Circumstellar Disks in Young and Old Main-Sequence Stars

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Circumstellar Disks at All Stages of Stellar Evolution

• Pre-Main Sequence: protoplanetary disks (see review by Andrews+2015)



- Main Sequence: debris disks (see review by Matthews+2014)
- Post-Main Sequence: dusty disks around white dwarfs (see review by Farihi2016)
 Also see "Circumstellar Disks: What will

Also see "Circumstellar Disks: What will be next?" by Kral, Clarke & Wyatt, astroph/1703.08560

New Capabilities Enable New Discoveries

- Wavelength Coverage
- Sensitivity ← telescope size + mirror temperature
- Resolution in both spectral and spatial
- >250 K **Time Domain** 10^{4} 4-27 K 87 K 53 K IRAS 10^{2} Photometry Sensitivity (mJy) $5\sigma(a)$ l hr Herschel **WISE** 10° Spitzer HST Spitzer Herschel JWST 0.85 m 2.5 m 3.5 m 6.5 m ALMA 10^{-2} <5 K 10^{-4} OST 10^{-6} **Origins Space** Telescope 10^{-8} 9.1 m 10 100 1000 1 Wavelength (micron)

Tremendous Strides in the Last Three Decades

The Fomalhaut debris disks: a wealth of observations at a wide range of wavelengths and spatial scales from photometry, imaging to interferometry reveal the complex disk structures.



The Need for Spatial Resolution

Planets determine the planetesimals distribution in a planetary system. Dust debris, generated by planetesimals, also influences by non-gravitational forces, and their resultant emission is temperature dependent.

one belt w/o planet

at poor resolution

Particle Distribution for Solar System



• Mid-Infrared Emission Distribution



The dilemma in ε Eri using Spitzer observations: multiple belts? or one belt?

two belts w/ planets at poor resolution

one belt w/ planets one belt w/o planet two belts w/ planets Young & Old Disks around Main-Sequence Stars by Kate Su, AAS 231 FIRSIG Splinter Section, DC, 2018-01-09

The Inner Debris Structure in ϵ Eri?





The Inner Debris Structure in ϵ Eri?



The sub-arcsec resolution enabled by JWST observations will resolve the inner debris structure in ε Eri, and settle the long debate between two inner belts or one broad disk.



High Spatial & Spectral Resolutions of JWST



A suite of instruments (NIRCam, NIRSpec, MIRI, FGS/NIRISS) capable of performing high-resolution imaging and spectroscopy from 0.6 to 28 μm.

In addition to new discoveries, JWST will provide a great opportunity to extend and follow-up the legacy started by Spitzer with much more powerful capabilities.



Mid-infrared spectra from thermodynamically altered minerals (various forms of crystalline silicates) can probe the physical conditions of violent events in the disks.

Extreme Debris Disks: Tracers for Large Impacts

Systems around young stars (~10 Myr to 200 Myr) with large amounts of dust in the terrestrial zone and prominent silicate features. ~50% of them show disk variability at 3.6/4.5 μ m (Meng, Su+ 2015; Su+ 2018, in prep.).







Mid-infrared spectra from Spitzer and JWST will enable time-series study in extreme debris disks, providing much needed constraints on terrestrial planet formation theories.



Technical Specifications



Origins



The Power of Spatial Resolution with OST

Planet-Disk Interaction - structures created by planet(s)



Models are the dust density distributions from Deller & Maddison (2005) with various planet masses and eccentricities, which are observed with 1" (OST, concept 1) and 5.6" (Herschel) resolutions.

The Power of Sensitivity with OST



A large, cryogenic cold telescope (like OST) can discover many more disks, and provide a census of true Kuiper-belt analogs, putting our Solar System into context.