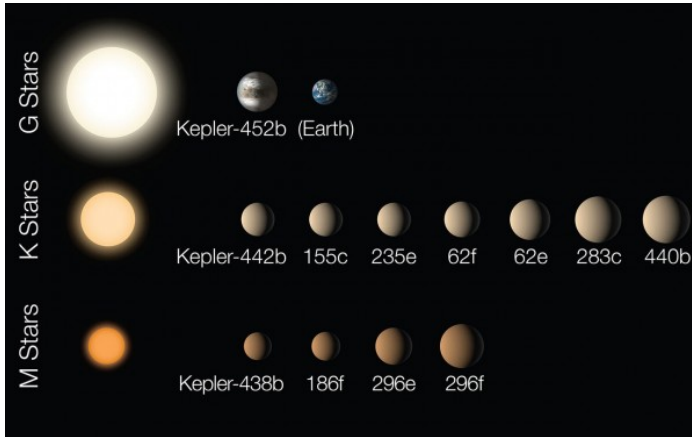


Kepler Space Mission detects Earth-like planets



As of November 2013, based upon Kepler data astronomers estimate there could be as many as 40 billion Earth-sized planets orbiting habitable zones of sun-like stars and red dwarfs in the Milky Way.

A potentially habitable planet implies a terrestrial planet within a circumstellar habitable zone ("Life Zone") where there is sufficient atmospheric pressure to maintain [liquid water](#) on its surface.

A 2015 review of Kepler exoplanets identified 3 (Kepler-62f, K-186f, and K-4452b) as best candidates for being potentially habitable.