The astrophysical side of exobiology: the search for habitable exoplanets and life in the Galaxy

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The list of known exoplanets is rapidly growing (almost 5000 at the moment), but we know only an handful of rocky planets in their circumstellar habitable zone. We propose a revision of the criteria for defining the habitable zone, based on the updated knowledge of the role and diffusion of biometals, and present updated results on the statistics of Earth-like planets in the Galaxy.

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