

“Measuring Air Pressure on Ancient Earth”

What makes a planet habitable? How will we detect life on far away planets? Exoplanet characterization is an exploding field, but much remains to be known of the most accessible exoplanet: early Earth. 3 billion years ago, Earth was a different world under a different sun.

Measuring air pressure over geologic time has been challenging because such a barely perceptible property has minimal impact on most rocks, yet is important to constrain. In this talk necessarily crossing disciplinary boundaries, Dr. Som will present two independent methods to measure air pressure on ancient Earth: one using fossilized raindrop imprints, and another using gas bubbles trapped in ancient lava flows.

Friday, February 24, 2017

4:00—5:00 PM

Olin Physical Sciences, Rm 140

Dr. Sanjoy Som
Research Scientist & Director
Blue Marble Space Institute of Science

