

# Techniques, Observations, and Diagnostics of Protoplanetary Disks: Outer Disk

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**2021 Sagan Exoplanet Summer Virtual Workshop**  
Circumstellar Disks and Young Planets



UNIVERSIDAD  
DE CHILE



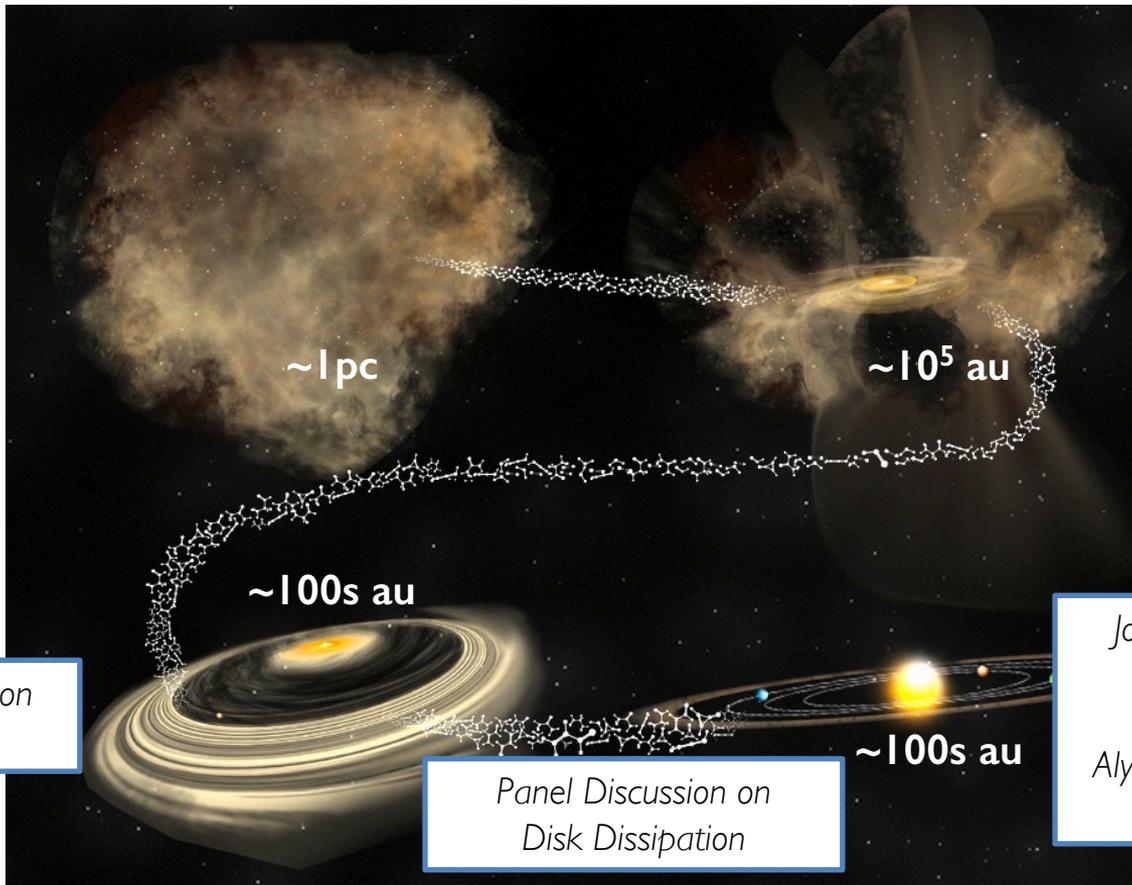
Centro de Astrofísica  
y Tecnologías Afines

# Our current view of when are where planets form

\*for low-mass stars, like our Sun

Pre-stellar  
Core

Class 0/I  
Phase



**Protoplanetary  
Disk Phase**

Tom Megeath's talk on  
"The First 3 Myr"

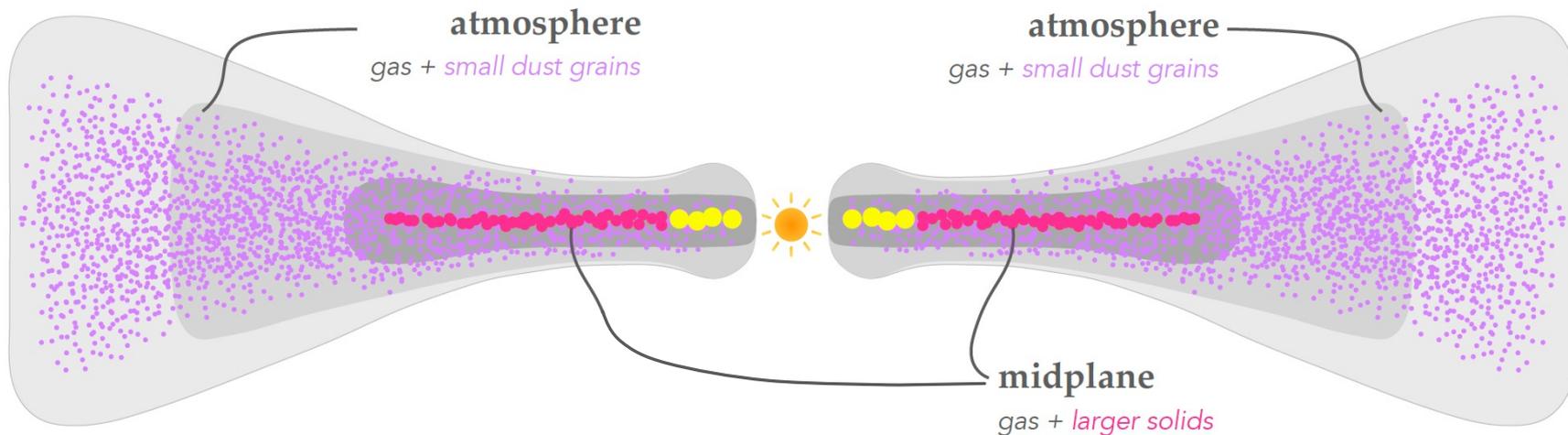
Debris Disk Phase

Panel Discussion on  
Disk Dissipation

Jonathan Gagné's talk on  
"The Next 100 Myr"  
Mark Wyatt and  
Alycia Weinberger's talks on  
Debris Disks

# A schematic view of a protoplanetary disk

A flared gaseous disk + a midplane with solids + components not co-located



## Gas

Dominates the total disk mass

Bulk of the material is  $H_2$  with traces of other constituents

Radial/Vertical distribution is extended

## Dust

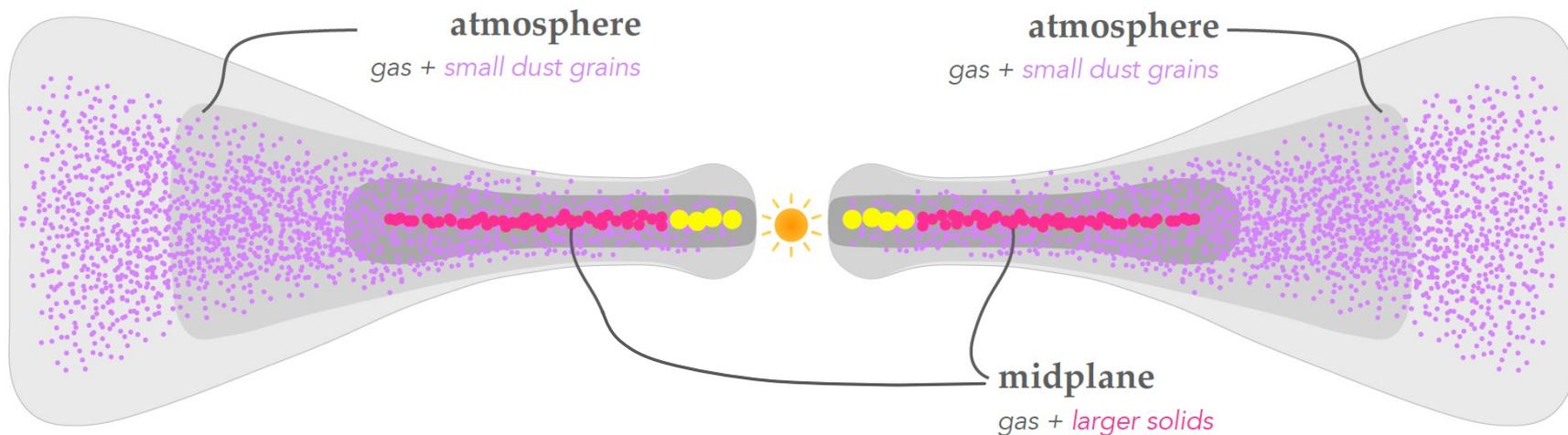
Dominates the total disk opacity

Solids range from sub- $\mu m$  sized particles to large planetesimals

Radial/Vertical distribution is compact

# A schematic view of a protoplanetary disk

A flared gaseous disk + a midplane with solids + components not co-located



Disk diameter  $\sim 100$  au

Distance to nearby star-forming regions  $\sim 150$  pc

Typical angular size of a disk  $< 1''$

Angular resolution

$$\theta \approx 1.22 \frac{\lambda}{D} \approx 32 \text{ mas} \left( \frac{\lambda}{1 \mu\text{m}} \right) \left( \frac{D}{8 \text{ m}} \right)^{-1}$$
$$\approx 32 \text{ mas} \left( \frac{\lambda}{1 \text{ mm}} \right) \left( \frac{D}{8 \text{ km}} \right)^{-1}$$

# Multi-wavelength observations trace different regions in a disk

Providing critical constraints on structure/distribution of material

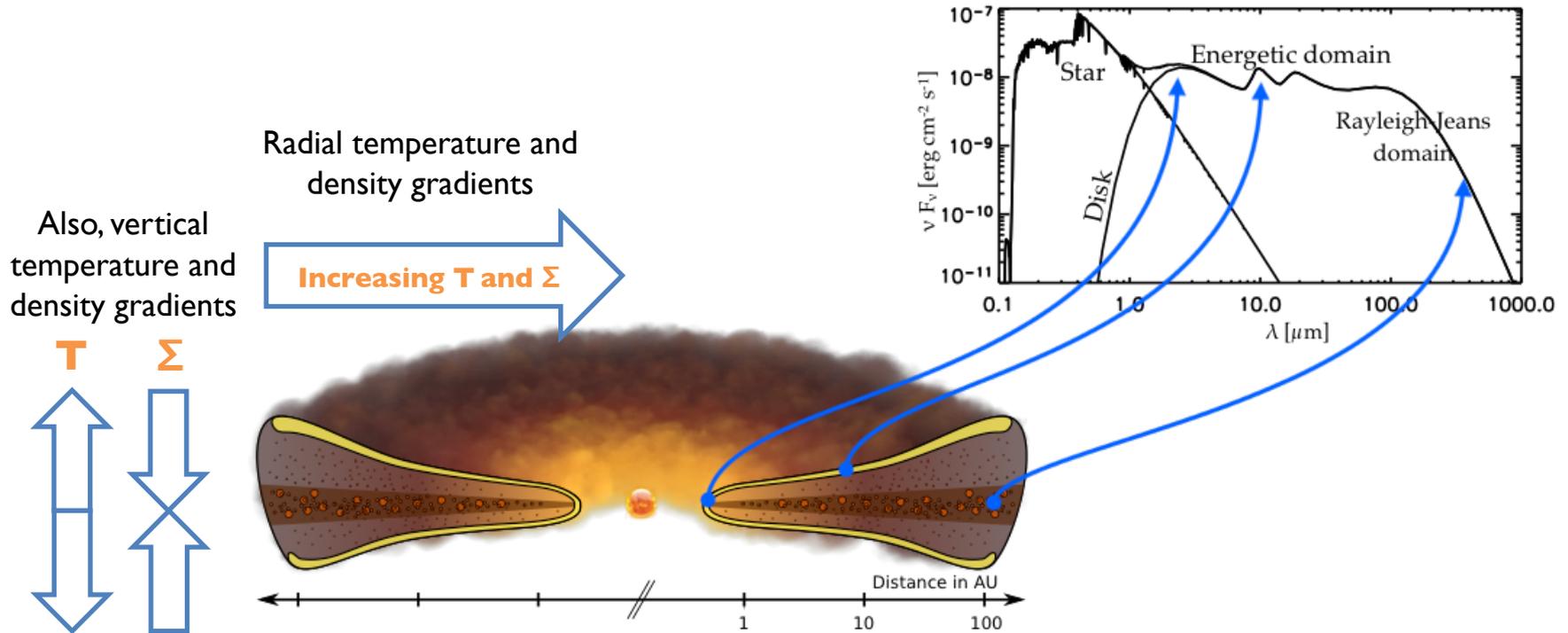
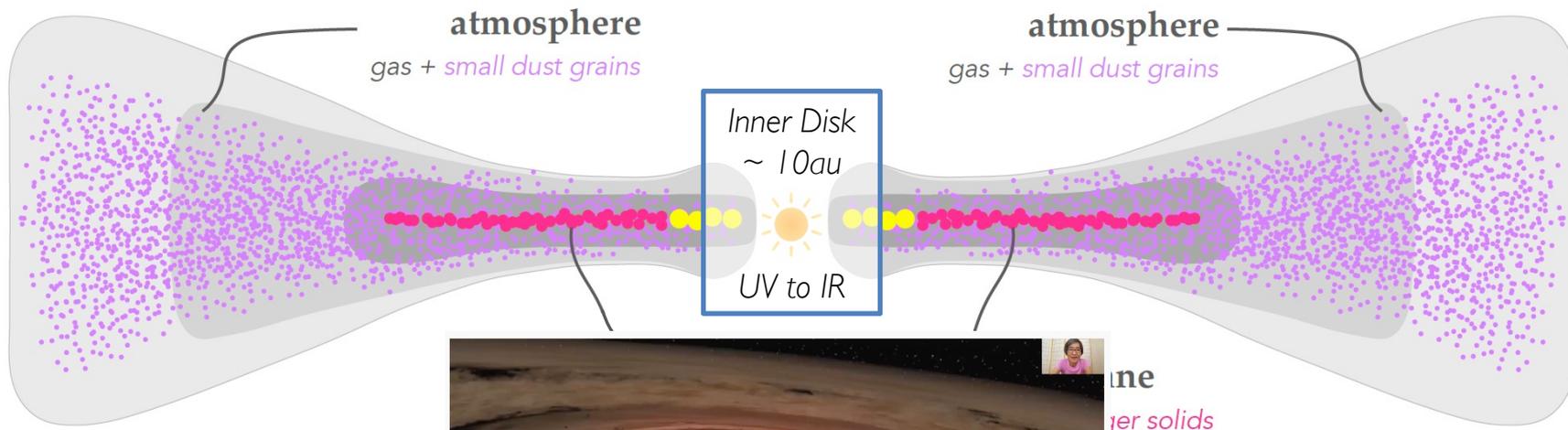


Figure c/o T. Birnstiel

# How do we probe different disk regions?

The warmer innermost regions are better probed at shorter wavelengths



Joan Najita's talk

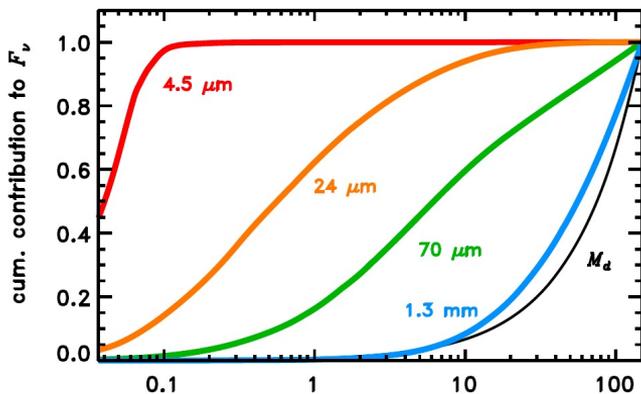


line  
per solids

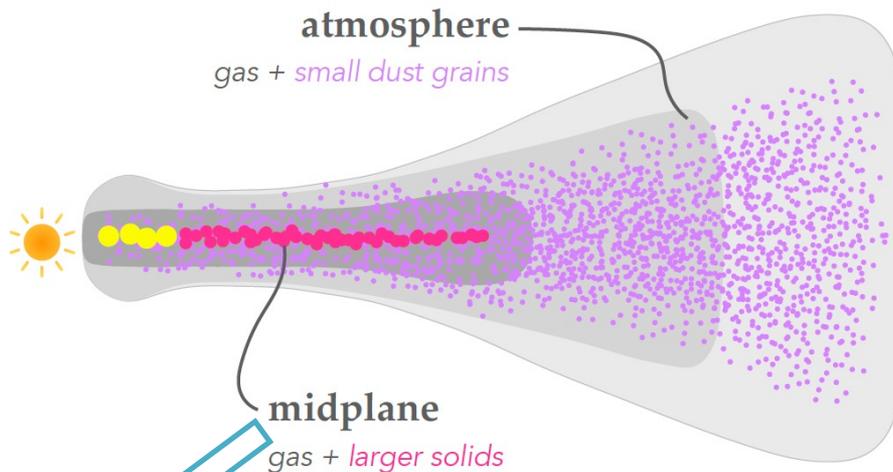
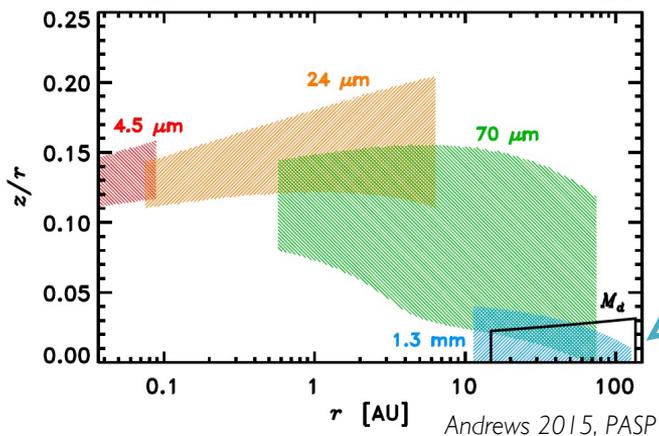
# How do we probe different disk regions?

The colder outer disk and midplane can be probed at longer wavelengths

Cumulative contribution at each  $\lambda$  to the observed emission

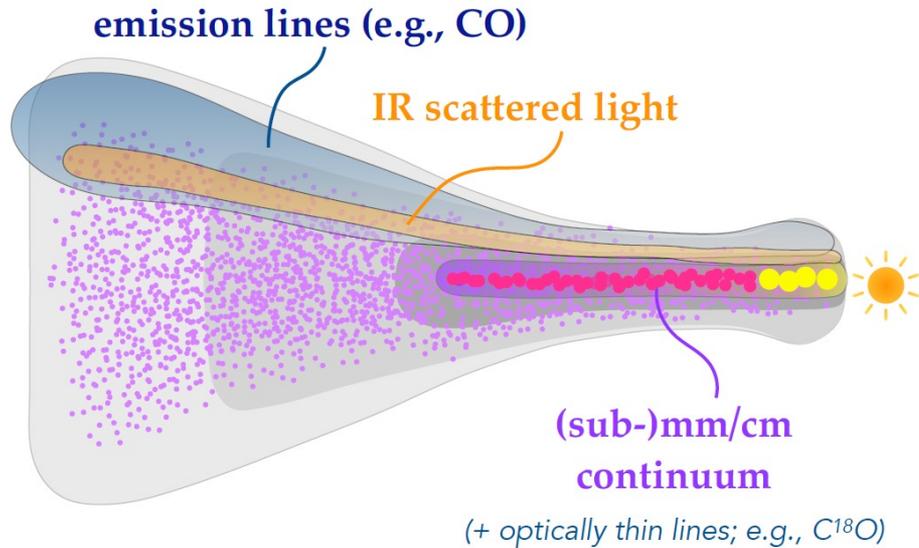


From where in the disk is the observed flux being emitted from?



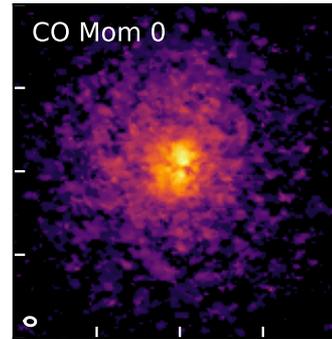
# How do we probe different disk regions?

The disk surface and gaseous component can be probed in scattered-light and emission lines, respectively

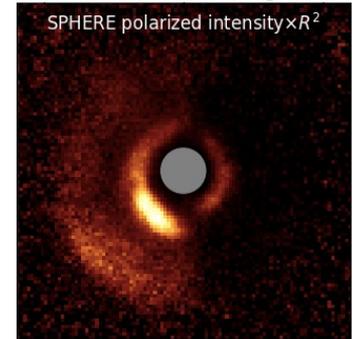


## The disk HD 143006 in multiple tracers

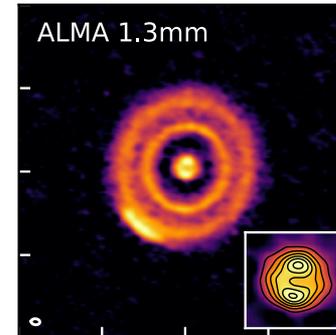
Molecular Emission



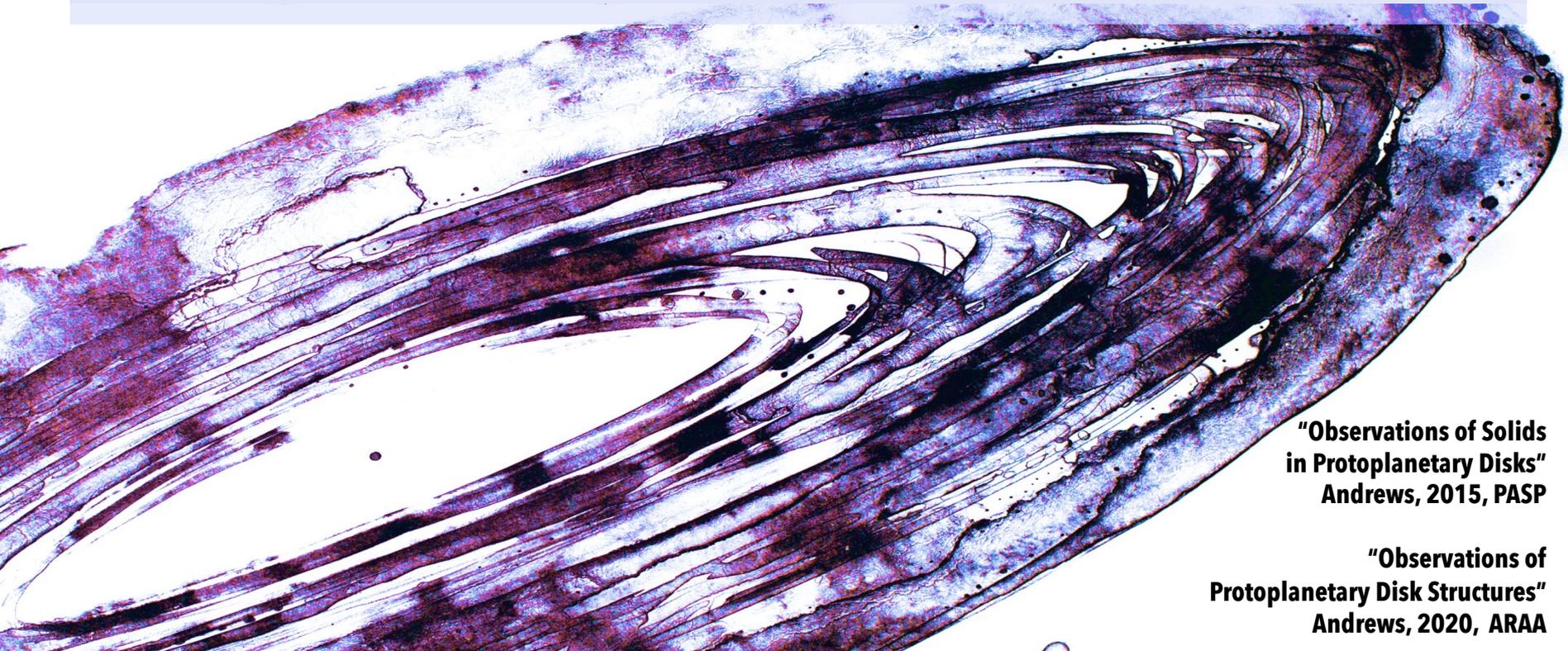
IR scattered-light



Thermal Emission



# Part I. Thermal emission at long wavelengths



**"Observations of Solids  
in Protoplanetary Disks"  
Andrews, 2015, PASP**

**"Observations of  
Protoplanetary Disk Structures"  
Andrews, 2020, ARAA**

# What do we learn about disks from long wavelength continuum observations?

Dust thermal continuum emission observed from near IR to cm wavelengths

Emergent intensity of dust thermal emission:  
(excluding scattering)

$$I_{\nu} = B_{\nu}(T_{dust})(1 - e^{-\tau_{\nu}})$$

Dust optical depth

Planck function at  
Dust Temperature

In the optically thick limit,  $\tau_{\nu} \gg 1$ :  
(generally at short wavelengths)

$$I_{\nu} \approx B_{\nu}(T_{dust})$$

In the optically thin limit,  $\tau_{\nu} \ll 1$ :  
(generally at long wavelengths)

$$I_{\nu} \approx \kappa_{\nu} \Sigma_{dust} B_{\nu}(T_{dust})$$

Absorption  
Opacity

Dust Surface Density

Thus, integrating  $I_{\nu}$  over the disk:

$$M_{dust} \approx \frac{d^2 F_{\nu}}{\kappa_{\nu} B_{\nu}(T_{dust})}$$

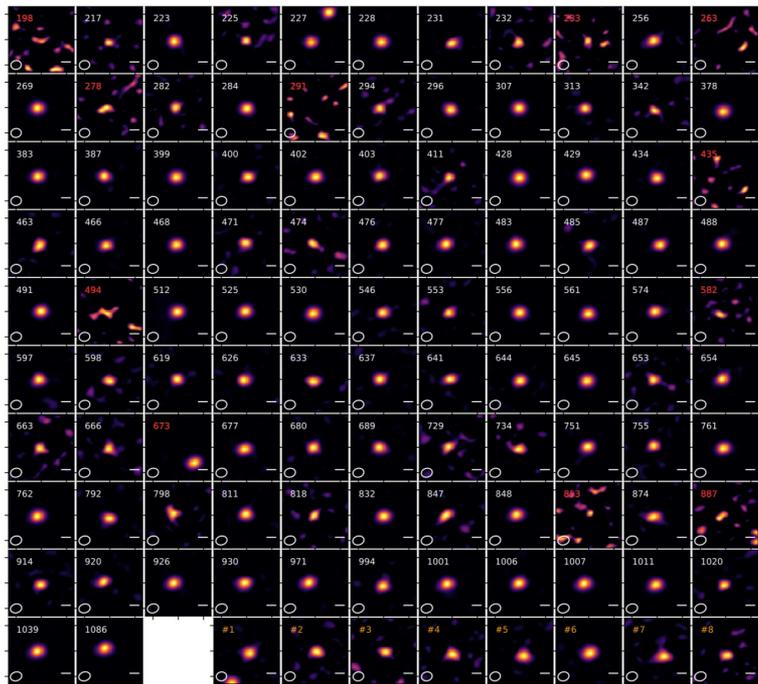
Solid Mass

Observed  
Flux density

# Protoplanetary disk masses from thermal emission at long wavelengths

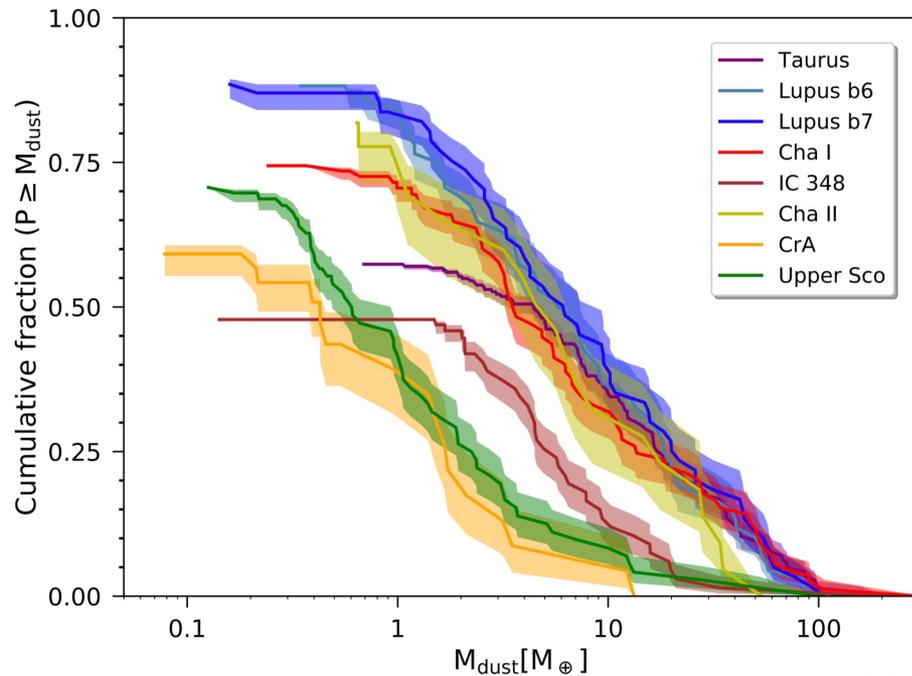
Based on the assumptions outlined before there have been multiple demographic surveys with ALMA

e.g., Lynds 1641



Grant et al. 2021

## Solid disk mass evolution



Villenave et al. 2021

# What do we learn about disks from long wavelength continuum observations?

Constraints of spectral index at long wavelengths: in the optically thin regime dust properties can be inferred

In the optically thin limit,  $\tau_\nu \ll 1$ :  
(generally at long wavelengths)

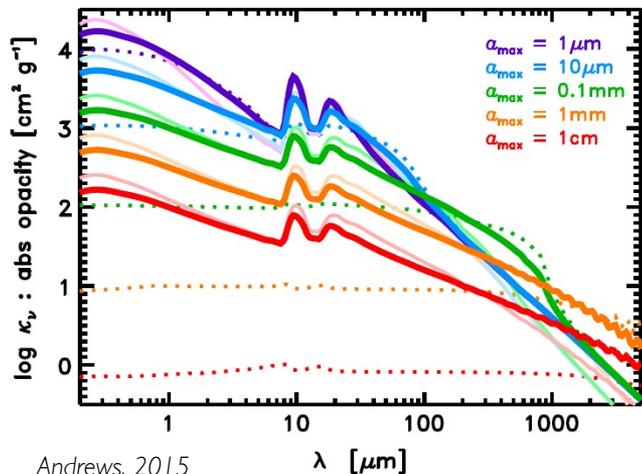
$$I_\nu \approx \kappa_\nu \Sigma_{dust} B_\nu(T_{dust})$$

In the Rayleigh-Jeans limit,  $h\nu \ll kT$ :  
(generally at long wavelengths and/or high temperatures)

$$I_\nu \approx \kappa_\nu \Sigma_{dust} \nu^2$$

All dependence with frequency is here

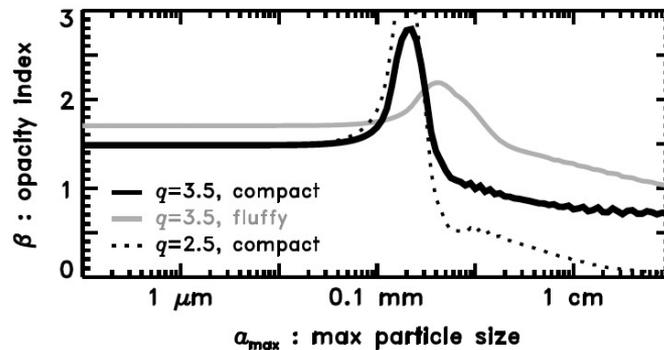
$\kappa_\nu$  for different particle-size distributions



Goes as power-law at long wavelengths:  
 $\kappa_\nu \propto \nu^\beta$

Andrews, 2015

Opacity spectral index  $\beta$   
for different particle-size distributions



Lower  $\beta$  for large particle sizes

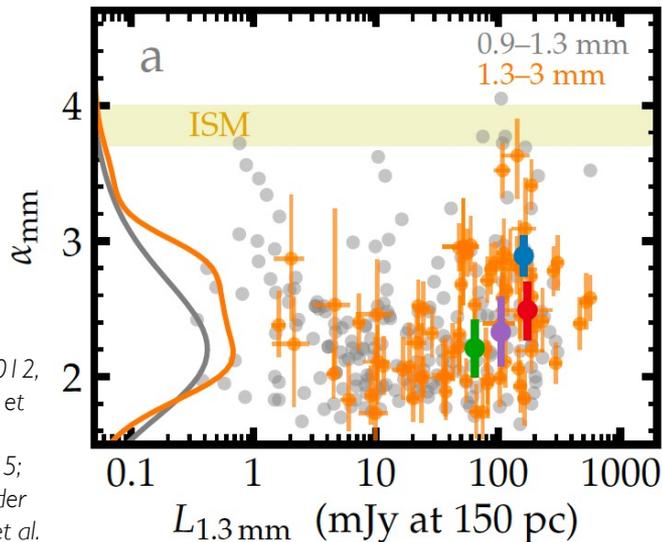
# Dust properties from thermal emission at long wavelengths

Based on the assumptions outlined before there have been several grain growth and evolution studies

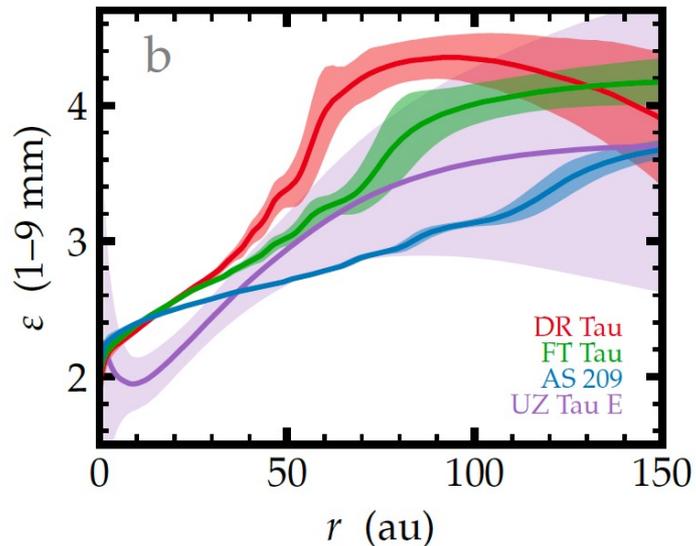
Spectral index of emission:  $I_\nu \propto \nu^\alpha$

To quantify both contributions to the shape of the spectrum: from the opacity spectral index  $\beta$  and the Planck function  $B_\nu(T)$ .

Disk-integrated spectral indices from various surveys



Resolved spectral indices in different disks



Tazzari et al. 2016;  
Tripathi et al. 2018

Ricci et al. 2010a,b, 2012, 2013, 2014; Lommen et al. 2010; Harris et al. 2012; Cieza et al. 2015; Testi et al. 2016; van der Plas et al. 2017; Cox et al. 2017; Pinilla et al. 2017c; Ward-Duong et al. 2018  
Figure from Andrews 2020

# What do we learn about disks from long wavelength continuum observations?

There are several caveats to be considered in the assumptions before

**Emission not necessarily optically thin:**

(emergent intensity assuming  $\tau_\nu \ll 1$ )

$$I_\nu \approx \kappa_\nu \Sigma_{dust} B_\nu(T_{dust})$$



**Scattering cannot be ignored:**

(emergent intensity excluding scattering)

$$I_\nu = B_\nu(T_{dust})(1 - e^{-\tau_\nu})$$

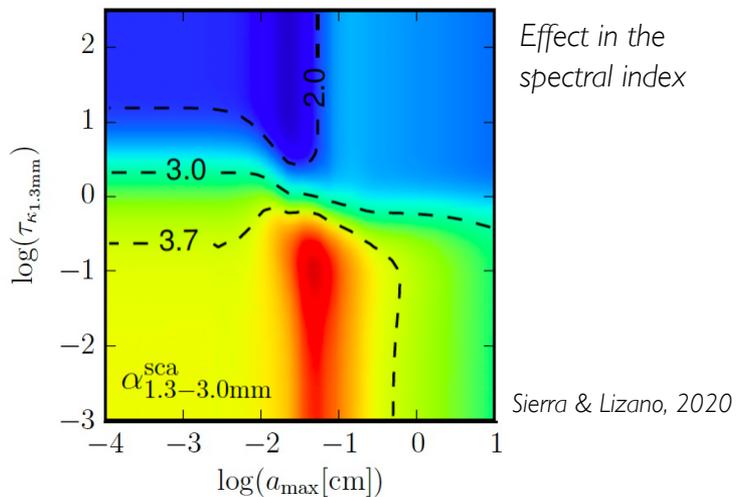
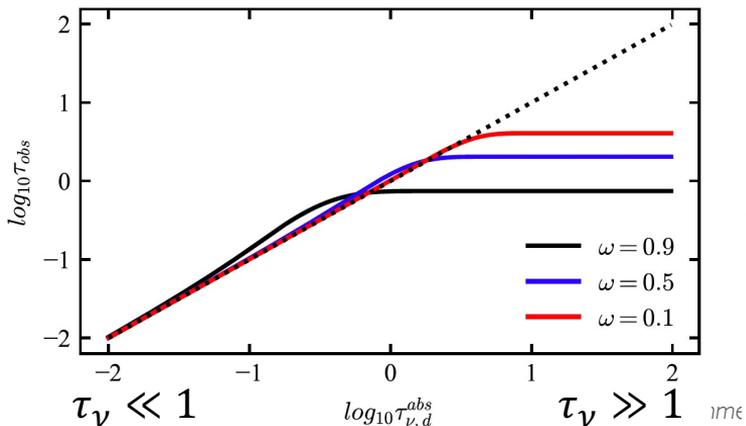


**Emergent intensity of dust thermal emission when including scattering:**

with  $\omega_\nu$  the albedo of the dust particles, dependent on particle properties (e.g., size)

$$I_\nu = B_\nu(T_{dust})[1 - e^{-\tau_\nu} + \omega_\nu \mathcal{F}(\tau_\nu, \omega_\nu)]$$

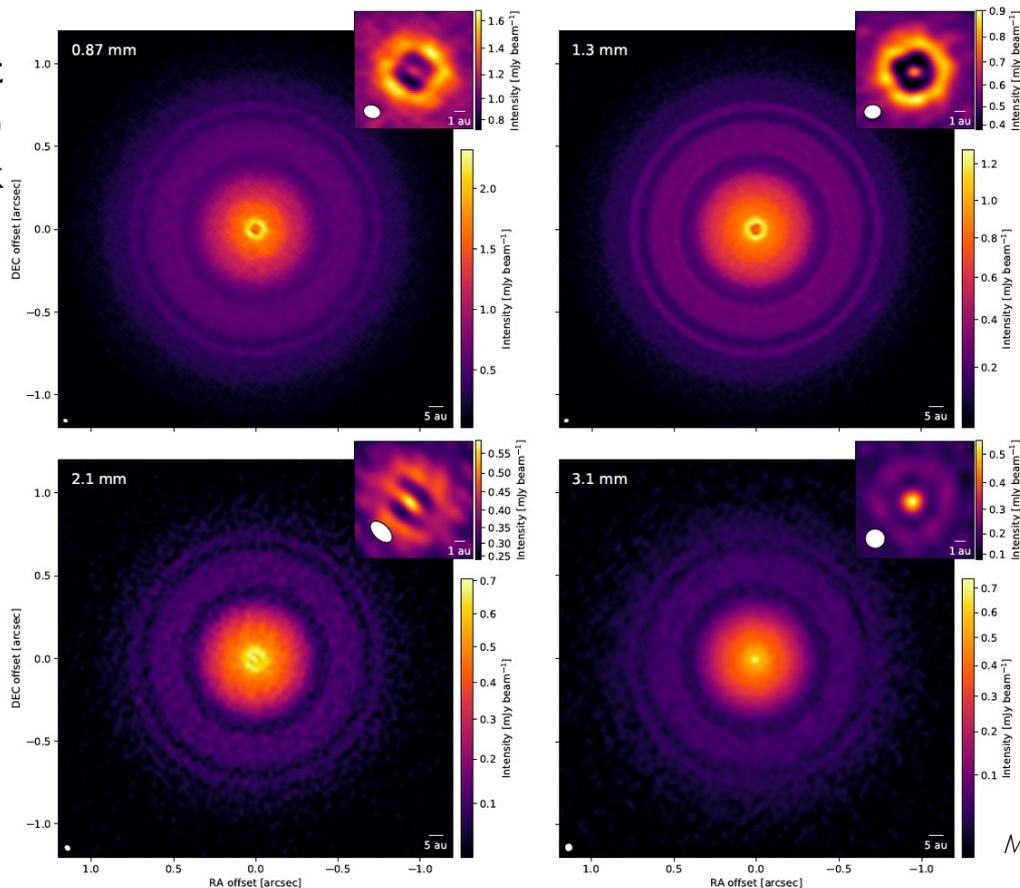
Effect in inferred optical depth, (derived under standard assumptions)  
Zhu et al., 2019



# Dust properties from thermal emission at long wavelengths

Multi-wavelength resolved observations to constrain dust properties and solid mass in substructures

ALMA Observations at  
50mas resolution (3au)  
of TW Hya disk



Macías et al. 2021

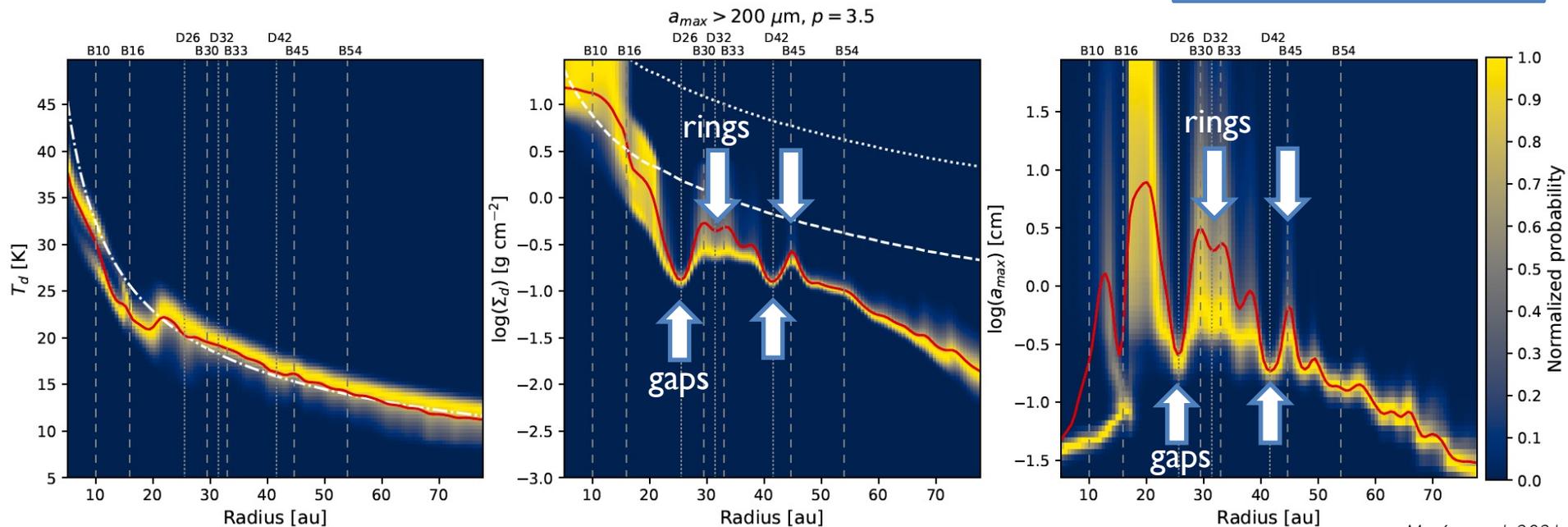
# Dust properties from thermal emission at long wavelengths

Multi-wavelength resolved observations to constrain dust properties and solid mass in substructures

Emergent intensity is modeled including scattering:

$I_\nu$  is computed as a function of  $\{T_{dust}, \Sigma_{dust}, a_{max}\}$ , assuming certain dust composition and particle size distribution

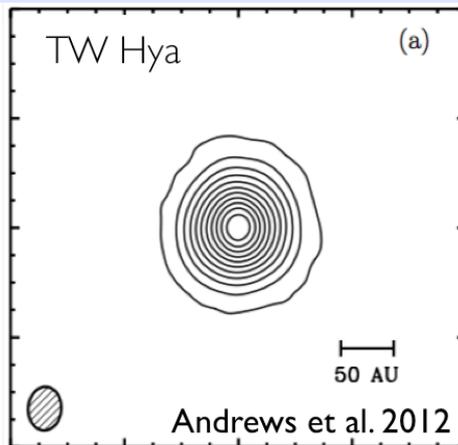
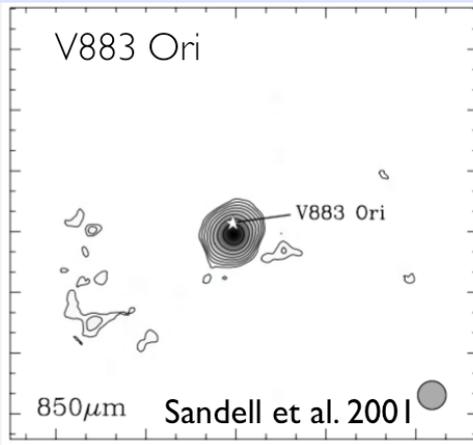
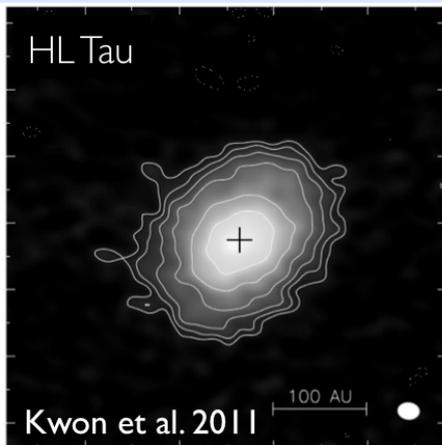
Til Bimstiel and Myriam Benisty's talk on "Dust Grain Evolution"



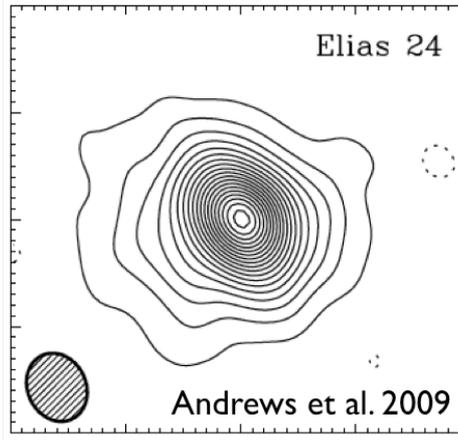
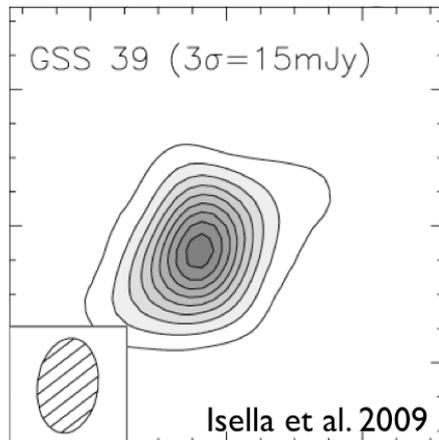
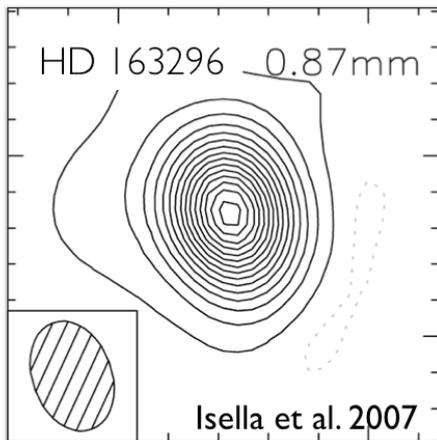
Macías et al. 2021

# What do we learn about disks from long wavelength continuum observations?

At long wavelengths, sensitivity and resolution are critical to characterize substructures

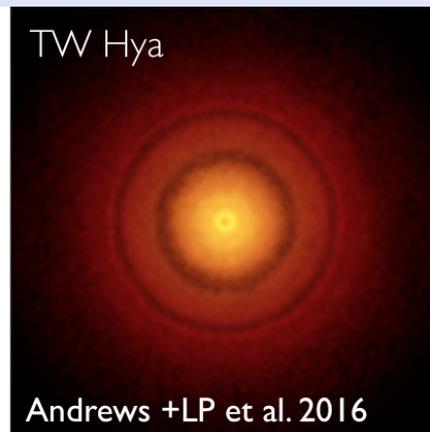
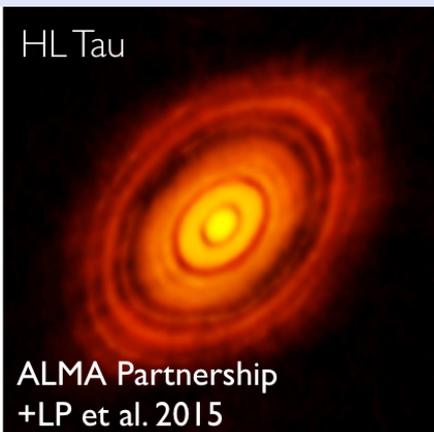


*Disk observations from the pre-ALMA era showed little substructure*

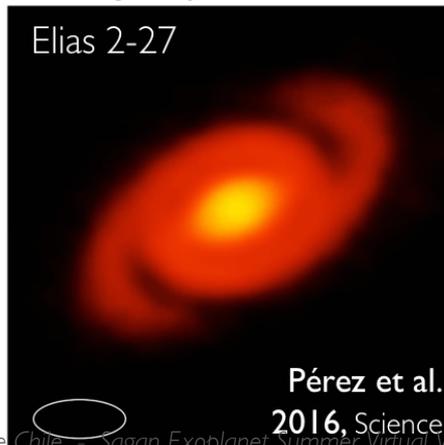


# What do we learn about disks from long wavelength continuum observations?

The era of ALMA: extraordinary sensitivity and resolution to characterize these disks



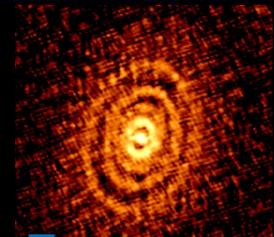
*The same mm-wave gallery of disks, but as seen by ALMA now*



# A gallery of ALMA images at ~few au resolution

ALMA Partnership  
+LP et al. 2015

Andrews +LP et al. 2016



Cieza +LP et al. 2021

**Most common substructure:**  
*rings and gaps*  
*Huang +LP et al. 2018a; Long et al. 2018, Cieza +LP et al. 2021*  
*And even detected in young disks: Segura-Cox et al. 2021*

**Spiral substructure:**  
**two armed and symmetric**  
*Pérez et al. 2016; Huang +LP et al. 2018b*

**Asymmetric substructure: rare**  
*Isella +LP et al. 2018; Dong et al. 2018, Pérez et al. 2018*

Jaehan Bae's talk on  
"Structures in Disks and  
Planet-Disk Interactions"

DSHARP, Andrews +LP et al. 2018

Laura Pérez @ U. de Chile - Sagan Exoplanet Summer Virtual Workshop - July 2021

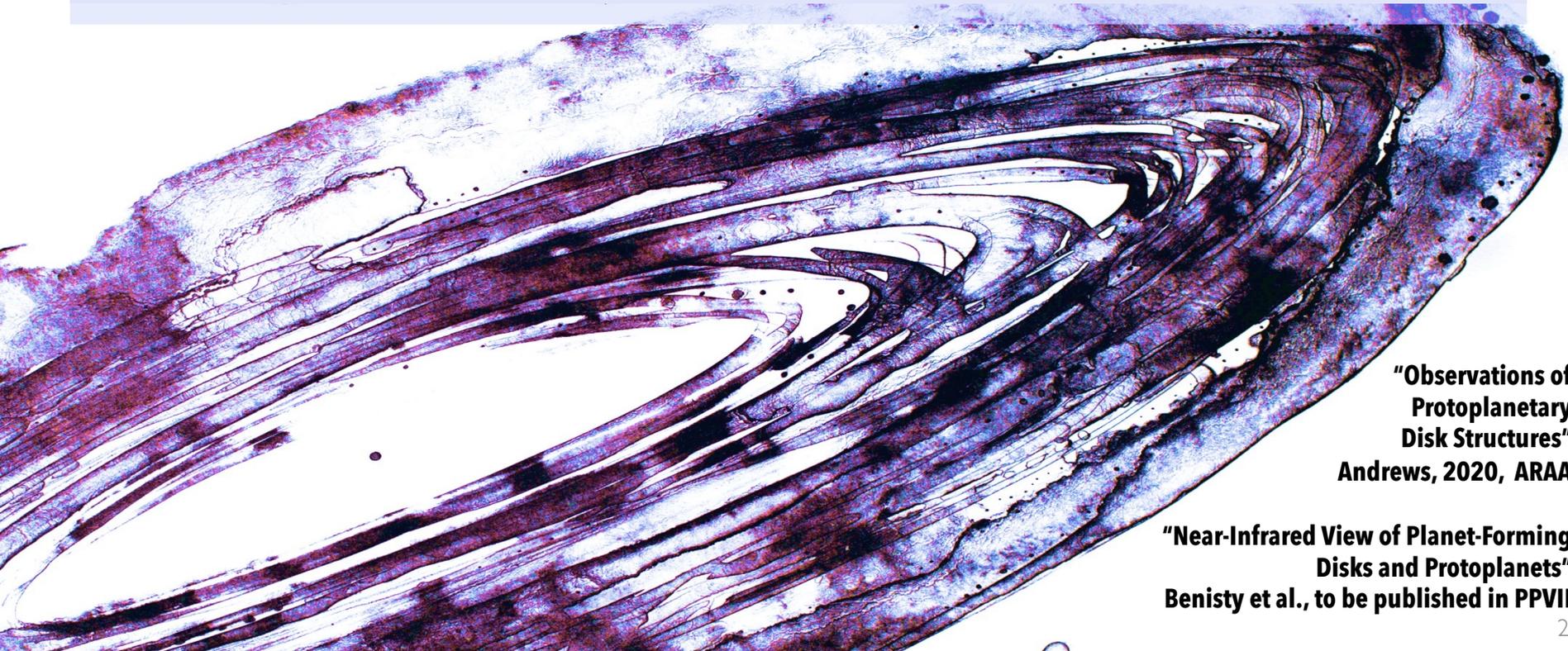
Dong et al. 2018

S. Pérez et al. 2019

Huang +LP et al. 2020

Benisty +LP et al. (in prep)

## Part II. Scattered light at short wavelengths



**"Observations of  
Protoplanetary  
Disk Structures"**

**Andrews, 2020, ARAA**

**"Near-Infrared View of Planet-Forming  
Disks and Protoplanets"**

**Benisty et al., to be published in PPVII**

# What do we learn about disks from short wavelength scattered-light?

Requires high-contrast imaging as stellar emission is orders of magnitude brighter

## Grains in surface scatter incident radiation

At  $\lambda \sim \text{optical}$ , incident radiation is starlight

At  $\lambda \sim \text{IR}$ , incident radiation is starlight + disk emission

$$\text{Stellar irradiation} \propto \frac{1}{r^2}$$

Observations of the outer disk are sensitivity limited,  
as far away regions are poorly illuminated

## A “natural” coronagraph

When light is scattered by dust grains  
it becomes polarized

Use the fact that scattered-light is polarized  
while starlight is not

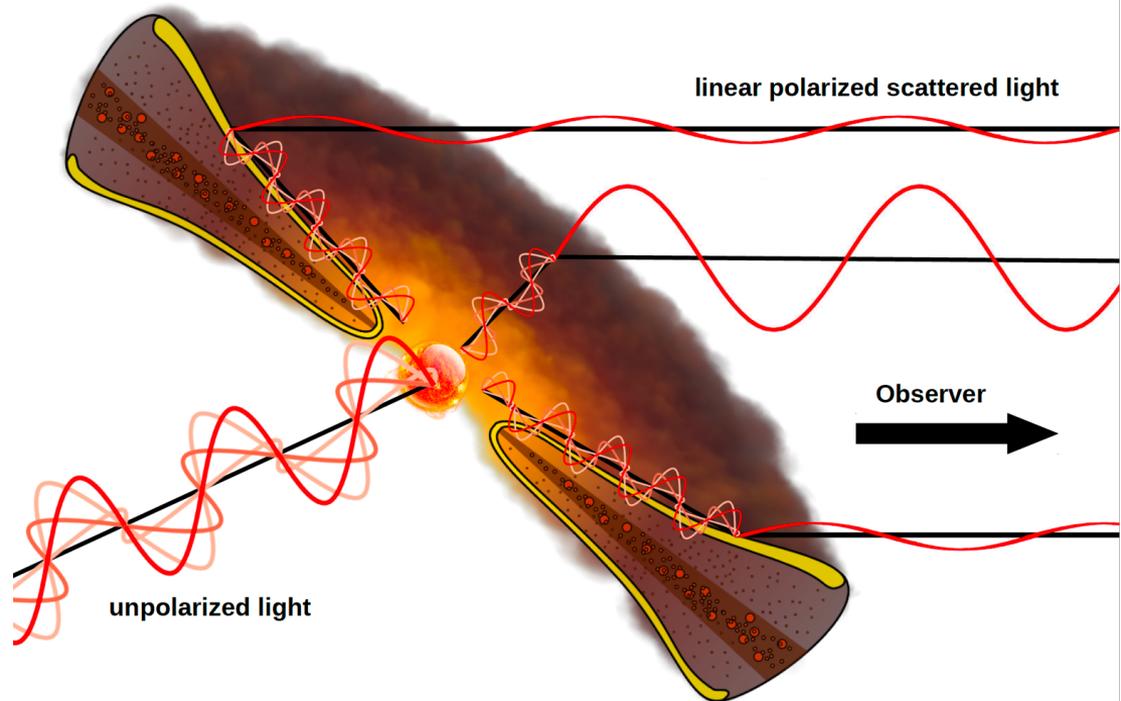


Figure c/o C. Ginski, T. Birnstiel

# What do we learn about disks from short wavelength scattered-light?

Observed radiation in polarization and total intensity depends on several factors including projection effects

## Grain properties are important

Depending on size, composition, porosity, etc., there will be variations in total intensity and polarized brightness with scattering angle.

Polarized brightness with scattering angle

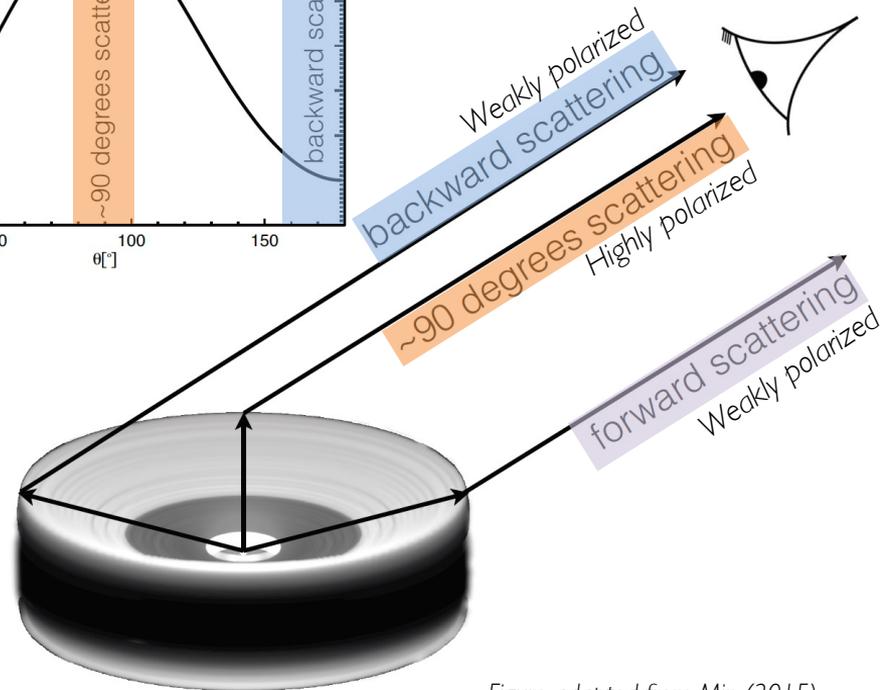
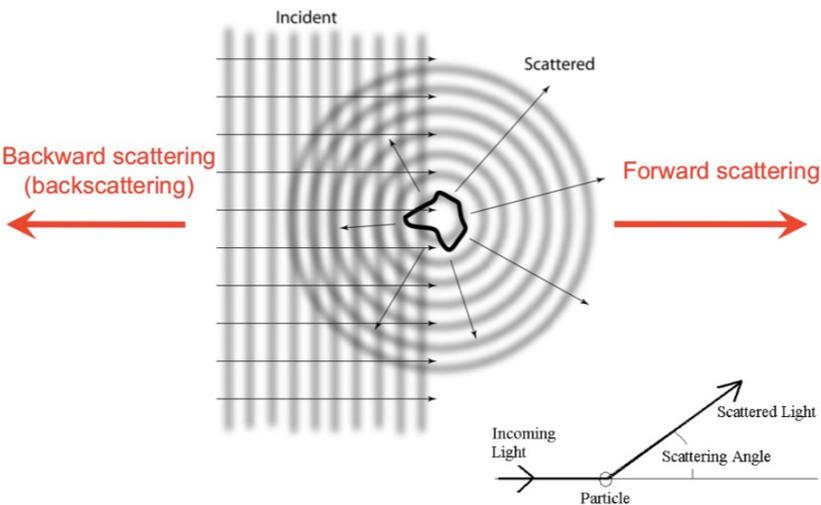
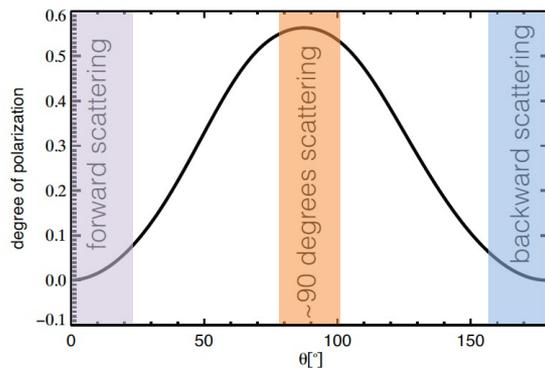


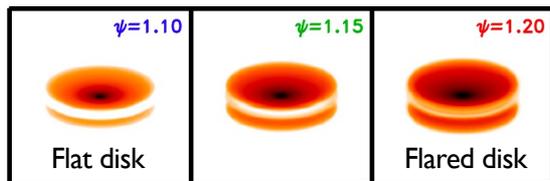
Figure adapted from Min (2015)

# What do we learn about disks from short wavelength scattered-light?

Observed radiation in polarization and total intensity depends on several factors including projection effects

## Vertical structure is important

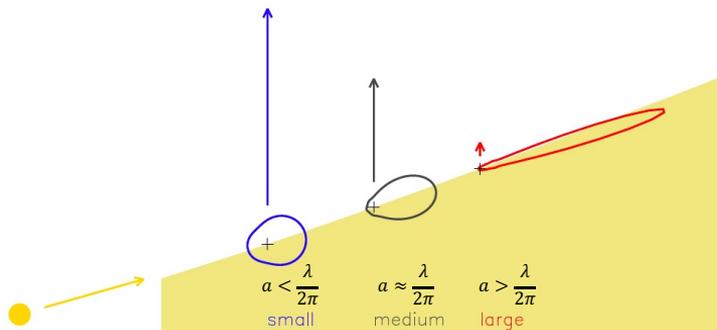
E.g., a disk with larger flaring absorbs more incident radiation



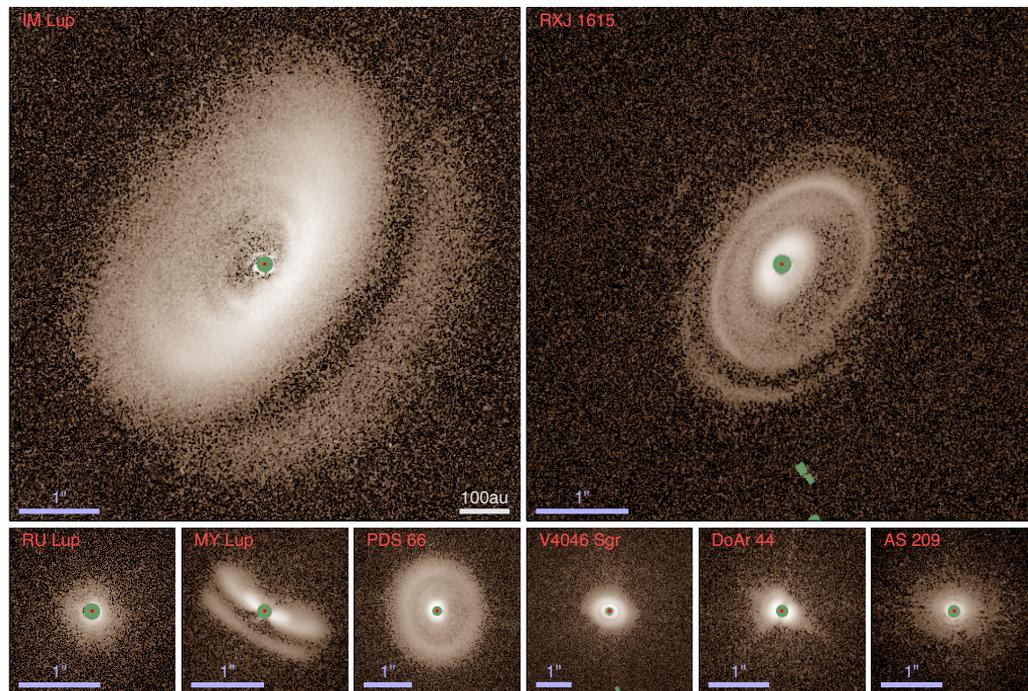
Andrews (2015)

## Projection effects are important

E.g., large particles become extremely forward scattering, so the viewing angle matters



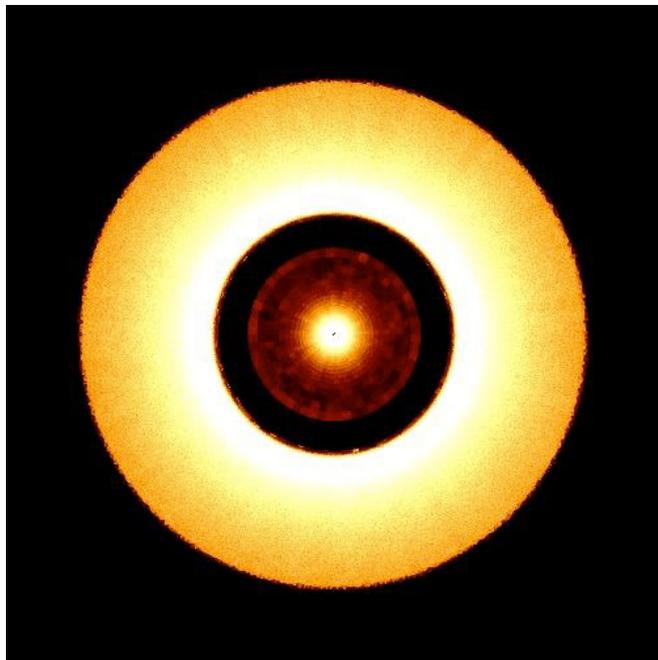
Mulders et al. (2013)



# What do we learn about disks from short wavelength scattered-light emission?

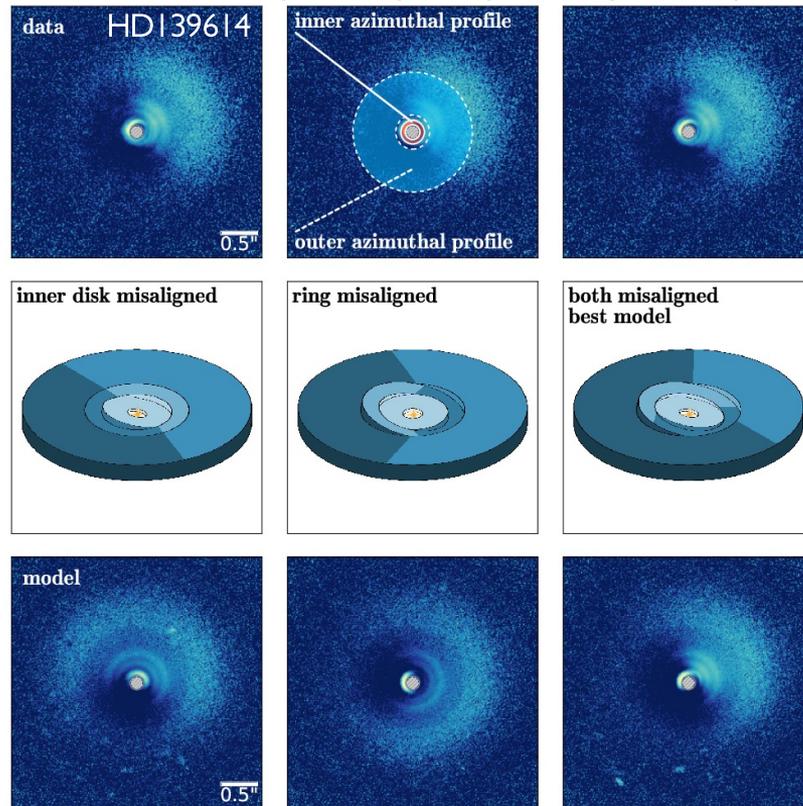
Observed emission in scattered light very sensitive to illumination: can probe vertical and radial disk structure

## Simulation of inner/outer disk misalignment

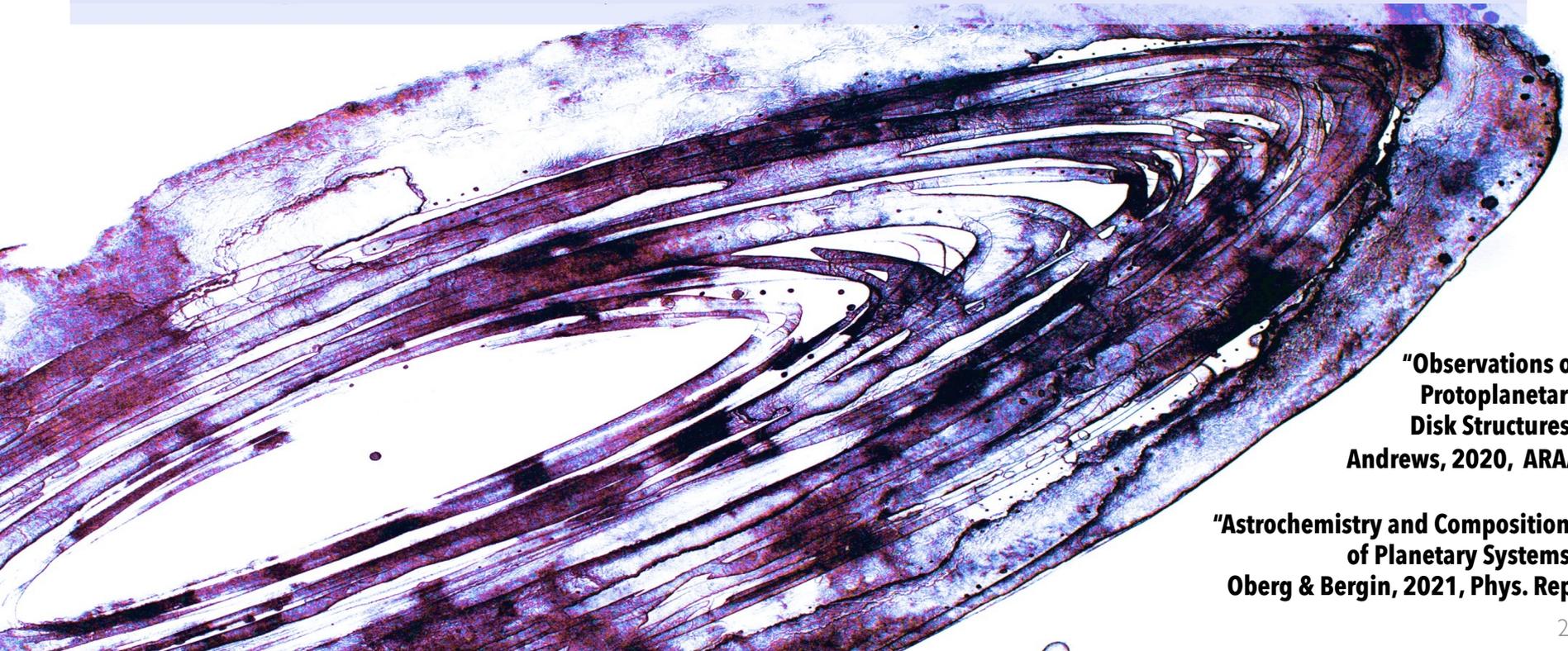


Michiel Min, U. Amsterdam

## Observed shadows explained by multiple misaligned components



## Part III. Molecular line emission at long wavelengths



**"Observations of  
Protoplanetary  
Disk Structures"**

**Andrews, 2020, ARAA**

**"Astrochemistry and Compositions  
of Planetary Systems"**

**Oberg & Bergin, 2021, Phys. Rep.**

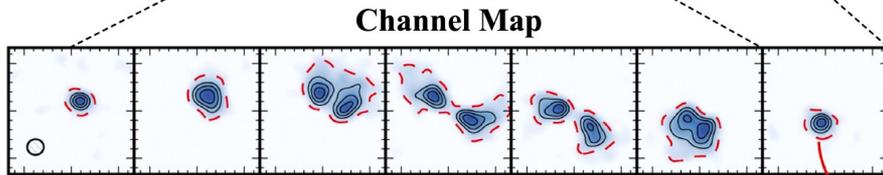
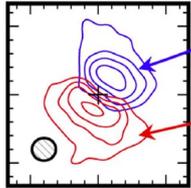
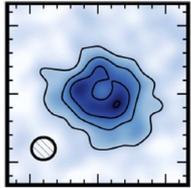
# What do we learn about disks from long wavelength molecular line emission?

Observed intensity depends on gas temperature, abundance and distribution of the species, as well as the disk kinematics

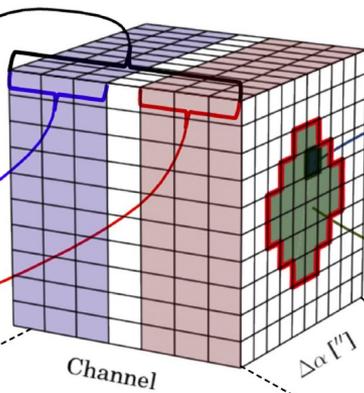
## An Image Cube

Maps the intensity distribution in distinct spectral frequency bins

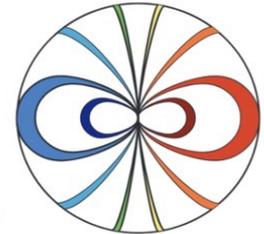
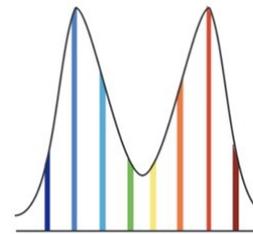
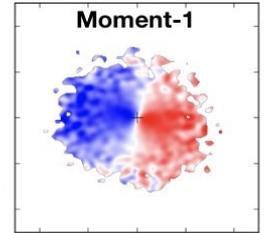
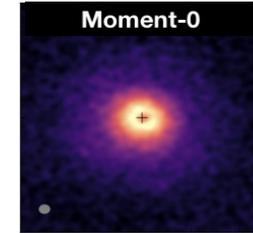
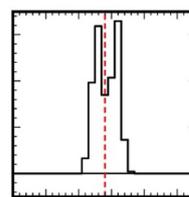
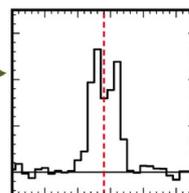
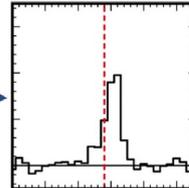
### Moment Maps



### Image Cube



### Spectra



Velocity

Figure adapted from Dionatos (2015), c/o V. Guzmán

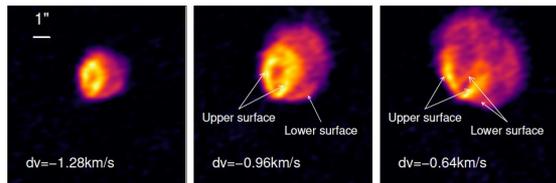
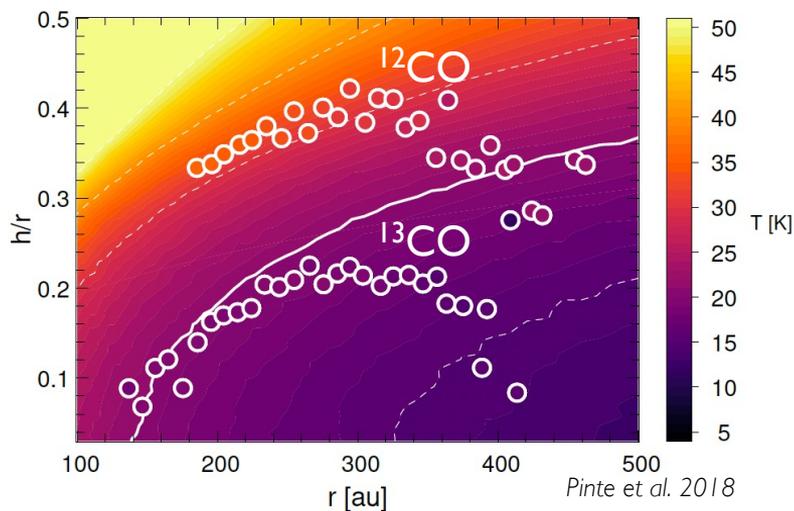
Loomis et al. 2018

# What do we learn about disks from long wavelength molecular line emission?

Spectral line emission allows us to probe several critical disk properties

## Line emission is sensitive to temperature

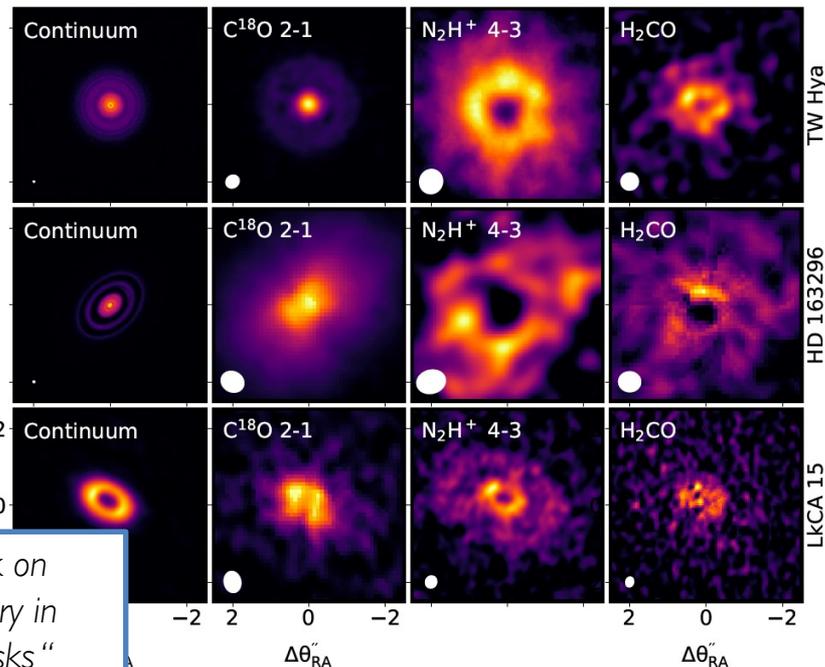
The intensity of an optically thick line probes the temperature of the  $\tau_\nu \approx 1$  layer



Karin Oberg's talk on "Gas and Chemistry in Protoplanetary Disks"

## Line emission is sensitive to density

The intensity of an optically thin line probes the temperature and density of the gas, as well as the abundance of the observed species



Oberg & Bergin, 2021

# What do we learn about disks from long wavelength molecular line emission?

Spectral line emission allows us to probe the disk velocity field as well

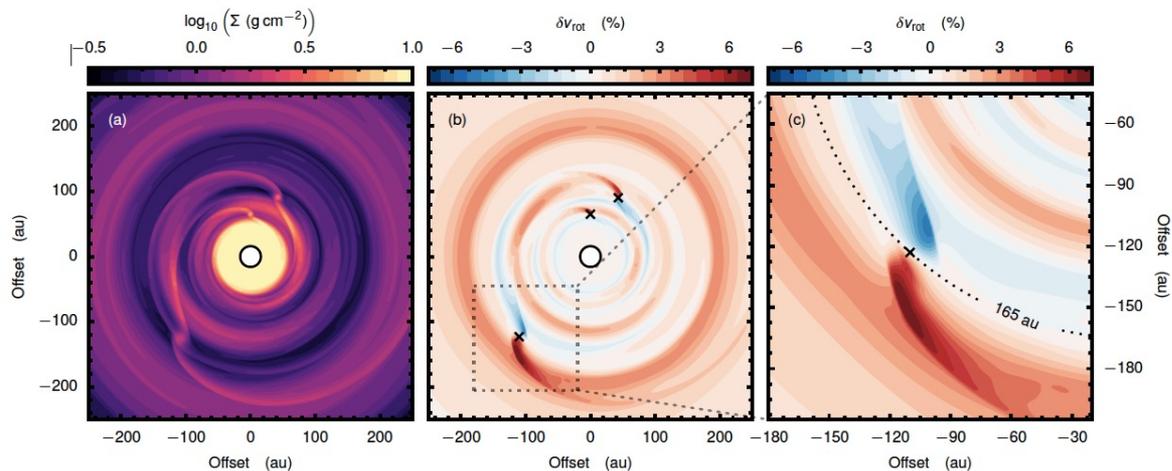
## Line emission is sensitive to the disk kinematics

Observations that are well-resolved in frequency, probe the disk velocity field

## Embedded planets perturb the disk velocity field

Gas Surface Density

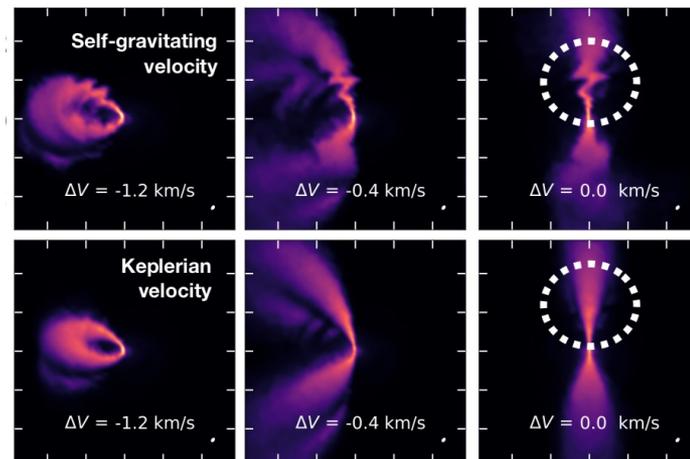
Deviations from Keplerian velocities



Teague et al. 2018

## Perturbations due to GI

Deviations from Keplerian velocities over many channels



Hall et al. 2020

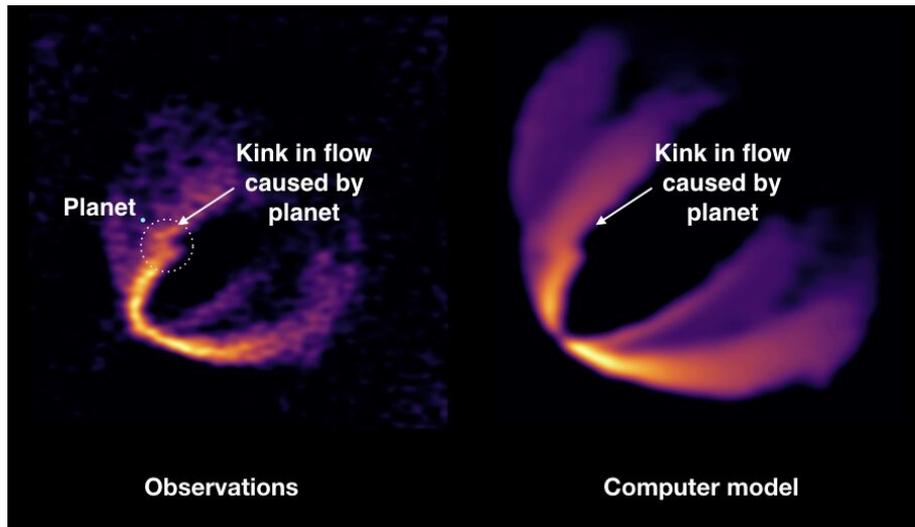
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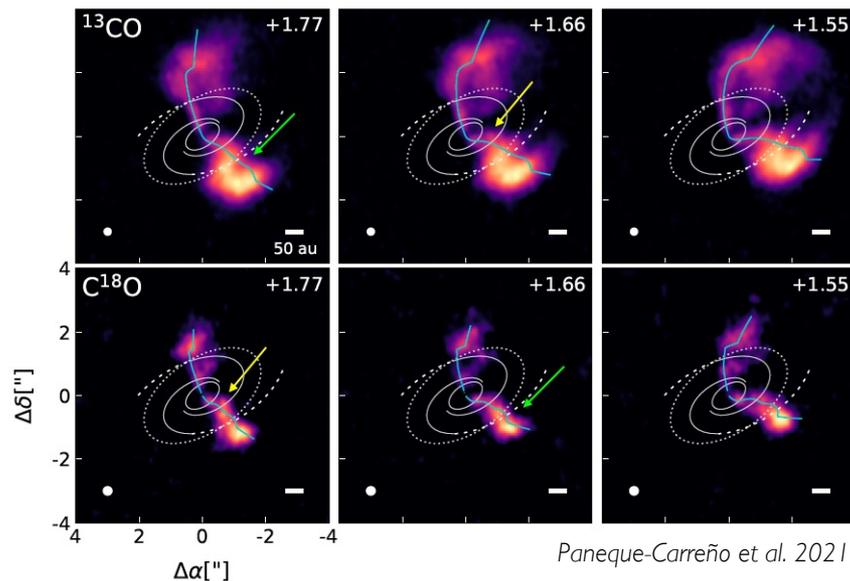
*Observations that are well-resolved in frequency, probe the disk velocity field*

Localized perturbation (embedded massive planet?)



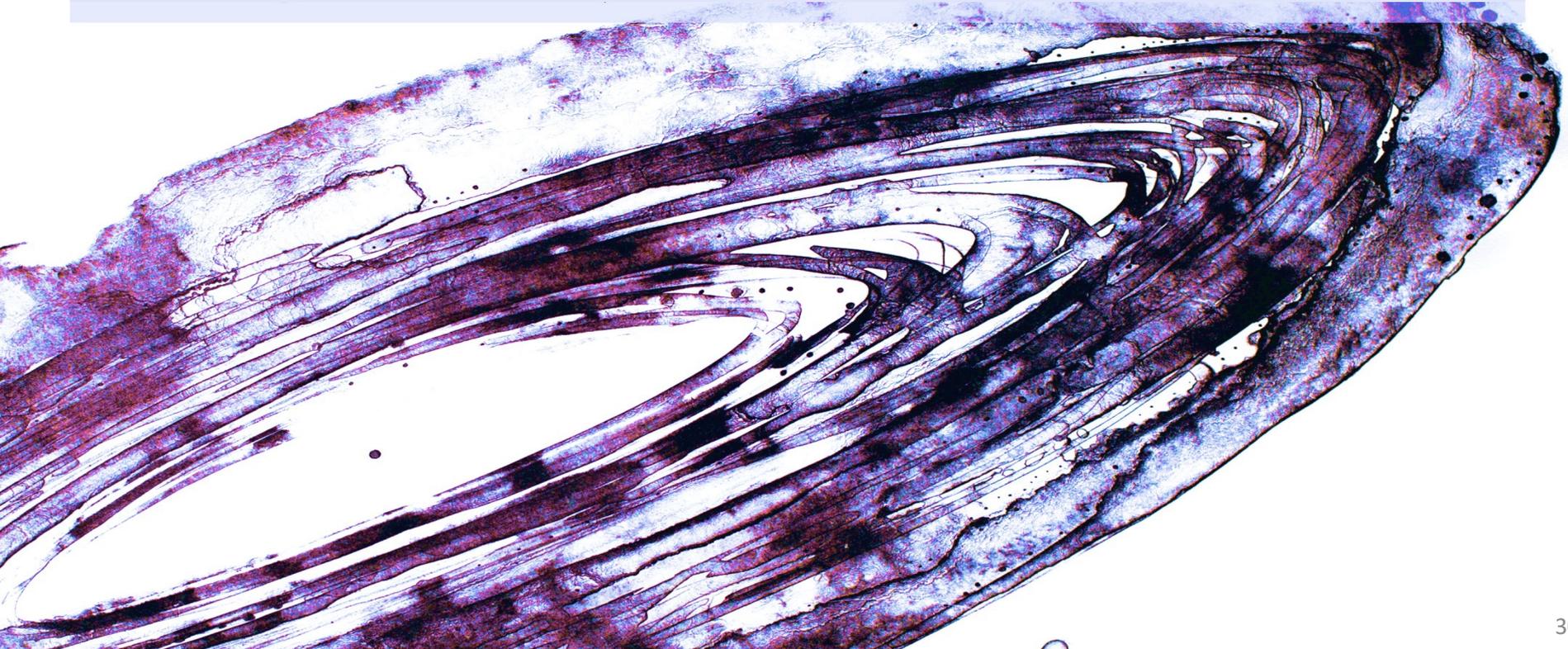
*Pinte et al. 2018*

Perturbations related to spirals (GI?)



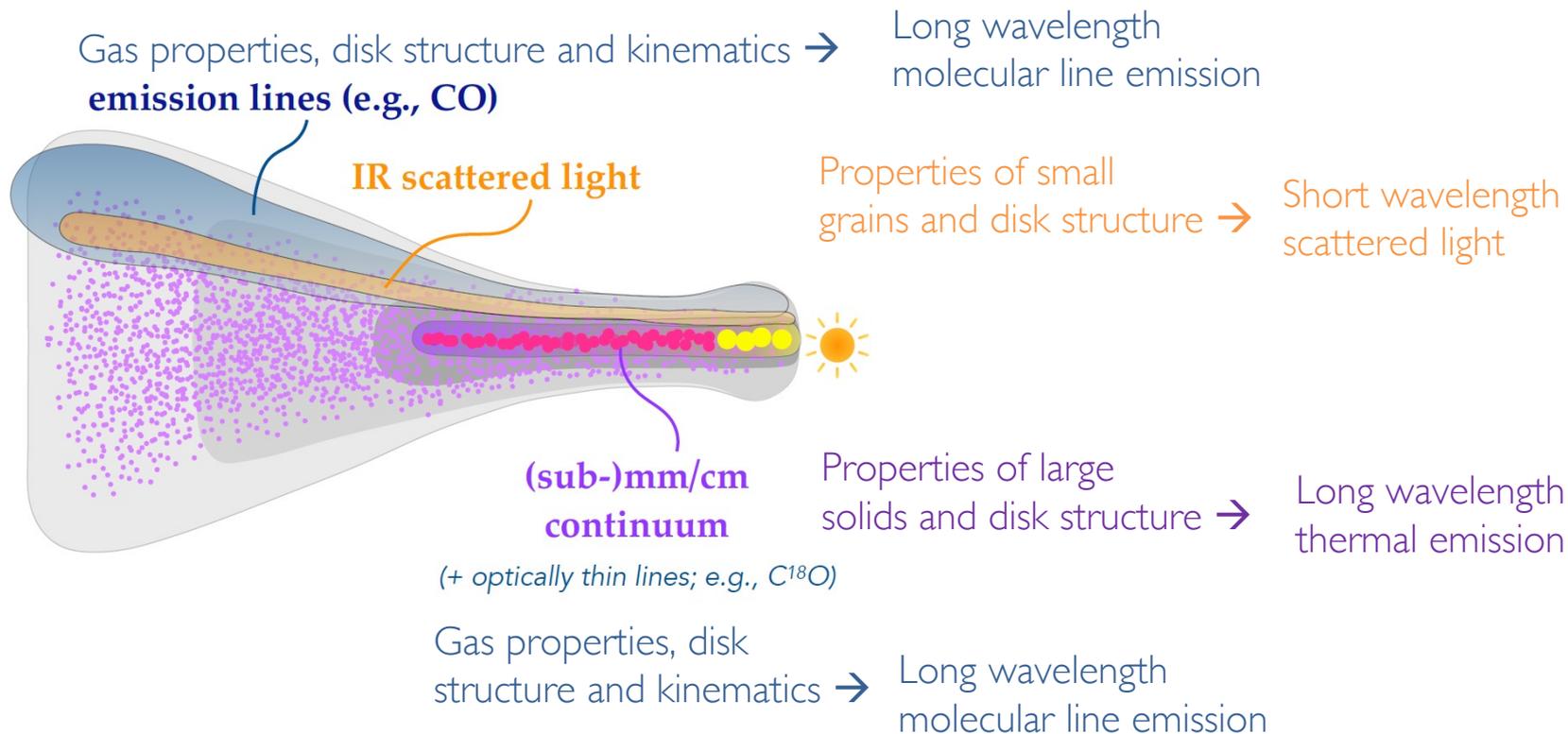
*Paneque-Carreño et al. 2021*

# Concluding Remarks



# Concluding Remarks

What can we learn from probing the different components in a protoplanetary disk using these different tracers?



# Research Group on Planet Formation at U. Chile

From protoplanetary disks studies to young planets searches



*Prof. Laura Pérez*



*Dr. Anibal Sierra  
Postdoc*



*Dr. Carolina Agurto-Gangas  
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*Sebastian Jorquera  
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## Visitors



*Adolfo Carvalho  
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*Dr. Gael Chauvin  
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MSc 2020*

# Techniques, Observations, and Diagnostics of Protoplanetary Disks: Outer Disk

Laura M. Pérez

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Circumstellar Disks and Young Planets



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