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The Galactic Habitable Zone

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With more than 5000 confirmed exoplanet detections since 1995, it is now established that planets are very common in our galaxy: almost every star in the galaxy is thought to harbour at least one planet. Kepler, PLATO, and other planet-hunting missions are particularly interested in Earth-like exoplanets, which could in certain cases host liquid water and maybe life.

From a Galactic point of view, it is interesting to determine if this kind of exoplanet can exist everywhere in the Milky Way, or if they are preferentially found in certain regions of the Milky Way: the Galactic Habitable Zone (GHZ).

I will present a quick overview of current knowledge on the Milky Way's exoplanet population and the evolution of the GHZ research over the past 30 years.

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