# **Debris disk dynamical theory**

## Mark Wyatt Institute of Astronomy, University of Cambridge

## The debris disk of the Solar System



light

- The dust of debris disks must be replenished by the destruction of larger planetesimals
- Prevailing view that debris disks are analogues to Solar System comprised of planetesimals which failed to grow into planets

# Simple debris disk dynamical theory

Planetesimals orbit the star confined to a belt

No need to know origin of planetesimals or why they are confined to a ring (i.e., no prior assumption about confinement by planets)



It then asks: what would we expect to see from this belt?

Answer: the interplay between collisions and radiation forces

# **Collisions and Radiation Pressure**

Collisions grind planetesimals into smaller and smaller fragments resulting in collisional cascade with a size distribution:  $\sigma(D) \propto D^{-1.5}$ 



Collisional lifetime  $t_{col} \propto D^{0.5}$ 

Radiation pressure truncates the collisional cascade at small particles:  $\beta = F_{rad}/F_{grav} \approx (0.4/D)(L_*/M_*)$  $\beta$ >0.5 blown out on hyperbolic orbits 0.51  $\beta = \hat{}$ 04 0.3  $0.1 < \beta < 0.5$  put on eccentric orbits

## **P-R drag dominated disks**

Dust spirals toward star on timescale  $t_{pr} = (400/M_*)r^2/\beta$  resulting in distribution dependent on

 $\eta_0 = t_{pr} / t_{col} = 10^4 \tau_{eff} (r/M_*)^{0.5}$ 

Debris disks detected by IRAS necessarily have  $\eta_0 > 10$  and so P-R drag is negligible (Wyatt 2005)





The Asteroid belt is more tenuous and has  $\eta_0=0.01$  and so P-R drag is dominant

## **Debris disk dynamical theory summary**

Particles of different sizes have different dynamics:

- β << β<sub>pr</sub>
- $\beta \approx \beta_{\text{pr}}$
- large P-R drag affected
- 0.1<β<0.5
- β>0.5
- β critical β meteoroid

confined to belt little depleted by collisions on way in bound, but extended distribution blown out on hyperbolic orbits

Theory explains most axisymmetric structures of debris disks



• Solar System P-R drag dominated



• Extrasolar debris Collision dominated



## **Modified debris disk dynamical theory**

Consider the planetesimal belt + one planet

Simple planetary system dynamics predicts non-axisymmetric structures

# 1. Secular perturbations of eccentric planet



2. Secular perturbations of inclined planet



young disk or multiple planets in old disk = **warp** 



**3. Resonant perturbations** 

multiple planets = **clearing** individual planet = **clumps** 

See poster by Stark

young disk = spiral
old disk = offset+
brightness asymmetry

## **Explanation of asymmetries**

The majority of the non-axisymmetric structures observed in debris disks can be explained by perturbations of a planetesimal belt by a nearby planet



## **Spitzer imaging of Vega disk**

The "surprise" from Spitzer was that it resolved the structure of Vega's disk, and that at  $850\mu$ m the disk extends to 200AU, but to 1000AU at 24 and 70 $\mu$ m!



Bad news: both spatial distribution  $\tau \sim 1/r$  and temperature of far-IR dust implies mass loss of  $\sim 2M_{\oplus}/Myr$ 

## **Origin of high mass loss in Vega?**



**Mass loss is transient:**  $2M_{\oplus}$ /Myr can't have been sustained for 350Myr **BUT**... what caused this outburst?

## **Stochastic evolution of solar system dust**

The asteroid belt is made up of large families from massive events Gyr ago, as well as smaller families from break-up of 10-100km asteroids ~10Myr ago (Nesvorny et al. 2003)





## Statistics, statistics, statistics

Sensitivity of Spitzer means it was extremely successful at detecting emission from debris disks and commitment of community has provided lots of statistics on incidence of debris as function of age, spectral type, binarity, etc (talk by Carpenter)



Do these statistics fit with the debris disk dynamical theory?

#### **Steady state evolution model**

Starting with the basic dynamical disk theory consider how size distribution evolves due to steady state collisions:  $dM_{disk}/dt = -M_{disk}/t_{col} \propto -M_{disk}^2$  $M_{disk} = M_0 [1+t/t_{col}]^{-1}$ 





Disk mass and fractional luminosity falls off once largest objects are depleted in collisions on a timescale  $t_{col}$ , a timescale which depends on initial disk mass and radius

### Steady-state evolution explains 24 and 70 $\mu$ m stats

- Comparison with statistics using a population model:
- (1) All stars have one planetesimal belt
- (2) Initial mass distribution of protoplanetary disks
- (3) Radius distribution n(r)  $\propto$  r<sup> $\gamma$ </sup>
- (4) Planetesimal belts evolve in steady state from t=0

Statistics are fitted perfectly with steady state evolution, and no need to invoke stochastic evolution for most disks to explain the stats



## The birth of A star debris disks

Following the dispersal of A-star protoplanetary disks on <5Myr timescales, the 24µm excess from debris disks increases to a peak at 10-15Myr (talk by Currie)



## **Self-stirred models**

Planet formation models predict that planetesimal belts become bright when Pluto-sized objects form and stir the disk (Kenyon & Bromley 2004,2005)





Such models can have a peak at 10Myr

## **Peak requires inner hole**



- Desirable effects of self
   -stirred models require
   inner 30AU hole
- Otherwise self-stirred model is similar to pre
   -stirred model; stirring could also come from inner planet (Wyatt 2008; Mustill & Wyatt in prep.)
- Is this hole related to presence of planets, or to the dispersal of protoplanetary disk?
- Fine-tuning problem (of hole radius and surface density) to get peak at 10Myr?

## η Tel resolved imaging

#### $\eta$ Tel is a 12Myr A0V star in $\beta$ Pic moving group



TReCS mid-IR 18µm imaging shows emission characteristic of near edge-on ring resolved at 24AU

Smith et al. (in press, 0810.5087); see poster by Churcher

## η Tel: origin of multi-components?



Smith et al. (in press, 0810.5087); see poster by Churcher

Modelling shows >50% mid-IR emission is from unresolved component at ~4AU Should we be considering debris disks as 2 dynamically distinct components?

**Young Solar System:** 24AU ring is young KB, 4AU ring is young AB **Ongoing planet formation:** 24AU is where Pluto's recently formed in a 0.7xMMSN disk, 4AU emission from terrestrial planet formation

### **Terrestrial planet formation models**





Modelling of IRS spectra provides evidence of dust composition; e.g., silica feature in HD172555 is indicative of massive collision (see poster by Lisse)

## **Steady state evolution of sun-like star disks**

Simple analytical theory for collisional evolution of planetesimal belts improved using numerical simulations in which size dependence of planetesimal strength results in a 3 phase size distribution (see Lohne talk)



The statistics for sun-like stars can also be explained by steady-state evolution (Lohne et al. 2008)

## **Old sun-like stars with hot dust**

Wyatt (2008)

Although the fall -off in 24µm excess at young ages may be steady state evolution, it is also suggested that this relates to terrestrial planet formation

Regardless, some old Sun-like stars seem to defy either explanation



See posters by Abraham and Gorlova, talk by Zuckerman

## The hot dust of HD69830

The mid-IR spectrum of 2Gyr HD69830 is similar to that of Hale-Bopp with a temperature of ~400K, shows dust is concentrated at 1AU (Beichman et al. 2005)





The dust is just outside 3 Neptune mass planets discovered in radial velocity studies (Lovis et al. 2006)

## Dust can't originate in massive asteroid belt

There is a maximum luminosity (and mass) that a belt can have (Wyatt et al. 2007a)

 $f_{max} = 1.6 \times 10^{-4} r^{7/3} t_{age}^{-1}$ 

The hot dust of HD69830 has a luminosity >1000x this level and so it cannot be a steady state phenomenon



Similarly insufficient mass remains at this time for us to be likely to be witnessing the aftermath of a recent collision

## **Formation of eccentric planetesimal disk**

Taking prescription for formation of HD69830 planets at 3, 6.5 and 8 AU followed by migration (Alibert et al. 2006), implies that a significant eccentric planetesimal population exists outside the orbits of the planets at the end of planet formation



Payne et al. (submitted) – see poster by Payne

## Is a long-lived eccentric disk the solution?

Consider the steady-state evolution of a planetesimal belt with pericentre fixed at 1AU, but increasing eccentricity:



Mass remaining at late times increases (Wyatt et al. in prep) This doesn't necessarily help us because there is the problem of lack of 70µm emission from disk

## **Origin in Late Heavy Bombardment?**

Alternative explanation for origin of hot dust is an LHB-like instability

At ~800Myr the inner solar system underwent a period of heavy bombardment which has been explained as result of dynamical instability when Jupiter and Saturn crossed 2:1 resonance (Gomes et al. 2005)



### LHBs are detectable...

Taking the Nice model for the evolution of the Solar System and considering the dust emission from collisions amongst KBOs (Booth et al., in prep)



#### ... but accompanied by cold emission

## **Mid-LHB SED**

An LHB emission spectrum is characterised by emission at a range of temperatures resulting in a shallower increase in mid -IR flux with wavelength

Mid-IR emission during LHB would be enhanced by AB and cometary activity (Booth et al., in prep)

Systems like η Corvi may be undergoing an LHB



## **Testing LHB origin using resolved imaging**

An outer planetesimal belt has been imaged at 450µm at 100-150AU (Wyatt et al. 2005; see also poster by Bryden)



Mid-IR 18µm emission is compact at <4AU and rules out additional component at 12AU (Smith, Wyatt & Dent 2008)



More important as IRS discovers more multi-temperature disks (see poster by Morales)

### ε Eri's multi-component disk

For nearby systems with well characterised spectra and spatial constraints from resolved (and unresolved) imaging at a number of wavelengths, it is possible to infer the presence of multiple belts



So, with greater scrutiny debris disks become more complex, a view echoed by observations at other wavelengths (see talks by Su, Stapelfeldt, Akeson)

## Conclusions

(1) Broadly speaking observations support modified debris disk dynamical theory (steady state planetesimal belt + 1 planet)

#### (2) But cracks are appearing:

- stochasticity of Vega
- early evolution of A star disks
- dust within a few AU
- multiple component debris disks

requiring/allowing a rethink in terms of planet formation processes

(3) The challenge is now to develop an advanced dynamical theory involving multiple planets and their formation mechanism