Kepler-730: A Hot Jupiter System with a Close-in, Transiting, Earth-sized Planet

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Abstract

Kepler-730 is a planetary system hosting a statistically validated hot Jupiter in a 6.49 day orbit and an additional transiting candidate in a 2.85 day orbit. We use spectroscopic radial velocities from the APOGEE-2N instrument, Robo-AO contrast curves, and Gaia distance estimates to statistically validate the planetary nature of the additional Earth-sized candidate. We perform astrophysical false positive probability calculations for the candidate using the available Kepler data and bolster the statistical validation using radial velocity data to exclude a family of possible binary star solutions. Using a radius estimate for the primary star derived from Kepler-730, with a previously known hot Jupiter and an additional transiting planet candidate Kepler-730c, respectively. Kepler-730 is only the second compact system hosting a hot Jupiter with an inner, transiting planet.

Key words: methods: statistical – planetary systems – techniques: photometric – techniques: spectroscopic

1. Introduction

The formation pathways of hot Jupiter planets remains an active area of research (see Dawson & Johnson 2018 and references therein). Current theoretical paradigms for producing these behemoths fall largely into the following two main categories.

(1) Dynamical migration (e.g., planet–planet scattering, Rasio & Ford 1996; Lidov–Kozai cycling with tidal friction, Wu & Murray 2003; and secular interactions, Wu & Lithwick 2011; Petrovich 2015) violently delivers giant planets to their current orbits, and leaves them dynamically hotter and isolated.

(2) Hot Jupiters might alternatively be formed via quiescent disk migration (Lin et al. 1996) or in situ formation (Batygin et al. 2016), processes that leave the system dynamically cooler and compact.

Although the presence or absence of additional low-mass planets in close orbital proximity to hot Jupiters provides a zeroth-order test of distinct and competing formation mechanisms, the true occurrence rate for close-in planetary companions to systems with a hot Jupiter remains unclear (Millholland et al. 2017; Wang et al. 2018b).

The radial velocity (RV) precision required for detecting companions with masses comparable to super-Earths, believed to be the most common type of planets in our Galaxy, are generally at or below 1–2 m s\(^{-1}\), a detection threshold achieved with the most precise spectrographs (Fischer et al. 2016). Transits by these planets cause drops in stellar brightness smaller than ~0.1%, which remain beyond the capabilities of the current generation of wide-field ground-based transit surveys (see Pepper et al. 2018 and references therein).

Hidden planets have started to emerge as higher photometric precision observations of existing planetary systems are obtained. WASP-47b is a typical hot Jupiter that was originally detected with SuperWASP (Hellier et al. 2012). Two additional transiting short-period super-Earths in the system were not detected until subsequent observations were obtained from the Kepler spacecraft (Borucki et al. 2010) during the K2 mission (Becker et al. 2015). Until recently, WASP-47 was the only confirmed hot Jupiter system known with additional close-in planet companions.

Thompson et al. (2018) used all four years of the Kepler data to reveal another potential WASP-47-like system, Kepler-730, with a previously known hot Jupiter and an additional transiting planet candidate (also noted by Zhu et al. 2018). This object appears to be an Earth-sized inner planet with an orbital period of 2.85 days, and was not detected in previous searches (Steffen et al. 2012; Huang et al. 2016).

In this Letter, we statistically validate the planetary nature of Kepler-730c based on Doppler velocimetry from the Sloan Digital Sky Survey (SDSS)/APOGEE-2 spectra, Robo-AO high-contrast imaging, and Kepler photometry.
KOI-929.01 (Kepler-730b) was statistically validated as an exoplanet by Morton et al. (2016) with a false positive probability (FPP) for the signal of $\lesssim 1 \times 10^{-4}$. Prior to the final Kepler data release (DR25; Thompson et al. 2018), KOI-929.02 was not considered a planetary candidate.

For the purposes of statistical validation, we analyzed both the Kepler simple aperture photometry (SAP) and pre-search data conditioned (PDCSAP) time-series light curves (Stumpe et al. 2012) available at the Mikulski Archive for Space Telescopes (MAST). We detrended light curves using three methods: Cosine Filtering with Autocorrelation Minimization (CoFiAM; Kipping et al. 2013), a polynomial analog of CoFiAM, and a Gaussian process.

CoFiAM regresses the Kepler time series using a harmonic (or polynomial) series in a least-squares approach where the optimal detrending function is defined as the one that minimizes the autocorrelation of the residuals. For all of the detrending methods, the portion of the light curve within a factor of 0.6 of the transit duration ($\pm 0.6T_{14}$) from each transit midpoint was excised prior to regression. For the polynomial and CoFiAM methods, each transit was processed separately using the data flanking half a period from each transit midpoint. A 3σ clip on a 20-point rolling median was applied to the detrended light curve to remove any outliers.

We used the celerite package to perform the Gaussian process detrending, and assumed a quasi-periodic covariance function, following the procedure in Foreman-Mackey et al. (2017). Each quarter of data was detrended separately and no additional processing was done to the light curve.

To prepare for statistical validation, the transits of the other planetary candidate were removed. The light curve was then phased to the period and time of conjunction listed in DR25 and trimmed to keep data within a phase of three of the transit duration ($\pm 3T_{14}$). KOI-929.01 was detrended solely using a Gaussian process. KOI-929.02 was detrended using the three methods described above (CoFiAM, a polynomial basis, and a Gaussian process). The light curve for the joint fit presented in Section 4 retained all of the data (including any overlapping transits) and each quarter was detrended using a Gaussian process.

### 3. Planet Validation

#### 3.1. Sky-projected Stellar Companions

For the period range of these planetary candidates, the reliability of the Kepler pipeline is $>98\%$ (Thompson et al. 2018). There is also no other target in the Kepler threshold crossing events that shares the same period as KOI-929.02, which suggests that the signal for this planetary candidate is unlikely to be produced by instrumental or stellar noise. The Kepler photometry in MAST uses a $5 \times 5$ pixel mask (see the upper row of Figure 1) to derive the light curves for this system, and each Kepler pixel corresponds to $\sim 3''/98$. To investigate any potential background stars in the region, we used the latest data release from Gaia (Gaia Collaboration et al. 2018) by searching a $30''$ region around Kepler-730. A total of six stars reside within this region with the closest star, KIC 9141752 ($Kp = 19.1$), located at a sky-projected distance of $6.57''$. No other stars were located within the Kepler pixel mask. In the upper right panel of Figure 1, the pixels that were considered source pixels varied by quarter, but rarely flanked...
the background star KIC 9141752. Even in the quarters with the smallest aperture mask, the transit of KOI-929.02 persisted. The Robo-AO adaptive optics survey of the Kepler field (Ziegler et al. 2017) has observations of Kepler-730. The survey acquires images in an LP600 filter that serves to approximate the Kepler passband at redder wavelengths and mitigate the effects of blue wavelengths on instrumental performance. Robo-AO generates a contrast curve (bottom panel in Figure 1), providing the detection limit as a function of distance from Kepler-730; there are no detected companions within 4". Ziegler et al. (2018) demonstrated that the recoverability of asterisms detected by Robo-AO in Gaia is ≥97% for differences larger than three magnitudes at distances greater than 2". While Gaia is often unable to resolve asterisms within ≤1" of a star, Gaia is more complete than Robo-AO for objects with mean Gaia magnitudes of G > 20. Together, the Gaia and Robo-AO data show that Kepler-730 has no close stellar companions within the Kepler aperture mask. Figure 1 displays the stars identified by Gaia within 30", along with the Kepler pixel mask and Robo-AO data.

3.2. False Positive Analysis

We adopted the vespa package from Morton et al. (2016) to perform a false positive analysis of Kepler-730b. The algorithm validates a planet statistically by simulating and determining the likelihood of a range of astrophysical false positive scenarios that could generate the observed light curve. vespa treats each planetary candidate as the only planet around the host star, this is a conservative view for Kepler-730 given the high reliability of Kepler multiplanet systems (e.g., Lissauer et al. 2014). The code generates a population (20,000 systems) for each false positive scenario, including background eclipsing binaries (BEBs), eclipsing binaries (EBs), and hierarchical eclipsing binaries (HEBs), to calculate the likelihoods. We included the two artificial likelihood models from

Figure 1. Stellar background around Kepler-730. The upper left panel shows the six stars identified by Gaia within a sky-projected distance of 30" atop an image of the same region from the Second Palomar Observatory Sky Survey (POSS-II/Red). The closest star, KIC 9141752, has a sky-projected distance of 6.57". Gaia detected no other stars within the 5 × 5 pixel mask (yellow grid) used by Kepler. The Kepler aperture mask (red grid) is highlighted in the upper right panel, with each pixel colored to the number of quarters it used as a source pixel. Only Kepler-730 is contained in the aperture mask where the majority of the flux originates. The bottom panel shows the contrast curve provided by the Robo-AO survey illustrating the threshold magnitude difference to detect a stellar companion as a function of distance from Kepler-730. Robo-AO did not detect any other sources within 4" of Kepler-730.
Morton et al. (2016) to flag if the transit signal did not fit any astrophysical model. The stellar properties for statistical validation were derived using the \texttt{isochrones} package (Morton 2015) setting priors on the (i) 2MASS \textit{JHK} magnitudes (Skrutskie et al. 2006) and \textit{Kepler} magnitudes, (ii) the \textit{Gaia} parallax, (iii) the host star surface gravity, temperature and metallicity from the APOGEE Stellar Parameter and Chemical Abundances Pipeline (ASPCAP; García Pérez et al. 2016), and (iv) the maximum visual extinction from estimates of Galactic dust extinction (Bayestar17; Green et al. 2018).

Two additional constraints for statistical analysis include the maximum radius permissible for a background eclipsing object and the maximum depth of the secondary transit. These values were adopted from Morton et al. (2016) for KOI-929.01. For KOI-929.02, the centroid offsets from the \textit{Kepler} data validation pipeline were used to determine the maximum radius. KOI-929.02 has centroid offsets of $\sim 1^\circ 5$ and the maximum radius was set to a factor of three larger, at $4^\circ 5$. The maximum depth of the secondary was set to five times the uncertainty in the secondary depth from the \textit{Kepler} data validation pipeline. The Robo-AO contrast curve shown in Figure 1 is an additional constraint applied to the \texttt{vespa} analysis.

The results of the statistical analyses for \textit{Kepler-730} are shown in Table 2. The light curve for KOI-929.01 was validated only using the PDCSAP flux, detrended with a Gaussian process, and has an FPP of $(1.7 \pm 1.4) \times 10^{-4}$. The shallow transit depth of KOI-929.02 ($\sim 84$ ppm) warranted the use of different detrending mechanisms to determine its susceptibility to changes in detrending. For this candidate, we performed statistical validation on both the SAP and PDCSAP flux detrended with three methods described in Section 2.2. The values and respective errors for each analysis were calculated as the mean and standard deviation of a bootstrap of 10 iterations of \texttt{vespa}. Regardless of the flux source and the detrending method, the signal was consistent with a statistically validated planet when adopting the threshold of $\text{FPP} < 1\%$ used in Morton et al. (2016).

### 3.3. RV Non-detection

The derived RVs (Section 2.1) folded to the period of the hot Jupiter, KOI-929.01, are shown in the first panel of Figure 2. No physical solution exists when adopting a standard Keplerian orbit and maximizing the likelihood. To determine if our RVs supported the existence of any companion, we used \texttt{thejoker} (Price-Whelan et al. 2017) to perform a rejection sampling analysis on the APOGEE-2 data. We performed the same analysis on the entire RV data set and the subset derived from spectra with S/N $> 10$ to determine if the quality of the data would mask a potential planet RV signal. We ran $> 4 \times 10^6 (2^{22})$ samples with \texttt{thejoker} and more than 60,000 survived for each data set. The surviving samples are shown in the second panel of Figure 2. The underlying samples do not favor any orbit/binding solution between 1.5 days and twice the baseline of the APOGEE-2 observations ($\sim 411$ days).

The smallest stellar companion, a star at the hydrogen mass burning limit ($M_2 = 0.075 M_\odot$, $i = 90^\circ$, and $e = 0$), would induce observable reflex motion of \textit{Kepler-730} with an amplitude of a few km s$^{-1}$. \texttt{vespa} does not use RVs in the statistical analysis. Instead, a non-detection in RVs can bolster the statistical validation by reducing or eliminating the contribution of HEB/EB scenarios. The non-detection was most significant for the hot Jupiter, KOI-929.01, where the probability that the transit signal is not due to EBs or HEBs was $< 10^{-6}$. These low false positive probabilities suggest that \textit{Kepler-730} is, statistically, a multiplanet system.

### 4. System Parameters

We used the \texttt{EXOFASTv2} analysis package (Eastman 2017) to model the photometry. The priors included (i) 2MASS \textit{JHK} magnitudes, (ii) \textit{UBV} magnitudes (Everett et al. 2012), (iii) \textit{Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer} magnitudes (Wright et al. 2010), (iv) spectroscopic parameters from ASPCAP, (v) maximum visual extinction from estimates of Galactic dust extinction from Bayestar17, and (vi) the distance estimate from Bailar-Jones et al. (2018). The spectroscopic parameters are derived from a combined spectrum, are empirically calibrated, and have been determined to be reliable (see Holtzman et al. 2018). The composite spectrum has a S/N $\approx 53$ per pixel and provides the following: $T_\text{eff} = 5595 \pm 135$ K, log g $\sim 4.06$, and [Fe/H] $= 0.21 \pm 0.02$. The surface gravity was poorly constrained during the calibration step and is only an initializing value for our analysis. Each planet had its period and time of mid-transit fixed to the value derived in DR25. The bottom row of Figure 2 presents the result of the fit to the photometry and Table 3 provides a summary of the stellar priors together with the inferred system parameters and respective confidence intervals.

The modeling reveals that \textit{Kepler-730} is a subgiant star with a radius of $1.411^{+0.049}_{-0.051}$ R$\odot$. It hosts a hot Jupiter and an interior Earth-sized planet with radii of $1.100^{+0.048}_{-0.056}$ R$_{\text{Jup}}$ and 0.140 and 0.012 R$_{\text{Jup}} (1.57 \pm 0.13 R_\text{Jup})$, respectively. To ensure that the derived parameters were consistent, we applied the diagnostic explored in Seager & Mallén-Ornelas (2003) for a transiting system and proceeded to estimate the primary stellar density from the photometry to be $0.537^{+0.063}_{-0.048}$ and $0.531^{+0.060}_{-0.046}$ g cm$^{-3}$ for KOI-929.01 and KOI-929.02, respectively. These values are consistent with each other and are in agreement with the density derived from the stellar models listed in Table 3. For comparison, the density of KIC 9141752 derived from stellar models is $3.48 \pm 0.45$ g cm$^{-3}$.

| KOI    | FPP            | Source | Polynomial | CoFiAM | Gaussian Process |
|--------|----------------|--------|------------|--------|------------------|
| 929.02 | All            | SAP    | $(9.1 \pm 2.4) \times 10^{-5}$ | $(1.9 \pm 0.33) \times 10^{-4}$ | $(8.1 \pm 2.5) \times 10^{-5}$ |
| ...    | Only EBs/HEBs  | SAP    | $(2.8 \pm 1.1) \times 10^{-6}$ | $(2.6 \pm 0.64) \times 10^{-7}$ | $(1.3 \pm 0.19) \times 10^{-4}$ |
| 929.01 | All            | PDCSAP | $(1.2 \pm 0.39) \times 10^{-4}$ | $(1.2 \pm 0.34) \times 10^{-4}$ | $(5.6 \pm 3.2) \times 10^{-5}$ |
| ...    | Only EBs/HEBs  | PDCSAP | $(6.4 \pm 0.99) \times 10^{-8}$ | $(5.7 \pm 1.3) \times 10^{-8}$ | $(1.4 \pm 0.44) \times 10^{-8}$ |

Table 2: False Positive Probability Analysis of \textit{Kepler-730}
The impact parameters also set a lower limit for the mutual inclination at \(3^\circ\). To investigate if a system hosting 1 \(M_\oplus\) and 1 \(M_{\text{Jup}}\) planets could exist in this configuration, we performed an \(N\)-body simulation with \texttt{whfast} (Rein & Tamayo 2015) spanning \(\sim500\) Myr. While we ignore forces other than gravity and any effects from stellar evolution, the fact that both planets survived a long time suggests that a small mutual inclination does not necessitate chaotic evolution.

5. Discussion

The majority of currently detected hot Jupiters have no known close-in companions. The WASP-47 system was, until
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Table 3
Parameters for the Kepler-730 System

| Parameter                     | Units | Median Value |
|-------------------------------|-------|--------------|
| Primary Stellar Priors:       |       |              |
| Effective Temperature         | \( T_e \) (K) | 5595 ± 135   |
| Surface Gravity               | \( \log(g) \) (cgs) | 4.06         |
| Metallicity                   | [Fe/H] | 0.21 ± 0.02  |
| Maximum Visual Extinction     | \( A_{\text{v, max}} \) | 0.126        |
| Distance                      | (pc)  | 1935 ± 122   |
| Primary Parameters:           |       |              |
| Mass                          | \( M_1 \) (\( M_\odot \)) | 1.047 ± 0.072 |
| Radius                        | \( R_1 \) (\( R_\odot \)) | 1.411 ± 0.049 |
| Density                       | \( \rho_1 \) (g cm\(^{-3}\)) | 0.529 ± 0.057 |
| Surface Gravity               | \( \log(g) \) (cgs) | 4.162 ± 0.028 |
| Effective Temperature         | \( T_e \) (K) | 5620 ± 59    |
| Metallicity                   | [Fe/H] | 0.210 ± 0.014 |
| Age                           | (Gyr) | 9.5 ± 2.7   |
| Parallax                      | (mas) | 0.495 ± 0.207 |
| Linear Limb-darkening Coefficient | \( u_1 \) | 0.418 ± 0.029 |
| Quadratic Limb-darkening Coefficient | \( u_2 \) | 0.235 ± 0.045 |
| Planetary Parameters:         |       |              |
| Orbital Period                | \( P \) (days) | 6.491682808  |
| Time of Mid-transit           | \( T_C \) (BJD\(_{TDB}\)) | 2455007.63355 |
| Scaled Radius                 | \( R_p/R_1 \) | 0.08013 ± 0.00074 |
| Radius                        | \( R_\text{bep} \) (\( R_\odot \)) | 1.103 ± 0.050 |
| Scaled Semimajor Axis         | \( a/R_1 \) | 0.106 ± 0.032 |
| Semimajor Axis                | \( a \) (au) | 0.0094 ± 0.0006 |
| Orbital Inclination           | \( i \) (degrees) | 86.96 ± 0.37 |
| Impact Parameter              | \( b \) | 0.561 ± 0.050 |
| Transit Duration              | \( T_{14} \) (hr) | 4.33 ± 0.035 |
| Equilibrium Temperature       | \( T_{eq} \) (K) | 1219 ± 21 |

Notes.

\( ^a \) Values from ASPCAP.
\( ^b \) \( P \) and \( T_C \) are fixed to the Kepler values. \( e \) and \( \omega \) are null.

recently, the only known exception. In this Letter, we validated a second such system, Kepler-730, which hosts a hot Jupiter with an inner, transiting planet, and sheds new light on the origins of hot Jupiters. The analysis of Gaia, Robo-AO, Kepler, and APOGEE-2 data have revealed that the observed transits have a very high statistical probability of being genuine planets, and as such, provides independent validation of both Kepler-730b and Kepler-730c. The similar stellar densities derived from each transit further reinforces this conclusion. The Kepler transit timing observations catalog (Holczer et al. 2016) detected no timing variations, making it difficult to constrain the planetary masses. The non-detection of a Keplerian orbit in the APOGEE-2 velocity places an upper limit on the mass of the hot Jupiter of \( \lesssim 13 M_{\text{Jup}} \), corresponding to a 3\( \sigma \) detection.

The existence of close-in companions in hot Jupiter systems is possible evidence that precludes a dynamically violent history. The measurement of close stellar obliquity for the Kepler-730 system thus provides an unique chance to test if spin–orbit misalignment of hot Jupiters is a natural consequence of high-eccentricity migration. From the derived system parameters, we predict that the semi-amplitude of the Rossiter–Mclaughlin effect for Kepler-730b is \( \sim 12 \text{ m s}^{-1} \) (assuming \( v \sin i \sim 2 \text{ km s}^{-1} \)), which is marginally measurable with Keck/HIRES given the faintness of Kepler-730 (Wang et al. 2018a).

While tempting to discuss occurrence rates of such systems, we note that a significant fraction of the Kepler hot and warm Jupiter sample has yet to be confirmed or statistically validated (Huang et al. 2016). Without additional observations, such as velocimetry, high-contrast imaging, and measured stellar parameters, a genuine false positive scenario can appear to be a statistically validated planet (e.g., Cañas et al. 2018). Our ongoing APOGEE-2 survey of KOIs will help investigate a significant fraction of this hot Jupiter sample, enabling a more accurate estimation of occurrence rates of WASP-47-like systems.

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