±0.0011                              | 0.186±0.0012                             |
| $u_{4, Sloangi}$   | Quadratic limb darkening                                                           | 0.2442±0.0010                              | 0.254±0.0016                             |
| $u_{1, Sloan}$     | Quadratic limb darkening                                                           | 0.1229±0.00099                             | 0.1179±0.0010                            |
| $u_{2, Sloanz}$    | Linear limb darkening                                                              | 0.2393±0.00099                             | 0.246±0.0023                             |
| $u_{3, UV}$        | Linear limb darkening                                                              | 0.300±0.0011                               | 0.295±0.010                             |
| $u_{2, UV}$        | Quadratic limb darkening                                                           | 0.3096±0.00072                             | 0.3173±0.0017                            |

**Secondary Eclipse**

| $T_s$               | Time of eclipse (BJD$_{TO}^*$)                                                   | 2.457,484.01259 ± 0.00020                  | 2.457,484.01260 ± 0.00020                  |

**Figure 6.** KELT-20 in the modified Hertzsprung–Russell diagram (log $g$ vs. $T_{eff}$). The gray swath represents the YY evolutionary track for a star with the mass inferred from the stellar radius (via the *Gaia* parallax and transit; see Section 3.1) and $1\sigma$ error on that mass. Stellar ages (in Gyr) along the evolutionary track are indicated with blue points. The initial $T_{eff}$ and log $g_\star$ inferred from the SED fit are represented by the green error bars; the final $T_{eff}$ and log $g_\star$ from the global solution are represented by red error bars. For comparison, the evolutionary track for a star with the mass inferred from the *Hipparcos* parallax is also shown (see the text) and starts at a much cooler temperature.

and 6, these values are completely inconsistent with the SED ($T_{eff}$) or even the color of the source. We therefore reject it and adopt the *Gaia* parallax with the Stassun & Torres (2016) systematic correction. An examination of the reasons for this apparent discrepancy with the *Hipparcos* parallax is beyond the scope of this paper. Here we simply note the discrepancy and proceed with our analysis utilizing the *Gaia* parallax as a constraint on the system global solution (Section 4.1).

### 3.3. Evolutionary Analysis

To put the KELT-20 system in context and to provide an initial estimate of the system age, we show in Figure 6 the KELT-20 host star in the modified Hertzsprung–Russell diagram (log $g_\star$ vs. $T_{eff}$). Using the YY stellar evolutionary models for a star of mass 1.76 $M_\odot$, we infer an age for KELT-20 of at most ~600 Myr.

### 3.4. Distance above the Galactic Plane and UVW Space Motion

KELT-20 is located at equatorial coordinates $\alpha = 19^h38^m38.73^s$ and $\delta = +31^\circ13'09.21''$ (J2000), corresponding to Galactic coordinates of $l = 65^\circ8$ and $b = 4^\circ6$. Given the *Gaia* distance of $139.7 \pm 6.6$ pc (Gaia Collaboration et al. 2016), KELT-20 lies at a galactocentric distance of roughly 8.26 kpc, assuming a distance from the Sun to the...
the analysis of the KELT-North light curve. By performing a linear fit to the transit center times, we independently determined an ephemeris for KELT-20b (See Section 4.2). We then reran the Torres and YY circular fits with a prior on the transit center time and period obtained from that analysis. The KELT-North light curve itself is not included in any of the global fits we conducted. Lastly, we use the Gaia parallax shown in Table 1 combined with the bolometric flux estimated from the SED fits to impose a prior on the host star’s radius ($R_* = 1.610 \pm 0.216$). We performed two separate global fits where we fix the eccentricity of the planet’s orbit to zero; one fit uses the YY models to determine the mass and radius of KELT-20, while the other uses the Torres relations for the same purpose. For the discussion and interpretation of the KELT-20 system, we adopt the circular YY fit. The results of both fits are shown in Tables 4 and 5.

For the output parameters shown in this paper that use solar or Jovian units, we adopt the following constants throughout: $G = 1.3271244 \times 10^{-11}$ m$^3$ kg$^{-1}$ s$^{-2}$, $R_\odot = 6.9566 \times 10^8$ m, $M_\odot = 0.00954638698$ $M_\odot$, and $R_\odot = 1.02792236$ $R_\odot$ (Standish 1995; Torres et al. 2010; Eastman et al. 2013; Prša et al. 2016).

4.2. Transit Timing Variation Analysis

We analyzed the fiducial global model transit center times of all follow-up light curves (see Table 6 and Figure 7) to search for transit timing variations (TTVs) in the KELT-20 system. Before running the global models, we confirm that all photometric time stamps are in BJD$_{TDB}$ format (Eastman et al. 2010). To ensure the accuracy of the time stamps, follow-up observers provision telescope control computers to synchronize to a standard clock (such as the atomic clock in Boulder, CO). This synchronization is normally done periodically throughout the observing session. To assess the TTV for each light curve, we find the best linear fit to the transit center times. The resulting linear ephemeris has a reference transit center time of $T_0 = 2457503.120049 \pm 0.000190$ (BJD$_{TDB}$), a period of $3.4741070 \pm 0.00000186$ days, and a $\chi^2$ of 60.8 with 11 degrees of freedom. We note that the large ~9-minute TTV in the GCO data (Table 6) is likely the result of the partial transit coverage and systematics in the light curve (see

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**Table 6**

| Epoch | $T_C$ (BJD$_{TDB}$) | $\sigma_{T_C}$ (s) | O–C | O–C | Telescope |
|-------|------------------|-------------------|-----|-----|-----------|
| −174  | 2,456,898.624275 | 43                | −99.14 | −2.27 | PvdK     |
| −166  | 2,456,926.424578 | 180               | 544.24  | 3.02 | GCO      |
| −58   | 2,457,301.621915 | 74                | 6.46   | 0.00 | WCO      |
| 8     | 2,457,530.913718 | 56                | 70.20  | 1.23 | DEMONEXT |
| 12    | 2,457,544.810920 | 44                | 137.06 | 3.08 | DEMONEXT |
| 56    | 2,457,697.671922 | 62                | 162.27 | 2.60 | MINERVA  |
| 109   | 2,458,871.799585 | 48                | 162.22 | 3.37 | PvdK     |
| 109   | 2,458,881.796557 | 49                | −100.26| −2.01| MORC     |
| 109   | 2,458,881.796903 | 55                | −70.37 | −1.28| CDK20N   |
| 109   | 2,458,881.795676 | 75                | −176.38| −2.33| WCO      |
| 111   | 2,458,888.745551 | 51                | −32.88 | −0.64| WCO      |
| 119   | 2,459,916.537500 | 50                | −111.28| −2.21| CROW     |

Note. Epochs are given in orbital periods relative to the value of the inferior conjunction time from the global fit.
Figure 8. Doppler tomographic transit of KELT-20b, as observed by TRES on UT 2017 April 24. The top panel shows the residuals of the spectroscopic broadening kernels. The temporal axis for the spectral observations is arranged vertically, the velocity axis horizontally. The shadow cast by the planet on the rapidly rotating host star is seen moving across the star, in a spin–orbit aligned geometry, as the dark trail. The best-fit model, derived in Section 4.1, is shown in the middle panel. The vertical lines mark the boundaries of the stellar rotational profile in terms of $v \sin I_\star$. The transit duration is marked with horizontal lines indicating the ingress and egress times. The bottom panel shows the residuals after the model is subtracted.

Figure 9. The Rossiter–McLaughlin effect was also detected from the same data set. We plot here the TRES multiorder RVs against the expected Rossiter–McLaughlin model, based on the best-fit geometry from our global analysis. The Rossiter–McLaughlin signal is modeled using the ARoME library (Boué et al. 2013). We show these data simply to confirm the consistency with the Doppler tomographic modeling; the in-transit velocities were not incorporated in the global modeling to avoid double-counting this information.

5. Discussion

The KELT-20 system represents one of the most extreme transiting hot Jupiter systems, and indeed one of the most extreme transiting exoplanet systems, yet discovered, by several measures. The host star is both exceptionally bright ($V \sim 7.6$) and exceptionally hot ($T_{\text{eff}} \simeq 8700$ K). It is only the sixth A star known to host a transiting giant companion. The planet itself is on a relatively short period orbit of $P \simeq 3.5$ days and thus receives an extreme amount of stellar insolation, resulting in an estimated equilibrium temperature of $\sim 2250$ K. Because its host is an A star, it also receives a higher amount of high-energy radiation than the majority of known transiting planet systems, which may lead to significant atmospheric ablation (Murray-Clay et al. 2009).

There are two additional notable facts about the KELT-20 system. First, the host star appears to be quite young, with a main-sequence age of $\lesssim 600$ Myr (see Section 6). Whether or not this places interesting constraints on the migration timescale of its hot Jupiter should be considered. Second, and perhaps relatedly, the planet’s orbit normal appears to be well aligned with the spin axis of the star (see Section 5.2.1), which is generally atypical for hot Jupiters orbiting hot stars (Schlaufman 2010; Winn et al. 2010).
5.1. Prospects for Characterization

In many ways, KELT-20b appears to be quite similar to KELT-9b (Gaudi et al. 2017), albeit orbiting a slightly cooler and less massive star at a somewhat longer (~2.3 times) period. However, the fact that KELT-20 is nearly as bright as KELT-9 nevertheless makes the prospect for characterization of the system nearly as promising as for KELT-9b.

Figure 10 shows the host star effective temperature versus the V-band magnitude for known transiting planets. Together with 55 Cancri (Demory et al. 2011; Winn et al. 2011), KELT-9b and KELT-20b are the three brightest (in V) transiting planet hosts known, while KELT-9b and KELT-20b are the two brightest hosts of transiting hot Jupiters, which are considerably more amenable to detailed follow-up.

Figure 11 shows the primary transit depth, $\delta = (R_p/R_*)^2$, versus predicted planetary equilibrium temperature $T_{eq}$ (assuming zero albedo and complete heat redistribution) for planets with host stars $V < 13$, color-coded by the amount of UV flux the planet receives. Although KELT-20b’s predicted equilibrium temperature is not nearly as high as KELT-9b, it is nevertheless one of the hottest dozen or so known hot Jupiters. Furthermore, its transit depth is nearly twice that of KELT-9b. Although we only have an upper limit on the mass of KELT-20b, our 3$\sigma$ upper limit on the surface gravity log $g_p$ is $\sim 3.5$ (cgs). We can therefore predict that the magnitude of the thermal emission spectrum, transmission spectrum, and phase curve should all be easily detectable with Spitzer, the Hubble Space Telescope (HST), and eventually the James Webb Space Telescope. Indeed, the planet is sufficiently hot that secondary eclipse measurements should be possible from ground-based instruments. We also expect that, should the atmosphere be significantly ablated by the high UV flux incident on the planet, this may be detectable via HST.

5.2. Comparison to KELT-9 and Other A Star Hosts of Giant Transiting Planets

With a sample of six A star hosts of transiting gas giants now known, it starts to become possible to consider and compare the ensemble properties of such systems. Figure 12 shows one such comparison, namely, the location and expected future evolution of these hosts on an $R_*$ versus $T_{eff}$ (modified Hertzsprung–Russell) diagram. We show the evolutionary tracks based on the YY isochrones for KELT-9 ($M_\star \approx 2.52\,M_\odot$), KELT-20 ($M_\star \approx 1.76\,M_\odot$), and KELT-17 ($M_\star \approx 1.63\,M_\odot$), all assuming solar metallicity. The other three blue circles are (from left to right) Kepler-13 A ($T_{eff} \approx 7650\,K$), HAT-P-57 ($T_{eff} \approx 7500\,K$), and WASP-33 ($T_{eff} \approx 7430\,K$), all of which have quite similar $T_{eff}$ to KELT-17 and radii and masses that differ by only $\sim 20\%$.

We note that while KELT-9, KELT-17, and Kepler-13 are somewhat evolved from the ZAMS, KELT-20 and to a lesser extent HAT-P-57 and WASP-33 appear to be on (or perhaps even slightly below) the ZAMS, indicating that they are young or (less likely) have subsolar metallicity.

Figure 10. Population of transiting exoplanets based on the host star’s optical magnitude and effective temperature ($T_{eff}$), with colors indicating the radius of the planet in $R_\oplus$. The bulk of these data come from the NASA Exoplanet Database (https://exoplanetarchive.ipac.caltech.edu), with the addition of KELT-20b to this data set. The figure was plotted using Filtergraph (Burger et al. 2013), and the data set for the plot can be found here at https://filtergraph.com/KELT20b_StellarComparison.

Figure 11. Depth of the transit signal, $(R_p/R_*)^2$, vs. equilibrium temperature assuming zero albedo and complete heat redistribution for known transiting planets with $V < 13$. Those with $V < 8$ are shown with large symbols. The points are color-coded by the amount of incident extreme-ultraviolet ($\lambda < 91.2$ nm) flux the planet receives from its parent star. In the case of the stars with $V < 8$ the color in the middle of the symbol represents this value.

Figure 12. Radius vs. effective temperature of hosts of known planets detected by the RV (open circles) and transit methods (filled circles), as well as nearby stars in the Hipparcos catalog for reference (gray points). Only planet hosts with $V \leq 10$ are shown for clarity. The cyan symbols are low-mass planet hosts with $M < 1.4\,M_\odot$; red symbols indicate massive planet hosts with $M_\star \gtrsim 1.4\,M_\odot$. The yellow line shows the evolutionary trajectory for a solar analog ($M_\star = M_\odot$ and solar metallicity), whereas the blue tracks shows the evolutionary trajectories for KELT-9, KELT-20, and KELT-17. The other three blue circles are (from left to right) Kepler-13, HAT-P-57, and WASP-33. We also show the ZAMS for solar-metallicity stars from the YY isochrones (black curve).
Doppler tomographic observations allow the measurement of the spin–orbit misalignment (\( \lambda \)). This, however, is merely the sky-projected angle between the stellar spin and planetary orbital angular momentum vectors. Measurement of the full three-dimensional spin–orbit angle (\( \psi \)) requires knowledge of the inclination of the stellar rotation axis with respect to the line of sight (\( I_\star \)), which is typically difficult to measure. We do not have such a measurement for KELT-20 and so cannot directly calculate \( \psi \).

We can, however, set limits on \( I_\star \) and thus on \( \psi \). Following Iorio (2011), we can limit \( I_\star \) by requiring that the star be rotating at less than the breakup velocity. Using our measured stellar and planetary parameters, we obtain a 1\( \sigma \) limit of 24\( ^\circ \).3 \( I_\star \) < 155\(^\circ\).6. Together with our measured values of \( \lambda \) and \( \iota \), this implies 1\(^\circ\).3 < \( \psi \) < 69\(^\circ\).8 (again at 1\( \sigma \)).

Although the planetary orbit is well aligned if \( I_\star \) is close to 90\(^\circ\) (i.e., the stellar rotation axis is close to perpendicular to the line of sight), in which case \( \psi \sim \lambda \), it may still be substantially misaligned if we are viewing the star closer to pole-on. KELT-20 has a projected rotational velocity of \( v \sin I_\star = 115.9 \pm 3.4 \) km s\(^{-1}\), which is slightly lower than the median deprojected rotational velocity of 131 km s\(^{-1}\) found by Royer et al. (2007) for A2–A3 main-sequence stars. This suggests that KELT-20 is plausibly close to equator-on and approximately aligned. However, we cannot exclude the possibility that KELT-20 is rotating faster than the median for similar stars and the orbit is misaligned.

A measurement or constraint on \( I_\star \) may be possible in the future via several methods. First, the detection of rotational modulation would constrain the rotation period and thus \( I_\star \); however, this is unlikely and difficult for a hot, likely inactive A star like KELT-20. An asteroseismic measurement of the rotation rate is possible by measuring the rotational splitting of the modes. However, there is no evidence that KELT-20 is pulsating, and thus this would require long-time-baseline, very high precision space-based photometry. It may be possible to measure \( I_\star \) using very high precision light curves affected by gravity darkening (Barnes 2009), or by measuring the nodal precession of the planet if it is not aligned (Johnson et al. 2015; Iorio 2016). Even in the most optimistic case, however, the precession rate will be \( \dot{\theta}/\dot{\phi} < 0.03 \) yr\(^{-1}\). This is at least an order of magnitude smaller than that measured for WASP-33b by Johnson et al. (2015) and would take several decades to give rise to a detectable change in \( \lambda \) or \( \iota \).

Because of its larger mass and therefore more rapid evolution, KELT-20 is likely to be quite young (<600 Myr) if it has a near-solar metallicity, as expected. This may place interesting constraints on the timescale for its migration to its current orbit. The fact that KELT-20b is one of only two hot Jupiters orbiting A-type stars that could have an aligned orbit,\(^{43}\) as shown in Figure 13, may be particularly interesting in this regard.

### 5.2.2. The Past and Future Evolution of the KELT-20 System

We note that KELT-20 is a somewhat unusual system as compared to many hot Jupiters in that the spin period of the star is shorter than the orbital period of the planet. This implies that tides serve to increase the semimajor axis of the planet, rather than to decrease it. Furthermore, as the star has essentially no convective envelope, one would expect tides to behave quite differently than in stars with convective envelopes. Finally, the expected large oblateness of the host star may affect the efficiency and nature of tidal dissipation.

Nevertheless, we proceed to estimate the past and future orbital evolution of the system under tides. Specifically, we compute the evolution of the semimajor axis in units of the stellar radius and the evolution of the stellar insolation. The orbital evolution of KELT-20b was calculated under the assumption of a constant phase lag, including the effect of the changing stellar radius due to stellar evolution, following Penev et al. (2014). Due to the poorly constrained efficiency of tidal dissipation in stars, we consider a wide range of dissipation parameters (\( Q_* = 10^3, 10^6, \) and \( 10^9 \)), where \( 1/Q_* \) is the product of the phase lag and the stellar tidal Love number. Given a dissipation parameter, the initial orbital period of the planet was chosen such that the currently observed orbital period is reproduced at an age of 480 Myr. Note that the least dissipative case considered here (\( Q_* = 10^6 \)) was chosen simply because it leads to very little orbital evolution and is in no way physically motivated.

Figure 14 shows the past and future evolution of the orbit of the planet relative to the stellar radius as a function of the age of the system under these assumptions. As mentioned above, unlike the majority of hot Jupiter systems, the measured \( v \sin I_\star \) of the host star implies that the stellar spin period is shorter than the orbital period. As a result, the typical picture of a decaying orbit is reversed and the orbit expands over time owing to tidal dissipation. Even under the fairly unrealistic value of \( Q_* \sim 10^3 \), the planet will avoid engulfment by the star until well after it begins to extend up the giant branch.

Figure 14 also shows the past and future evolution of stellar incident insolation flux received by the planet. The increase in the planet’s orbit due to tides is roughly offset by the increase in the radius of the star due to stellar evolution. KELT-20b was likely always above the empirically estimated minimum insolation for inflated giant planets (Demory & Seager 2011), which is not surprising given its inferred radius of \( R_p \sim 1.6 R_J \).

Note that at around 1.5 Gyr, the star will cross the Kraft break (Kraft 1967) and begin to develop a deep convective envelope. However, it is unlikely that the planet will have synchronized its period with that of the star, and so we do not expect this system to evolve into an RS CVn system (see

\[^{43}\] Hartman et al. (2015) obtained a bimodal distribution for \( \lambda \) for HAT-P-57b, indicating either an aligned orbit or a prograde orbit with a substantial misalignment.
The current age is assumed to be roughly 480 Myr. The evolution is shown under the assumption of a constant tidal phase lag, and for various values of $Q'$, where $1/Q'$ is the product of the phase lag and the stellar Love number. Bottom: stellar insolation from the star received by the planet for the same assumptions as above.

Siverd et al. (2012). KELT-20 will eventually engulf its planet, but not until it has ascended the giant branch.

6. Summary

We have presented the discovery of KELT-20b, currently the third-brightest transiting planet system and the second-brightest transiting hot Jupiter system. The host star is an early A star with an effective temperature of $T_{\text{eff}} \approx 8700$ K. The host is rapidly rotating, with $v \sin I_*$ $\sim 116$ km s$^{-1}$. This rapid rotation made confirmation of the planet difficult using RVs, and we were only able to obtain a $3\sigma$ upper limit on the mass of the planet of $\sim 3.5$ $M_\oplus$. Nevertheless, we confirm the planetary nature of the companion via Doppler tomography, which perhaps surprisingly shows that the orbit normal of the planet is well aligned with the projected spin axis of the star.

The planet has a period of $\sim 3.5$ days and an equilibrium temperature of $\sim 2250$ K, assuming zero albedo and perfect heat redistribution. With a visual magnitude of 7.6, an exceptionally high equilibrium temperature, and a likely large-scale height, it is an excellent target for detailed follow-up and characterization of a hot Jupiter suffering from extreme stellar irradiation, particularly UV stellar irradiation.

We infer a surface gravity for the star that is surprisingly large, indicating that the star either is exceptionally young or (less likely) has a low metallicity compared to solar. We therefore encourage studies that determine whether or not the likely young age places interesting constraints on the timescale for the planet’s migration.

Finally, with a total of six A stars transiting gas giants now known, we can begin to compare and contrast the ensemble properties of these systems and ultimately learn about their origins, as well as their future evolution.

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Note added in proof. During the preparation of this paper, our team became aware of another paper by The Multi-site All-Sky CAmeRA (MASCARA) Collaboration (Talens et al. 2017b) reporting the discovery of a planetary companion to the host star discussed here, HD 185603 (Talens et al. 2017a). While we assume that this planetary companion is indeed KELT-20b, no information about the analysis...
