

radial velocity



One of
astronomers

the ways
DISCOVER

exoplanets is called **RADIAL VELOCITY**.

STARS aren't completely still in space when an exoplanet is orbiting them. The planet **TUGS** on the star every so **SLIGHTLY**, causing it to move in a small circle. These movements affect a star's **LIGHT SPECTRUM**. When the planet is moving **TOWARD US**, the **COLORS** will appear **SHIFTED** toward the color **BLUE**. When moving **AWAY** from us, the color spectrum is **SHIFTED** toward **RED**. These shifts can be measured and show a planet is in **ORBIT**.