

Modeling Interstellar Dust: Observational Constraints and a Dust Model Based on Compact Grains

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Why we Study dust...



*"Sure it's beautiful, but I can't help thinking
about all that interstellar dust out there."*

Modeling Interstellar Dust

- Observational Constraints on Dust Models
- One Tentative Model
 - compact amorphous silicate grains
 - compact carbonaceous grains
 - Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons = PAHs
- Modeling extinction, polarization of starlight, IR emission
- Observational tests: IR emission from galaxies
- Predicted polarization of FIR/submm emission
- Spinning dust: microwave emission
- Summary of model and future tests

Some references

- Draine, B.T. 2003, “Interstellar Dust Grains”, Ann. Rev. Astron. Astrophys., **41**, 241
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“Direct” Observations of Interstellar Dust

Scattering, absorption, emission of light:

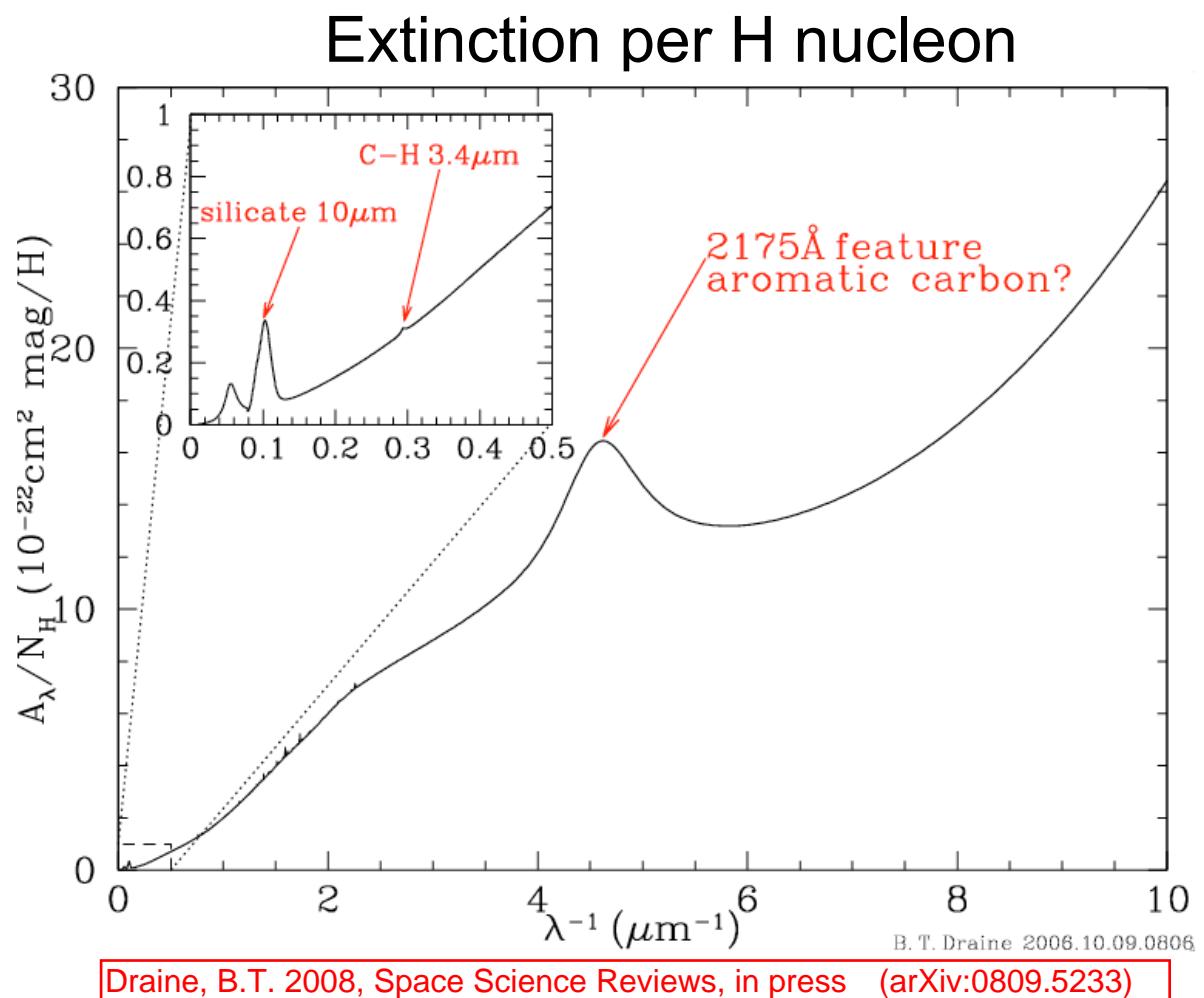
- extinction of starlight – A_λ/N_{H}
from IR to X-ray (continuous + spectroscopic features)
- variations of A_λ/N_{H} from one sightline to another
- polarization of starlight
- scattered light (reflection nebulae, DGL)
- small-angle scattering of X-rays by interstellar dust
- IR/submm emission from dust ($2\ \mu\text{m} - 3\text{mm}$), I_λ/N_{H}
 - PAH emission features
 - FIR/submm continuum
- polarization of IR emission
- microwave emission from interstellar dust ($3\text{mm} - 3\text{cm}$)

Plus a few more direct approaches:

- dust grains entering the heliosphere today
- presolar grains trapped in meteorites 4.5Gyr ago

Observational Constraints on Dust: *Observed Extinction*

- 10 μm feature: amorphous silicate
< 2% of silicate material is crystalline
- 2200A “bump”: probably aromatic C (prob. PAHs)
- 3.4 μm feature: C-H stretch. Aromatic/aliphatic ratio is uncertain:
~85/15 (Pendleton & Allamandola 2002)
<15/85 (Dartois et al 2004)
- λ dependence requires **size distribution from $a<0.01\mu\text{m}$ to $a>0.3\mu\text{m}$**



Indirect constraints on interstellar dust

- Dust models are limited by abundances of elements X such as C, Mg, Si, Fe...:
$$X_{\text{dust}} = X_{\text{total}} - X_{\text{gas}}$$
- **IF** $X_{\text{total}}/\text{H} \approx (X/\text{H})_{\odot}$, and $X_{\text{gas}}/\text{H} = \text{observed values toward } \zeta\text{Oph}$, then $\mathbf{M}_{\text{dust}}/\mathbf{M}_{\text{H}} \approx 0.0075$
- **Variable** depletions of heavy elements – atoms must be able to accrete onto dust, and to return from dust to gas
- Catalysis of H_2 on grains
- photoelectric heating of ISM
- Variable depletion of D from gas phase (!!)

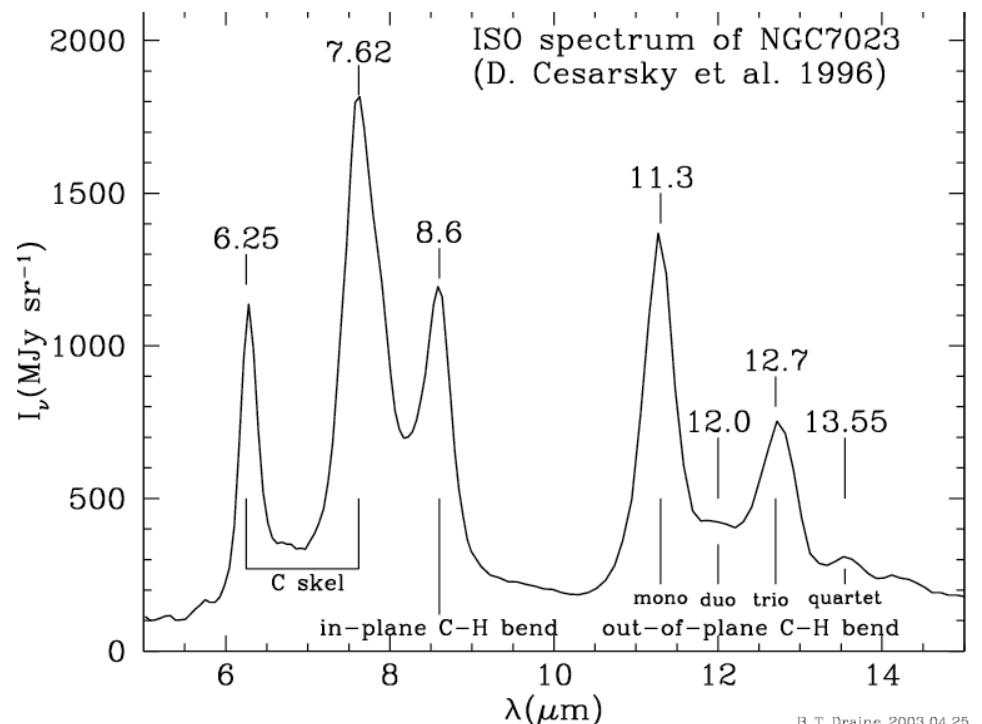
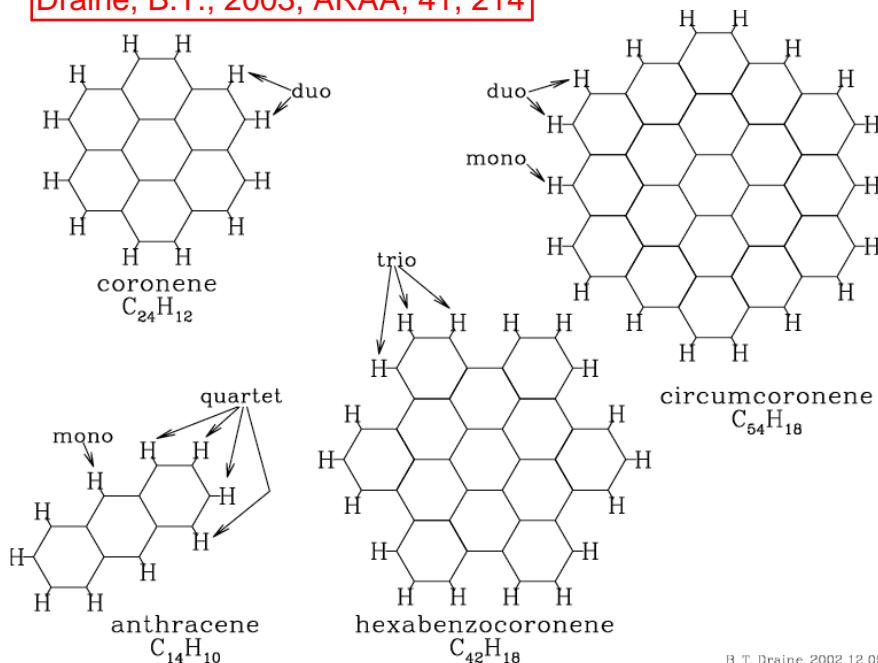
One Tentative Model

(Draine & Li 2007; Draine & Fraisse 2009)

- Ingredients:
 - amorphous silicate grains (tentative dielectric function)
 - PAHs, with estimated absorption cross sections
 - larger carbonaceous grains. Try graphite.
- Shape:
 - for silicate and larger carbonaceous grains: oblate spheroids.
 - experiment with different axial ratios.
 - (if not studying polarization, OK to assume spheres)
- Size distribution dn/da :
 - vary dn/da to try to reproduce observed A_λ
- Alignment with magnetic field [alignment fraction $f(a)$]:
 - adjust $f(a)$ to reproduce observed starlight polarization

Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)

Draine, B.T., 2003, ARAA, 41, 214



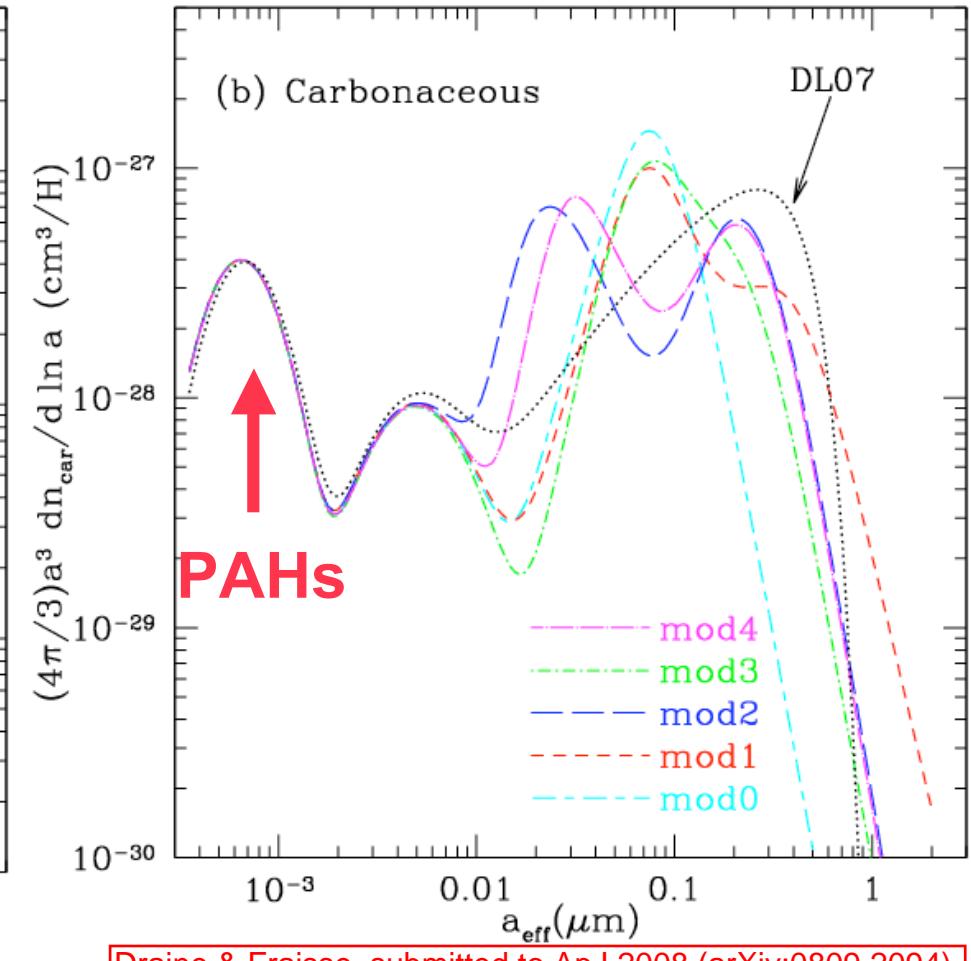
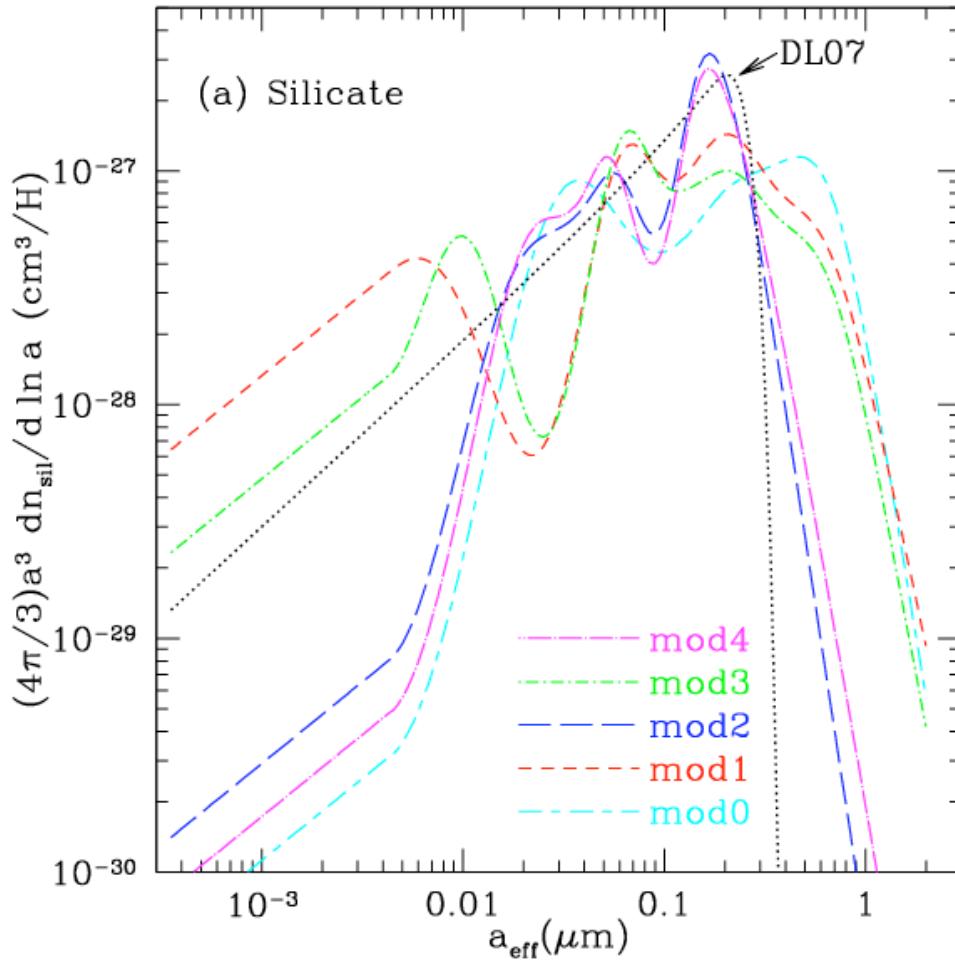
Emission features at

- **3.3 μm (C-H stretch)**
- **6.2, 7.6 μm (C-C stretch)**
- **8.6 μm (C-H in-plane bend)**
- **11.3, 12.7 μm (C-H o-o-p bend)**
- **16.4, 17.0, 17.4 μm (C-C-C... stretching/bending?)**

Size Distributions

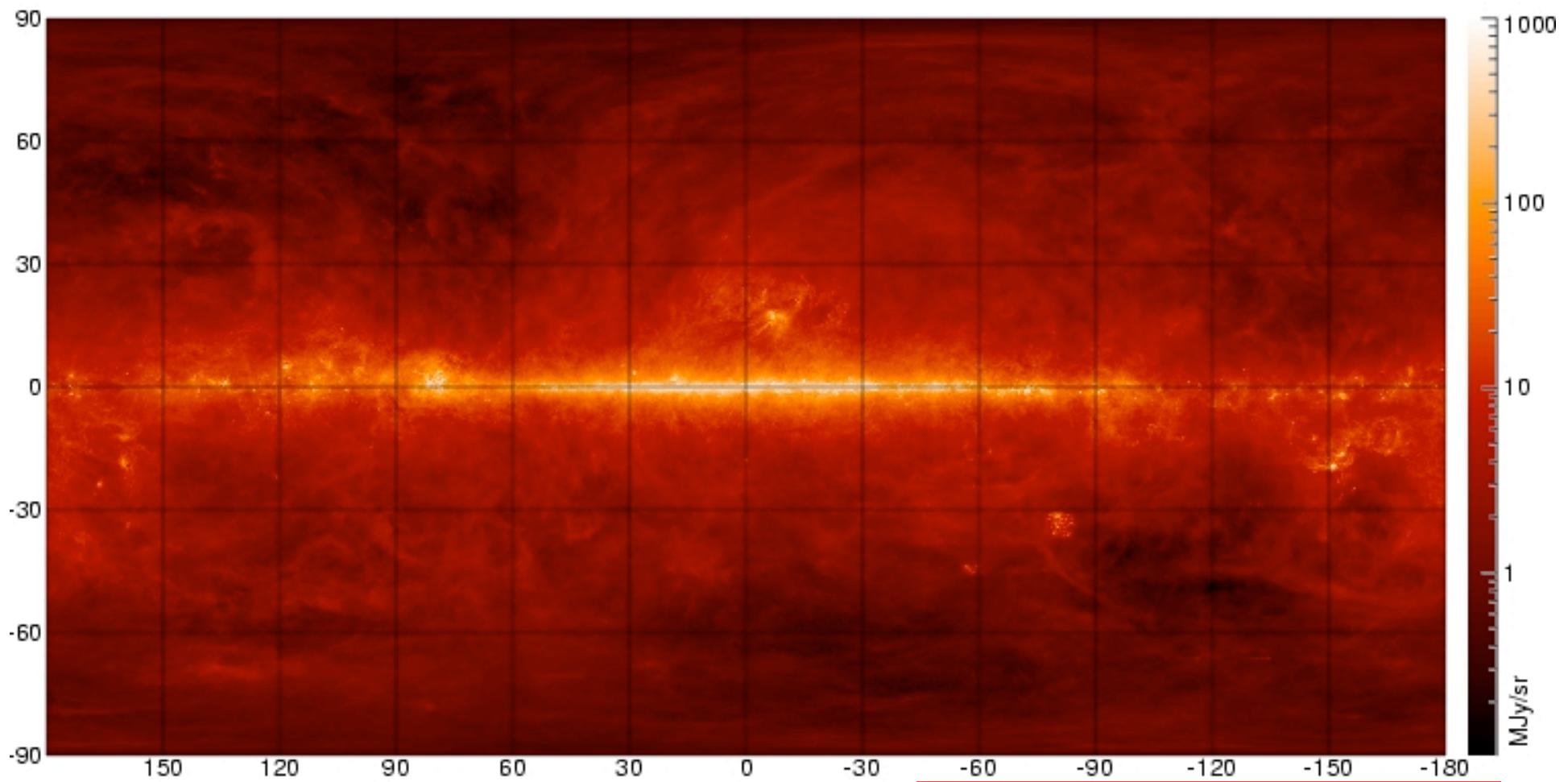
(models are not unique...)

dust mass per logarithmic interval in radius



Draine & Fraisse, submitted to ApJ 2008 (arXiv:0809.2094)

(zodi-subtracted) **100 μ m sky seen by IRAS and COBE**
(processed by Schlegel, Finkbeiner & Davis 1998)
the Milky Way seen by **DUSTGLOW**



Schlegel, Finkbeiner & Davis, 1998 ApJ 500, 525

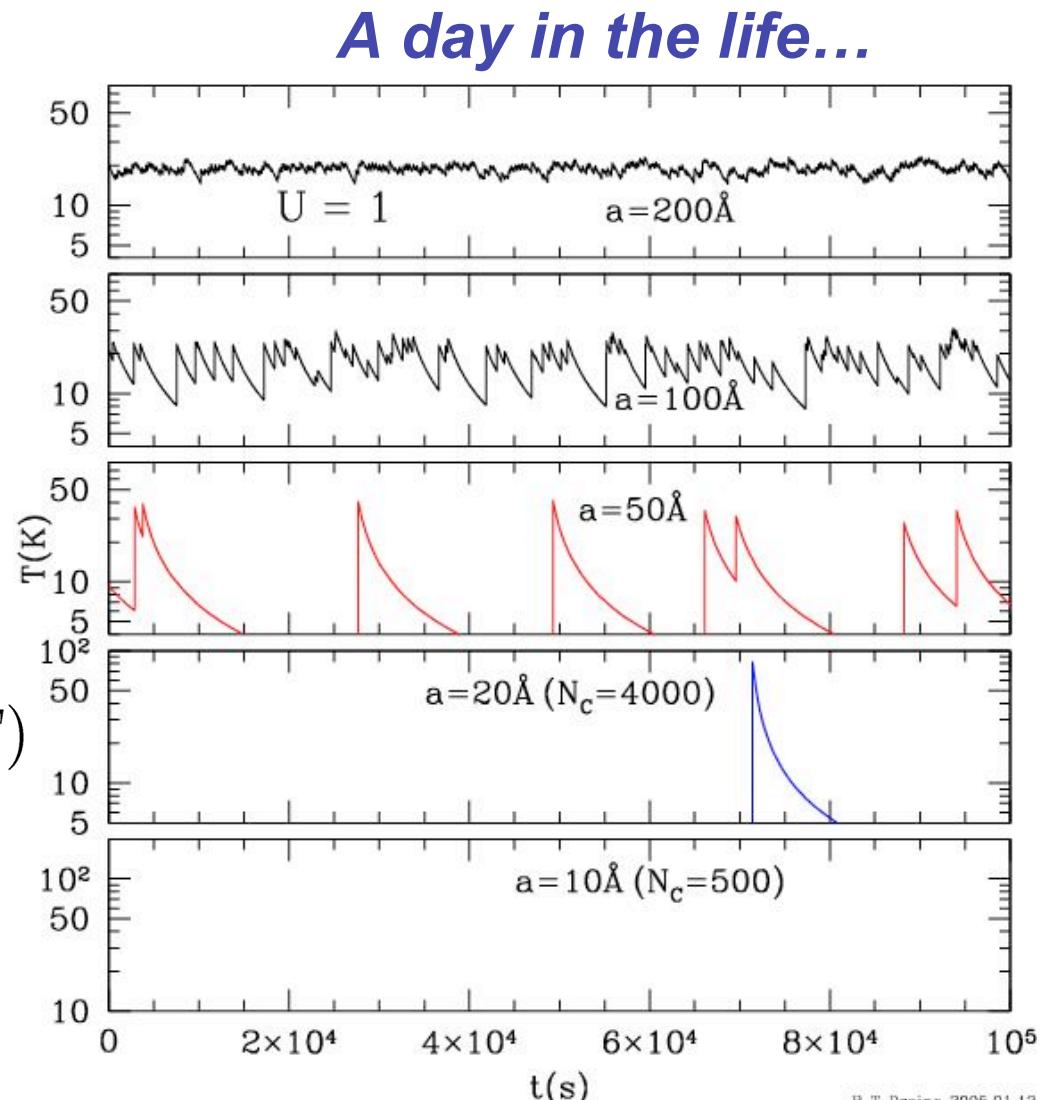
Modeling IR Emission

- Physical grain model: for each grain, calculate $C_{abs}(\nu)$, heat capacity
- Stochastic heating:**
Find $p(T; \text{comp}, \text{size})$ for each composition, size

- Time-averaged IR emission:

$$P_\nu = \int dT \frac{dP}{dT} C_{abs}(\nu) 4\pi B_\nu(T)$$

- Sum over compositions, size distribution



B. T. Draine 2005.01.12

Draine, B.T., 2003, ARAA, 41, 214

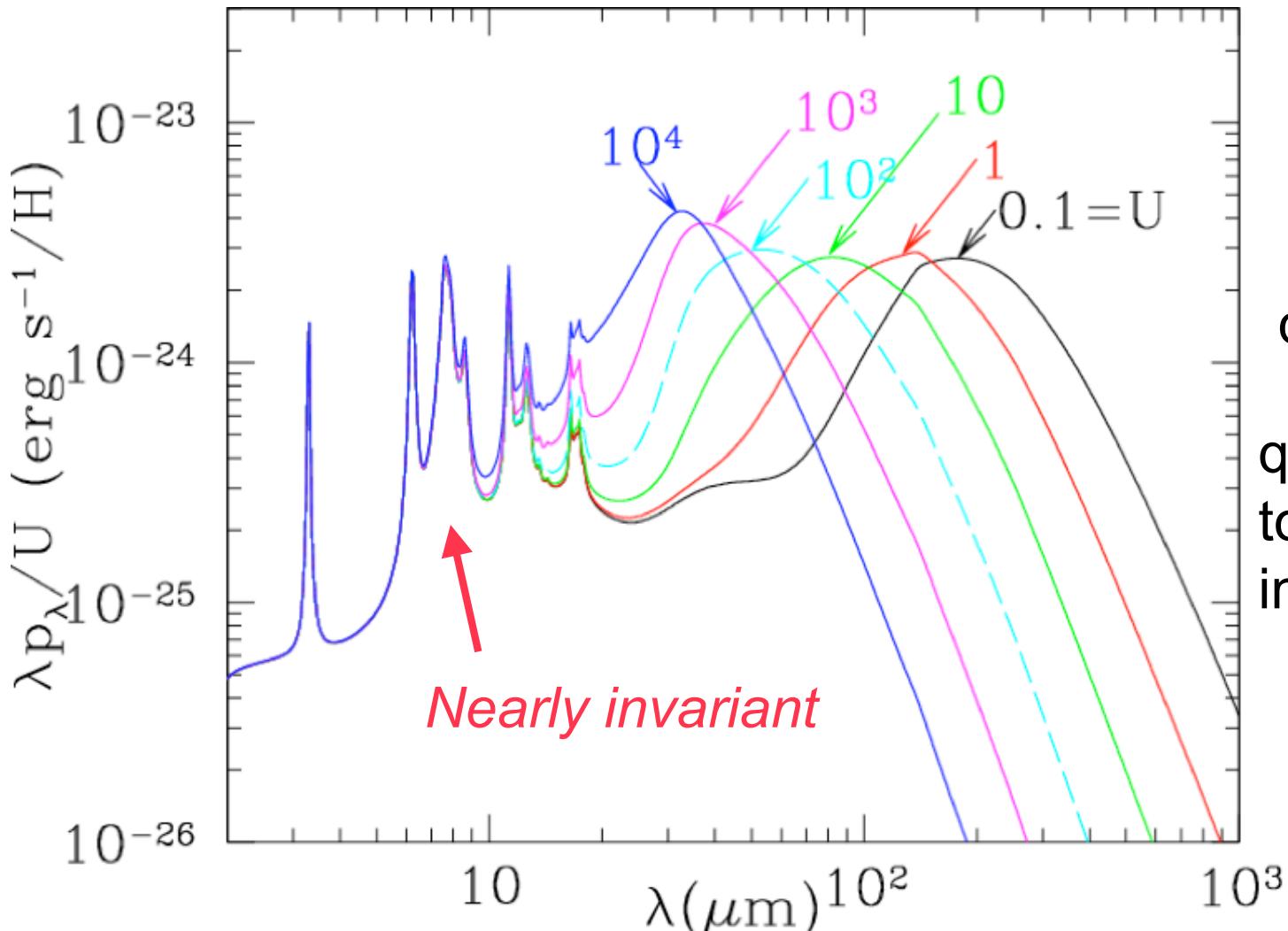
Modeling IR Emission

$$U \equiv \frac{\text{absorbed starlight power/gram}}{\text{absorbed starlight power/gram in local ISRF}}$$

- For each U , find T distribution function dP/dT
- Adopt suitable mix of U values for dust in galaxy
- Calculate IR emission from model.
 - determine **dust mass** M_{dust}
 - determine **intensity of starlight** heating dust

IR Emission Calculated for Model

Dust model heated by various starlight intensities
Galaxy spectrum: weighted sum of such spectra



$$q_{\text{PAH}} = 4.7\%$$

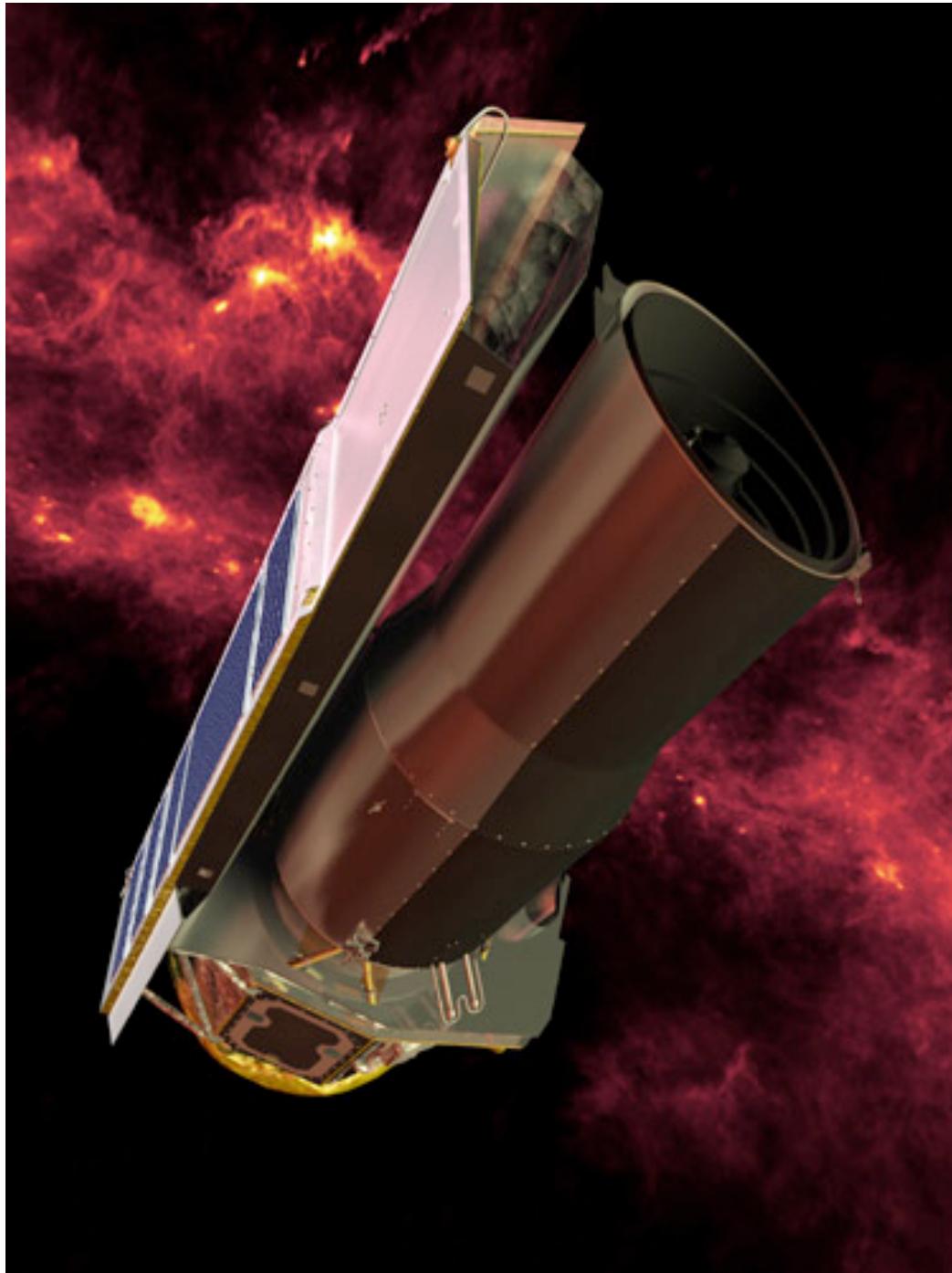
q_{PAH} = fraction of total dust mass in PAHs

Draine & Li (2007)

Spitzer Space Telescope

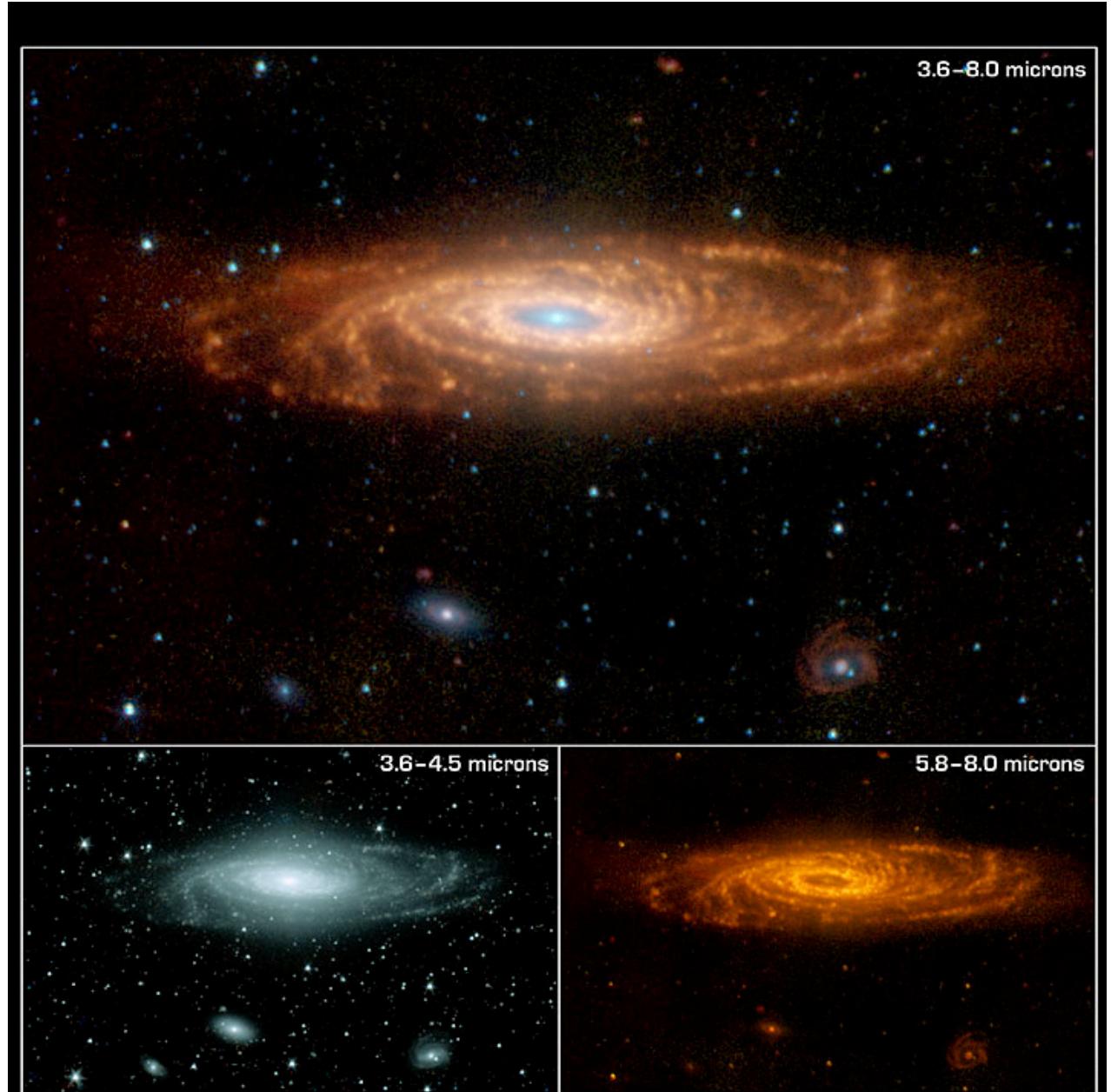
85 cm, LHe-cooled optics
Launched: Aug. 2003
LHe exhaustion:
~April 2009

Imaging: 3.6 - 160 μ m
Spectra: 5 - 38 μ m



IR View NGC 7331 (SINGS)

3.6 μ m: starlight
8.0 μ m: dustglow



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Spiral Galaxy NGC 7331

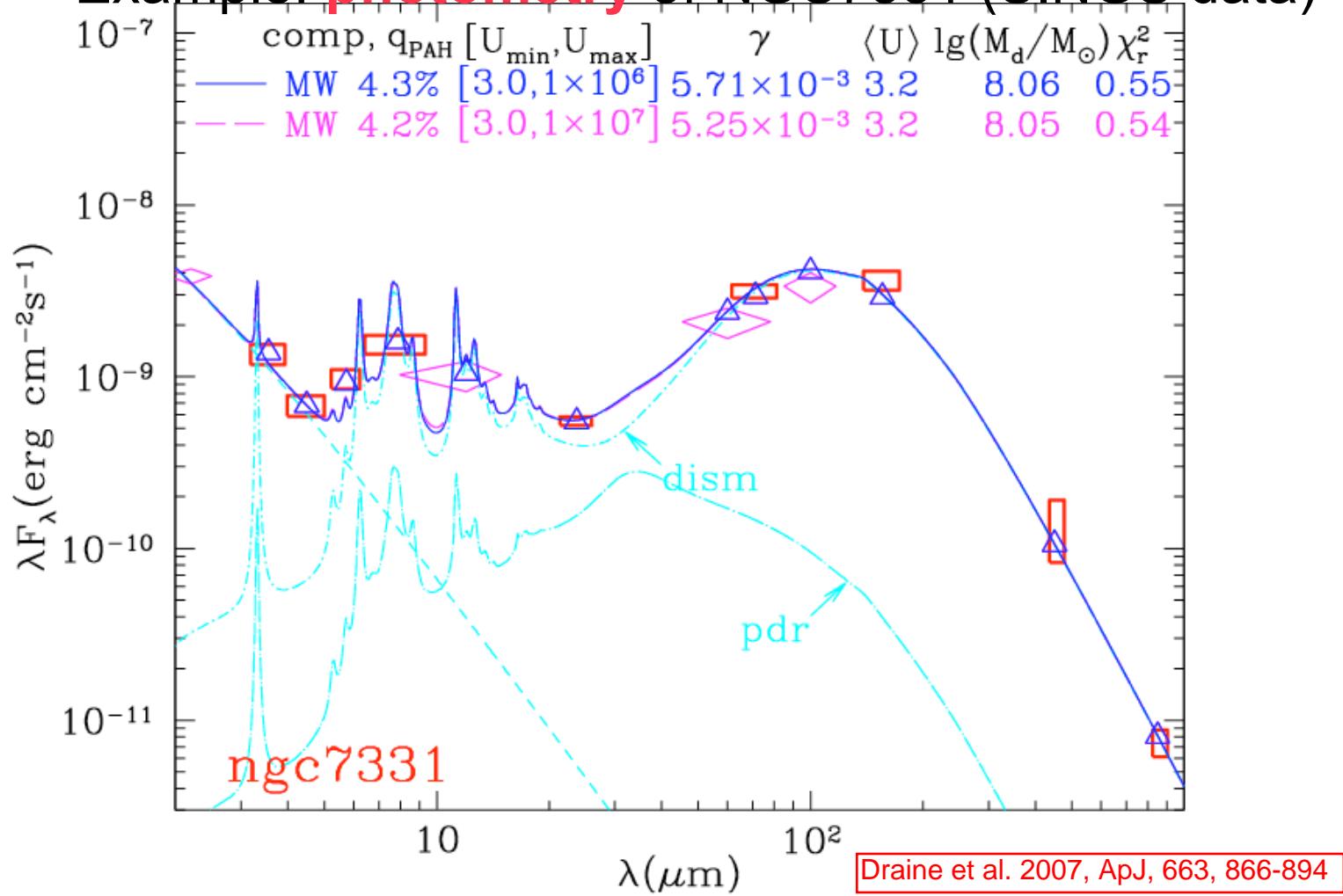
NASA / JPL-Caltech / M. Regan (STScI), and the SINGS Team

Spitzer Space Telescope • IRAC

ssc2004-12a

How well does the dust model do?

Example: photometry of NGC7331 (SINGS data)



$$M_{\text{dust}} = 1.1 \times 10^8 M_\odot$$

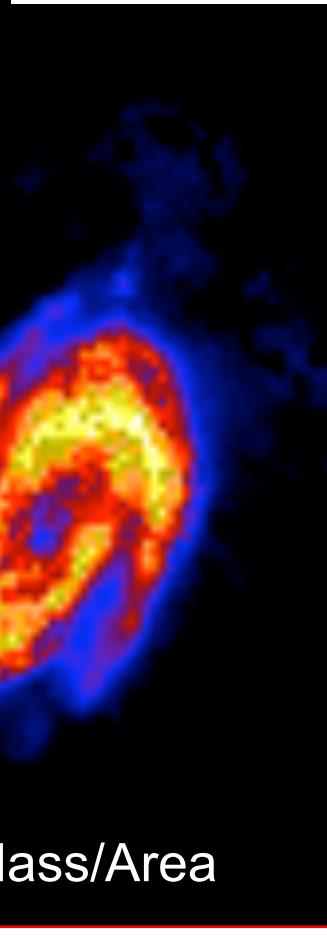
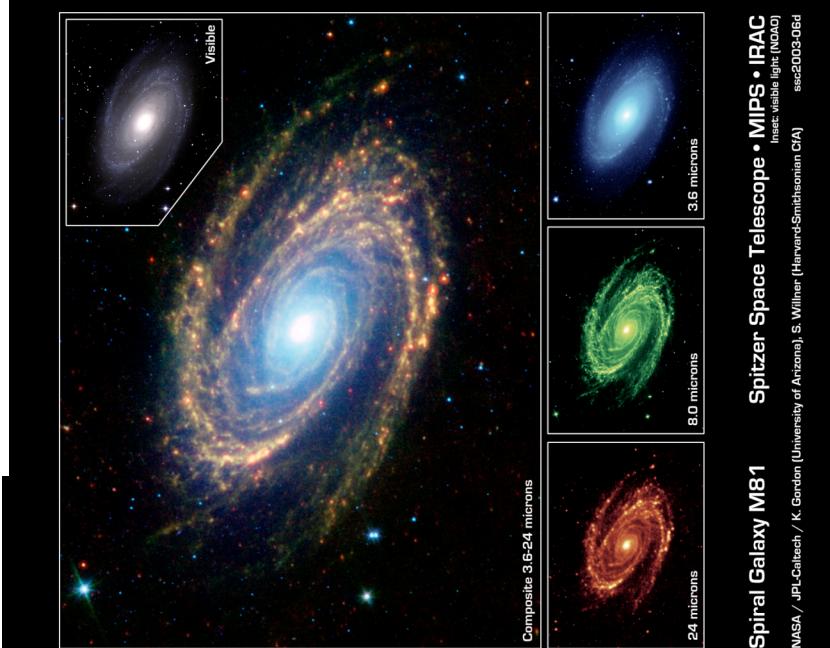
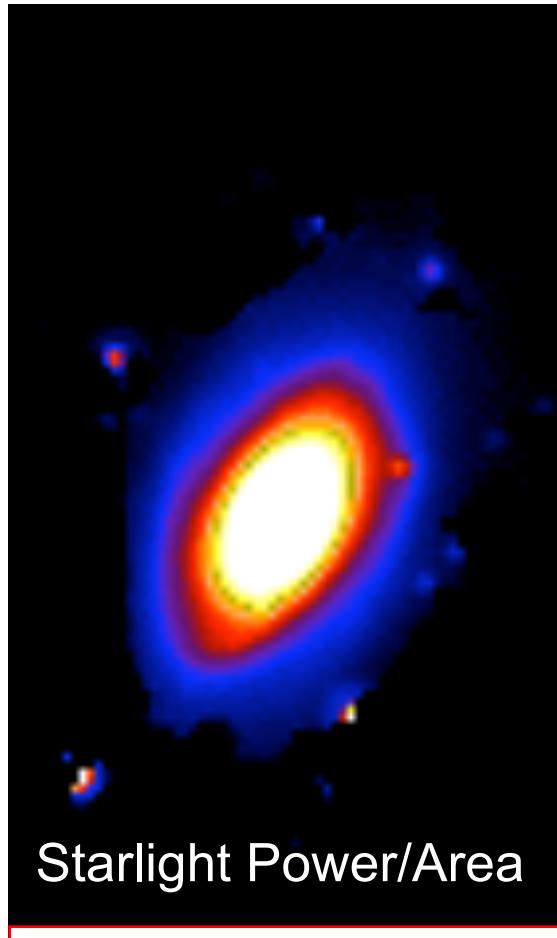
$$M(\text{HI}) = 1.0 \times 10^{10} M_\odot$$

$$M(\text{H}_2) \approx 1.6 \times 10^{10} M_\odot$$

$$\frac{M_{\text{dust}}}{M_{\text{H}}} = 0.0043$$

NGC 3031 (=M81)

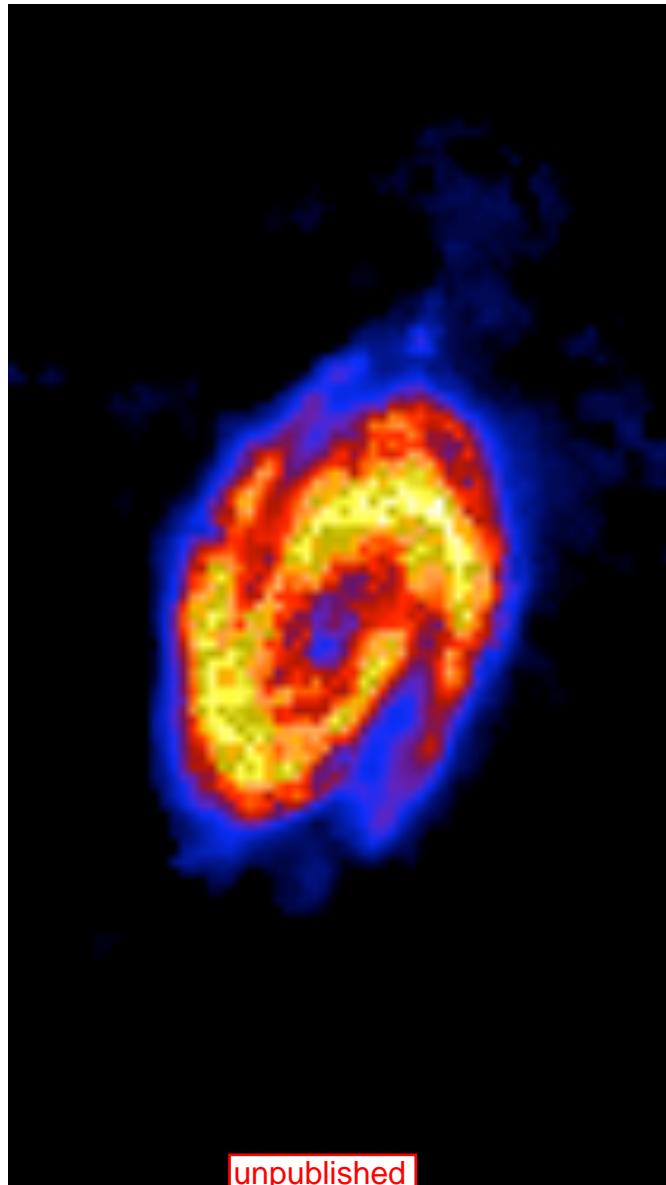
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unpublished

NGC 3031 (=M81)

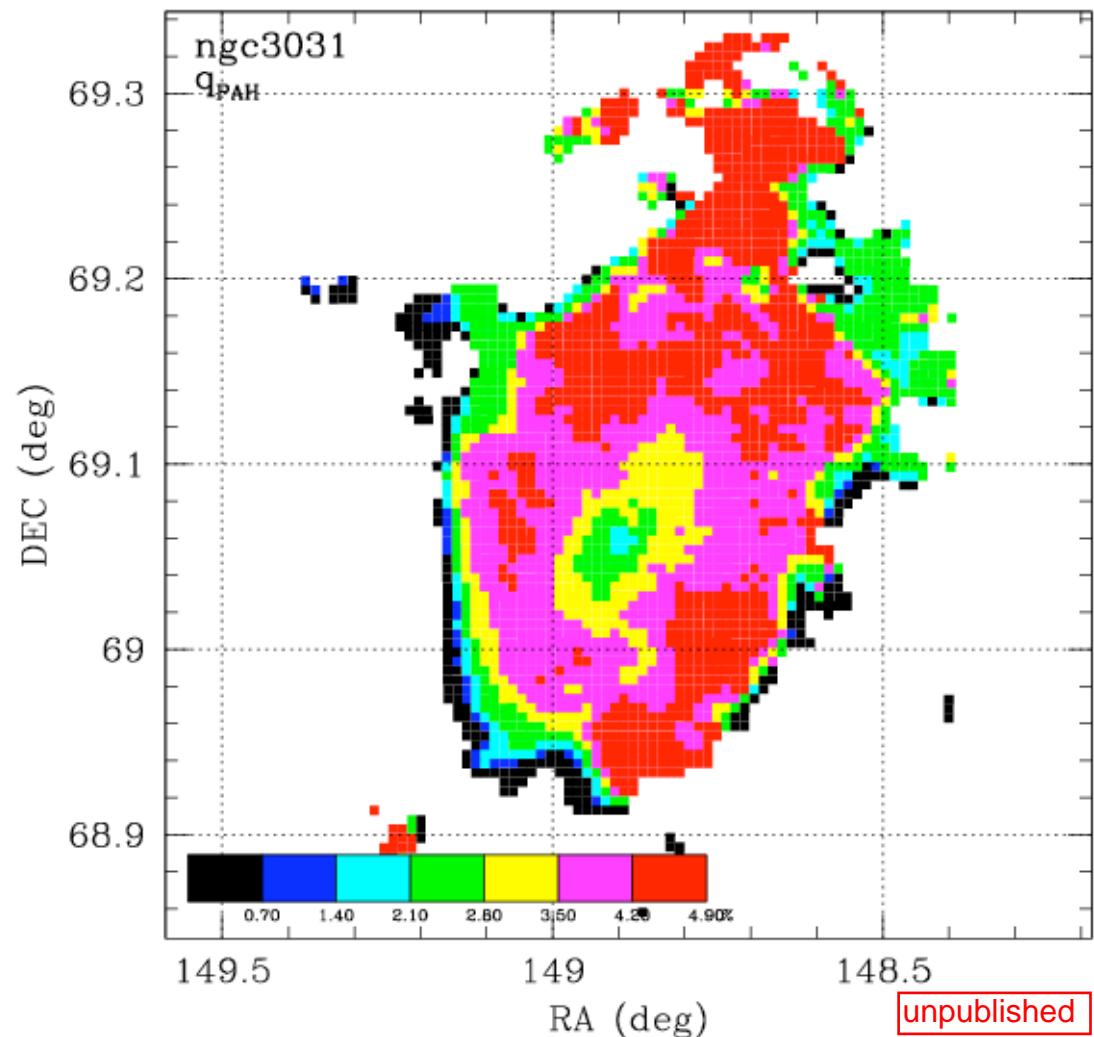
Dust Surface Density



unpublished

$q_{\text{PAH}} \equiv (\text{PAH mass}) / (\text{total dust mass})$

Global $q_{\text{PAH}} = 4.0\%$
 q_{PAH} Image



IR Spectroscopy

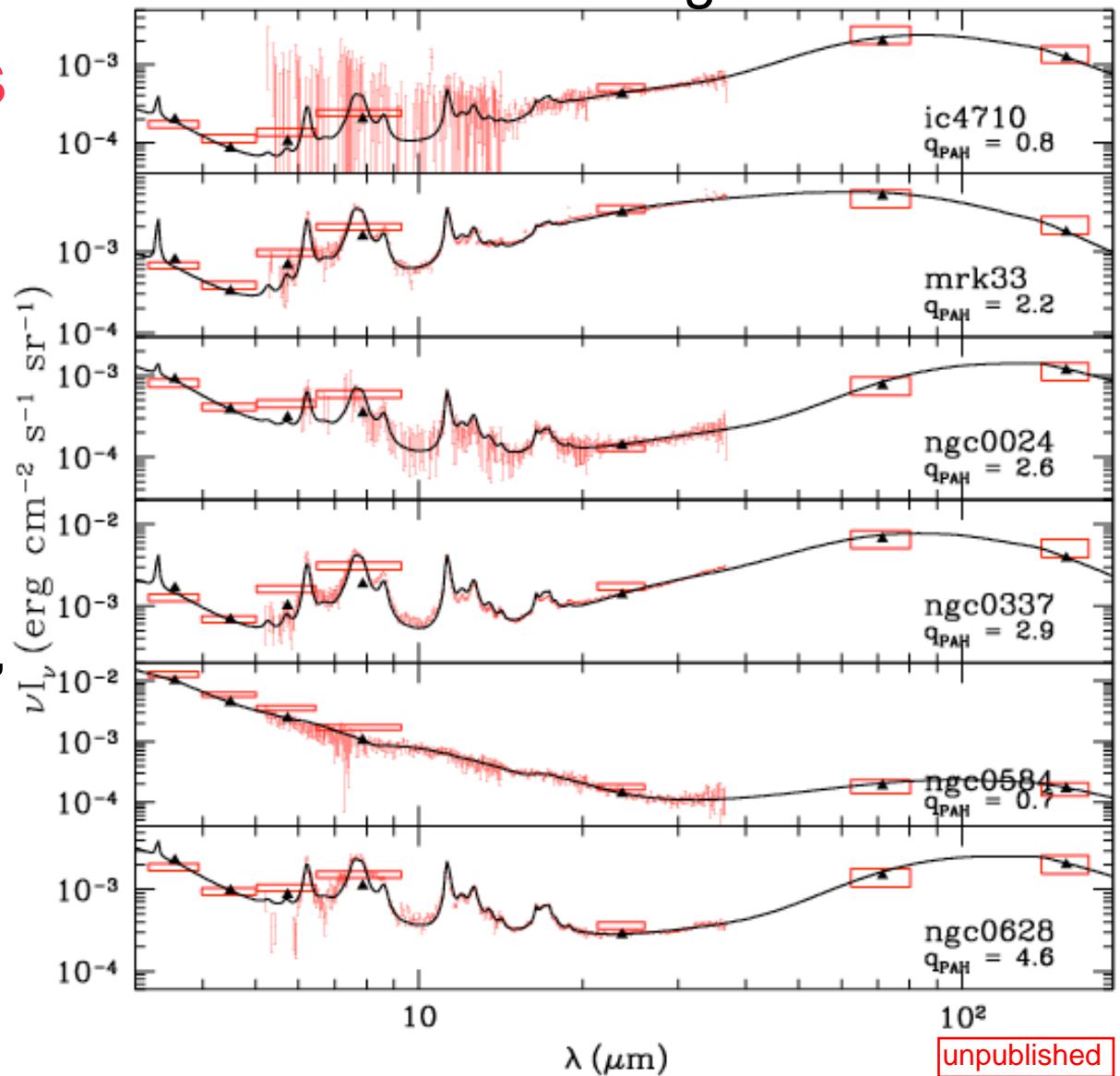
red: observations

black: model

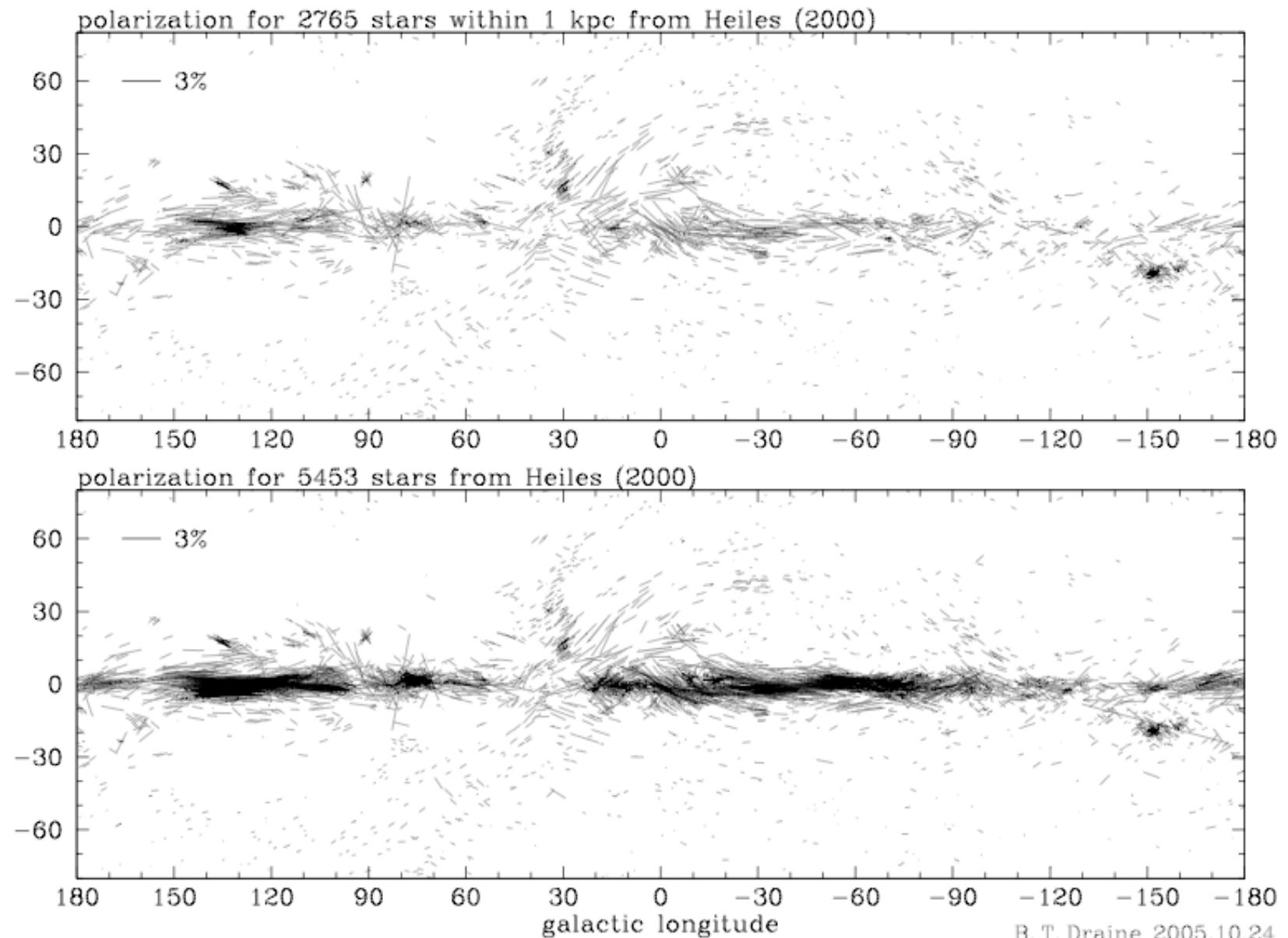
***model = dust mix
heated by suitable
mix of starlight
intensities***

(BTD, R. Reyes, J.D. Smith,
& SINGS team...)

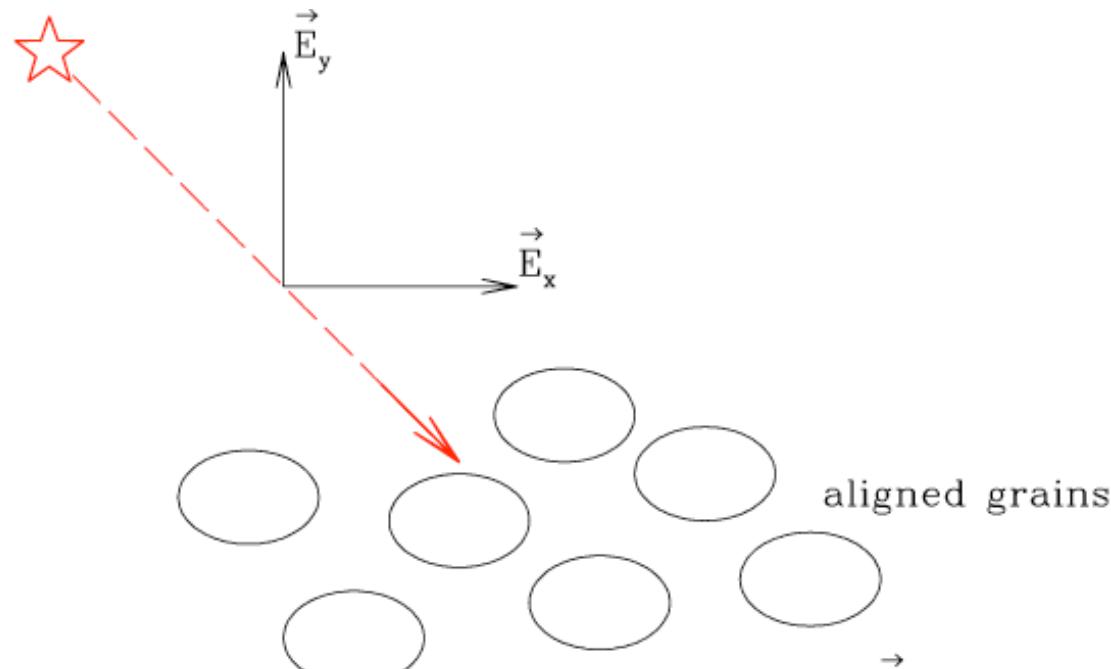
Centers of galaxies:



Polarization of Starlight: Aligned Dust Grains



Polarization of starlight

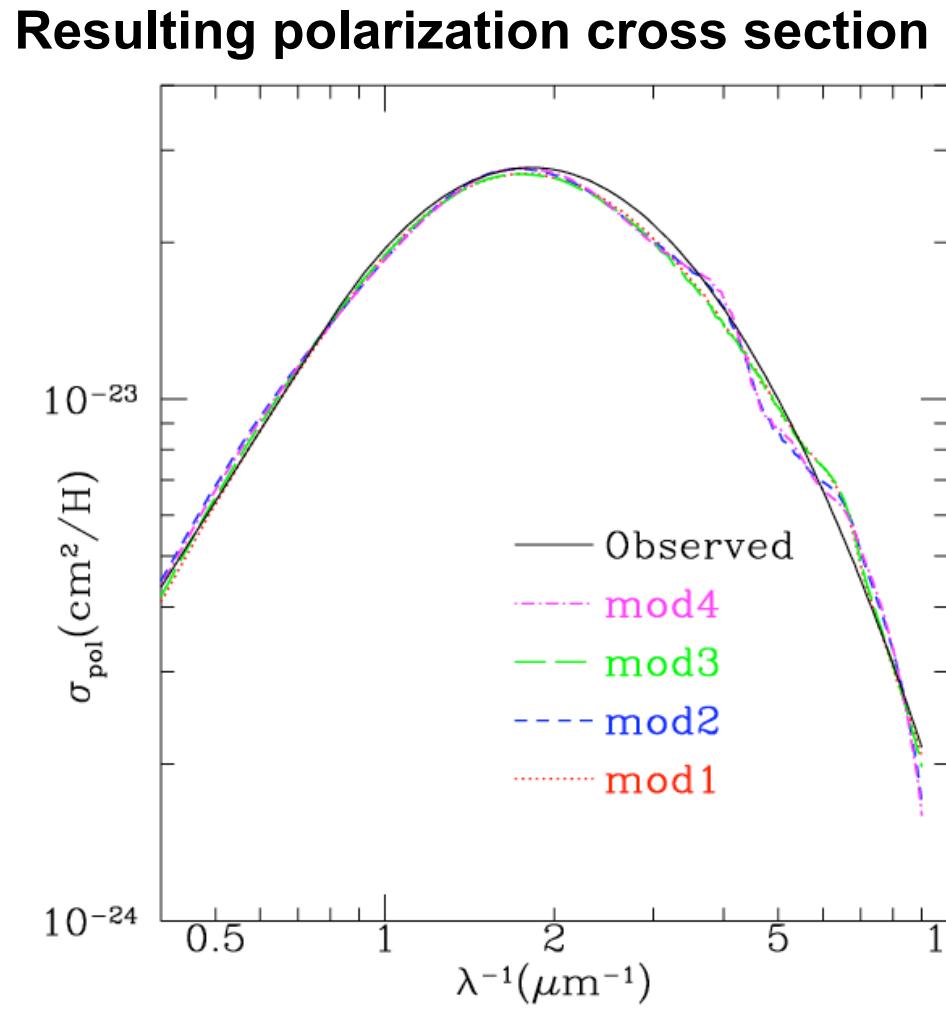
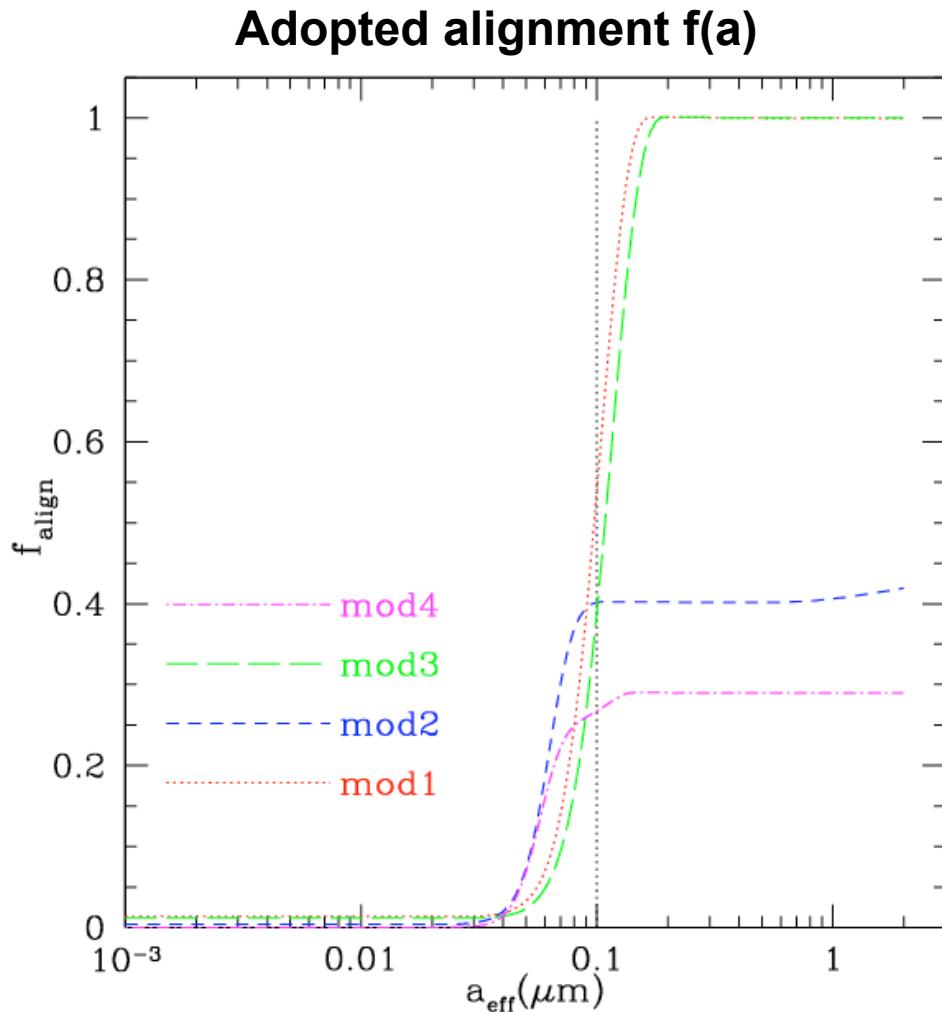


Polarization-dependent
attenuation by aligned grains

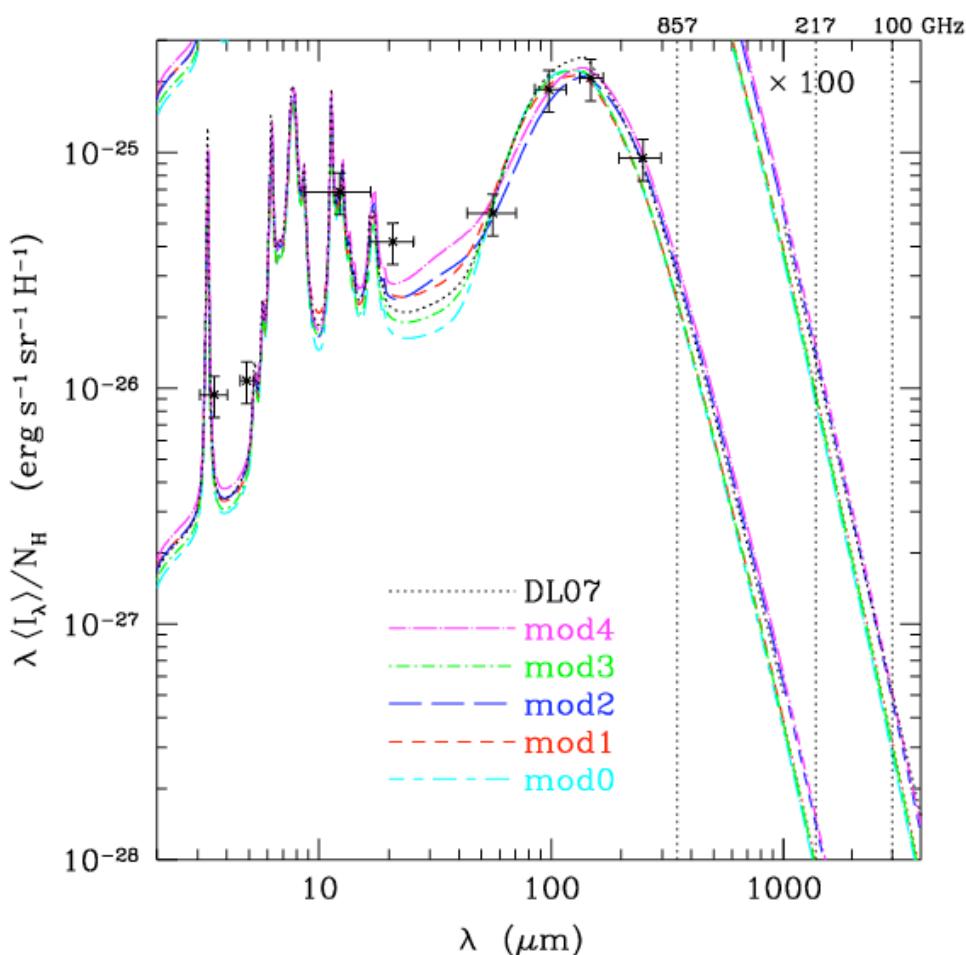
Polarization of Starlight in Milky Way

(BTD & Fraisse 2009)

Different models: different axial ratios for oblate spheroids

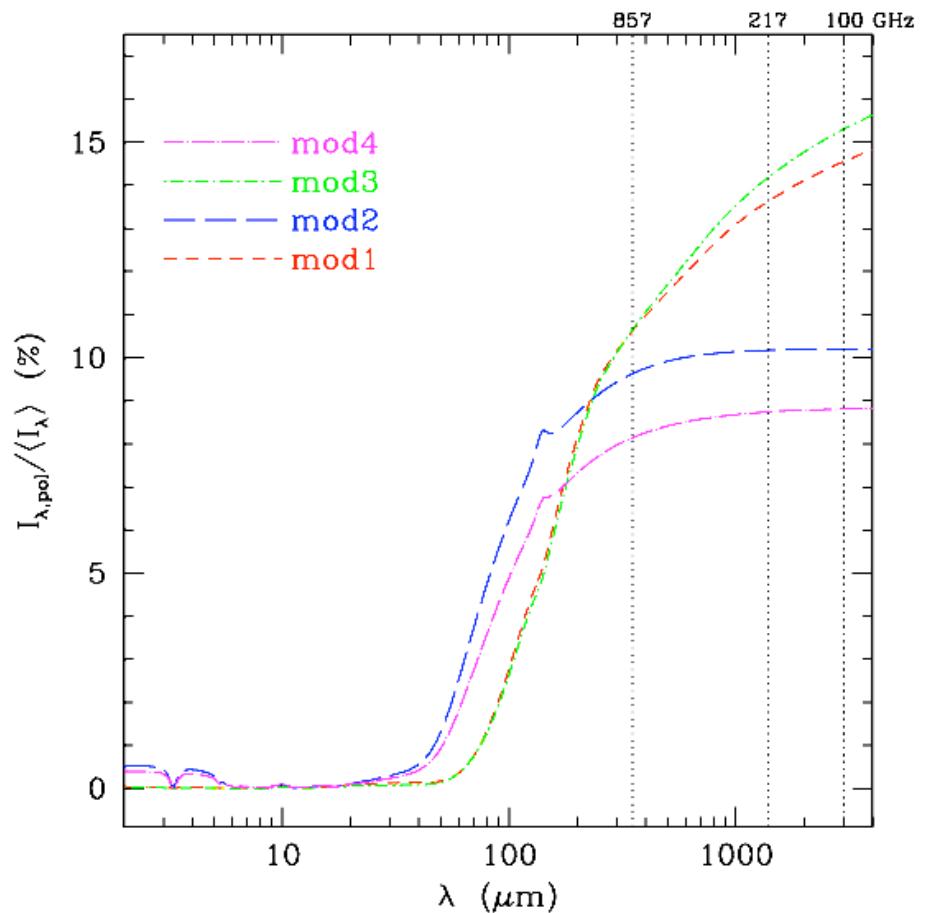


Total Emission



IR-submm polarization:

% Polarization (sightline $\perp B_0$)



1. *Model-dependent*
 2. *Frequency-dependent*
- \therefore TEST of models

Planck to be launched April 12

Spinning Dust

- To reproduce strong PAH emission bands at 3.3, 6.2, 7.7, 8.6, 11.3 μm , need a very large population of small particles, with $\sim 4.5\%$ of total grain mass in carbonaceous particles with $N_{\text{C}} < 10^3$ C atoms
- These particles MUST be rotating, and almost certainly have significant dipole moments, and will therefore produce rotational emission.
- Particles may be 2-d PAH molecules, or perhaps multilayer stacks of PAHs.
- If spherical, $N_{\text{C}} = 58(a_{\text{eff}}/5 \text{ \AA})^3$

$$\begin{aligned}\left(\frac{\omega_{\text{rms}}}{2\pi}\right)_{LTE} &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \left(\frac{3kT}{I}\right)^{1/2} \\ &= 30 \text{ GHz} \left(\frac{T}{100 \text{ K}}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{58}{N_{\text{C}}}\right)^{5/6} \\ \frac{I\omega_{\text{rms}}}{\hbar} &= 210 \left(\frac{T}{100K}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{N_{\text{C}}}{58}\right)^{5/6} \quad [\text{Classical treatment OK}]\end{aligned}$$

Spinning Dust

Rotation is NOT in LTE – Rotational excitation discussed by Draine & Lazarian (1998). Processes exciting/damping rotation include:

- Collisions with neutral gas atoms
- Collisions with ions
- Torques due to ions passing near grain (“plasma drag”)
- Absorption of photons
- Emission of infrared photons
- Electric dipole radiation from rotation

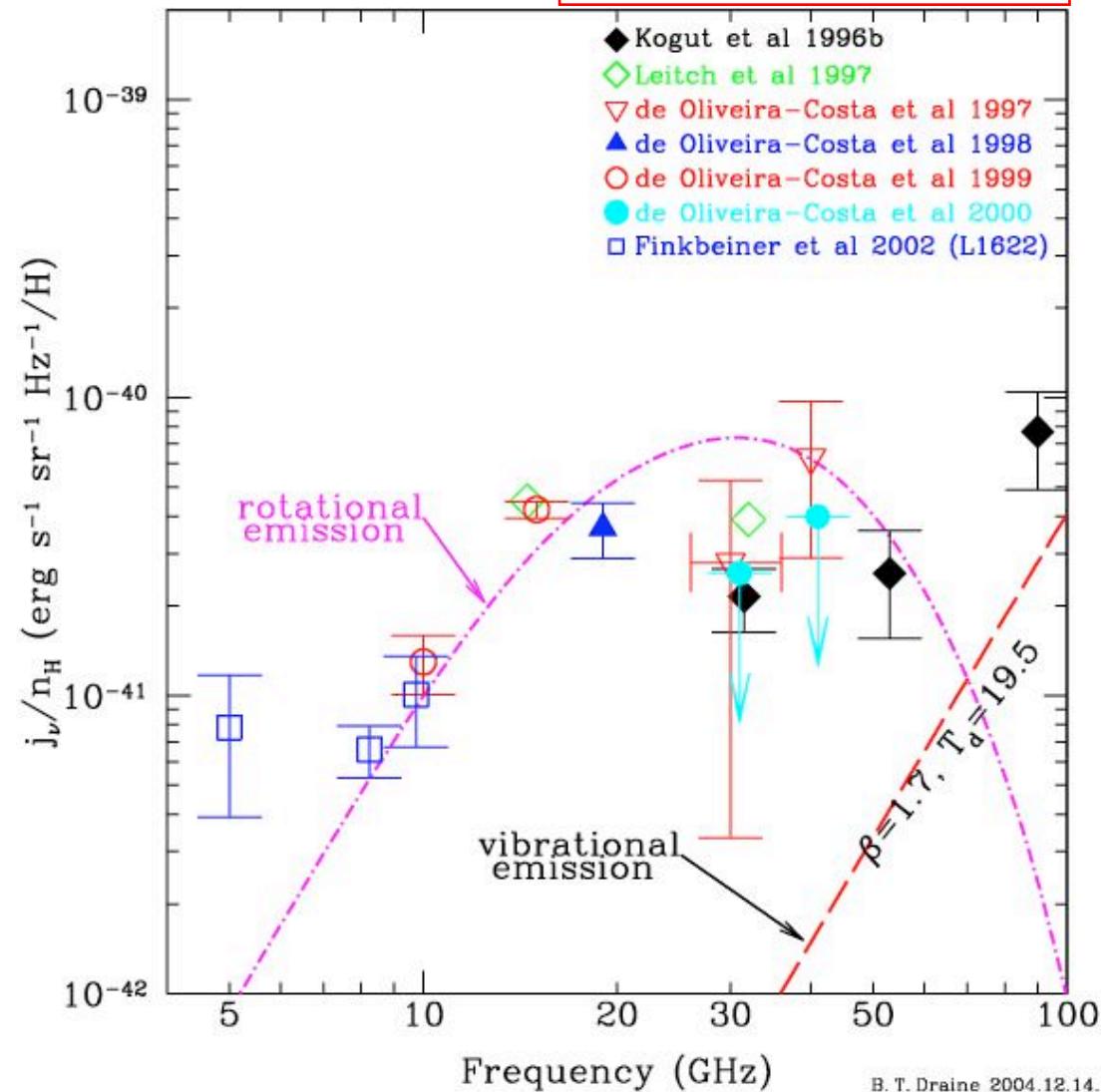
For assumed electric dipole moment and using PAH size distribution required to reproduce IR emission, DL98 estimated microwave emission from PAHs.

“Spinning dust” emission appears to explain dust-correlated “anomalous” microwave emission detected in CMB studies.

Microwave Emission

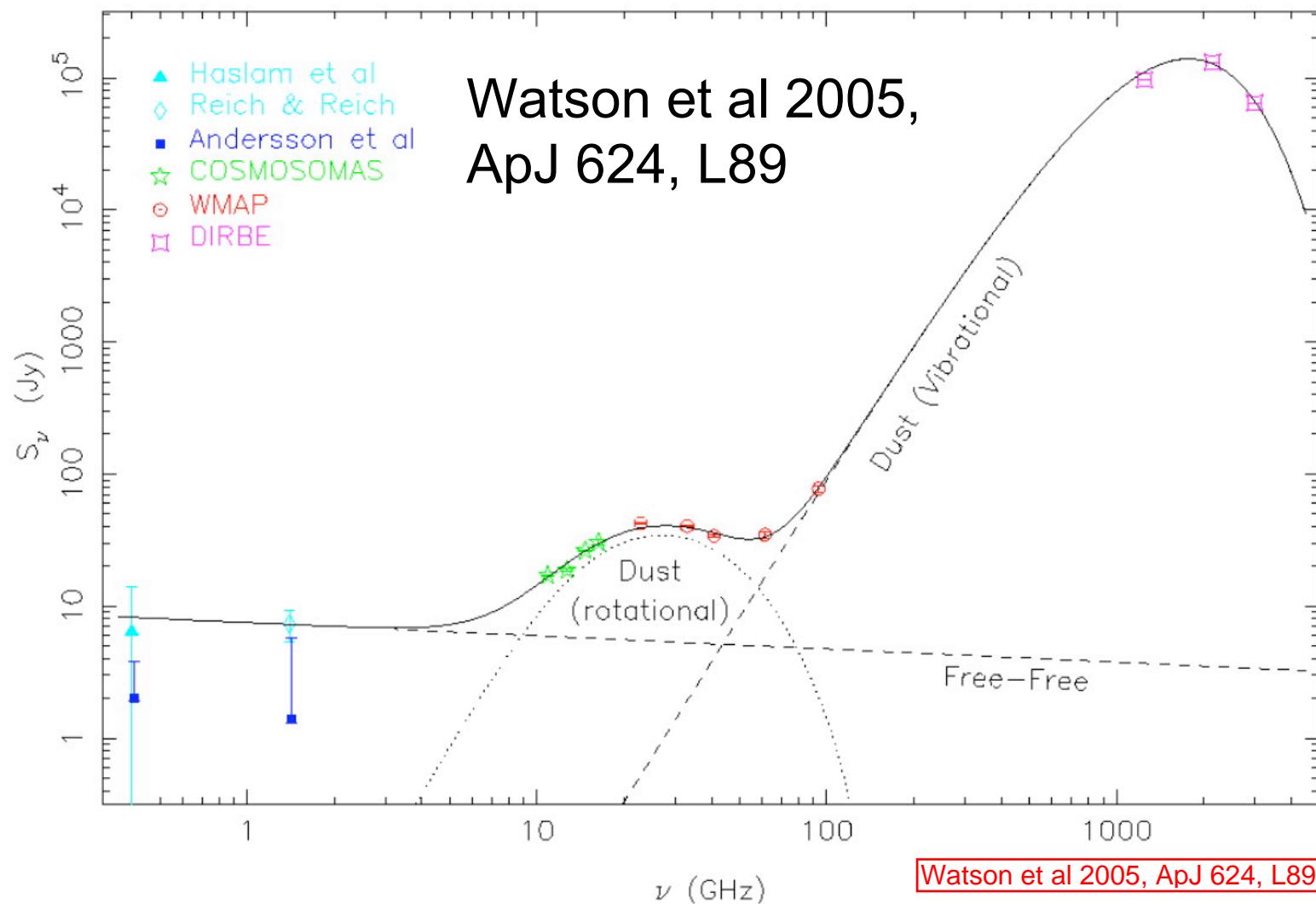
Draine, B.T., 2003, ARAA, 41, 214

- Dust-correlated microwave emission discovered by CMB studies.
- Likely due to **spinning dust** (Draine & Lazarian 1998) -- same ultrasmall dust grains needed to explain 3-15um "PAH" emission.



B. T. Draine 2004.12.14.

Microwave Emission from Perseus Molecular Cloud



Summary of interstellar dust model requirements

- To reproduce extinction, models require $\sim 100\%$ of total Mg, Si, Fe (in amorphous silicates) + $\sim 70\%$ of C in carbonaceous grains:
 - 75% of grain mass in amorphous silicates ($< 2\%$ crystalline)
 - 5% of grain mass in PAHs containing $\lesssim 10^3$ C atoms
(to reproduce observed $3\text{--}15 \mu\text{m}$ PAH emission features)
 - 20% of grain mass in other carbonaceous material
- broad size distribution from $0.0004 \mu\text{m} - \gtrsim 0.3 \mu\text{m}$ required to reproduce extinction and polarization
- $\sim 50\%$ of grain mass above/below $a \approx 0.1 \mu\text{m}$
- Starlight polarization requires that
 - $a \gtrsim 0.1 \mu\text{m}$ grains must be substantially nonspherical
 - $a \gtrsim 0.1 \mu\text{m}$ grains must be aligned by galactic B field (**how?**)
 - smaller ($a \lesssim 0.05 \mu\text{m}$) grains are not aligned (**why not?**)

Model for interstellar dust: tests and predictions

- By adjusting size distribution, model successfully reproduces λ -dependent extinction in MW, LMC, and SMC.
- Dust model illuminated by starlight gives IR emission spectrum consistent with observations in MW and other galaxies.
- Albedo and $\langle \cos \theta \rangle$ inferred for scattering by interstellar dust are consistent with grain model.
- X-ray scattering properties of the dust model are broadly consistent with observations of X-ray scattering halos – but additional tests are possible (e.g., test for substructure in large grains: Heng & Draine 2009)
- PAH population explains observed microwave emission
- **Prediction:** if extinction lacks 2175Å feature, PAH features should not be present in IR emission (soon to be tested in SMC)
- **Prediction:** aligned grains → noncircular X-ray halos (Draine & Allaf-Akbari 2006)
- **Prediction:** [model-dependent] polarization $p(\lambda)$ in FIR/submm emission (Draine & Fraisse 2009)



Visible
starlight



Infrared
dustglow

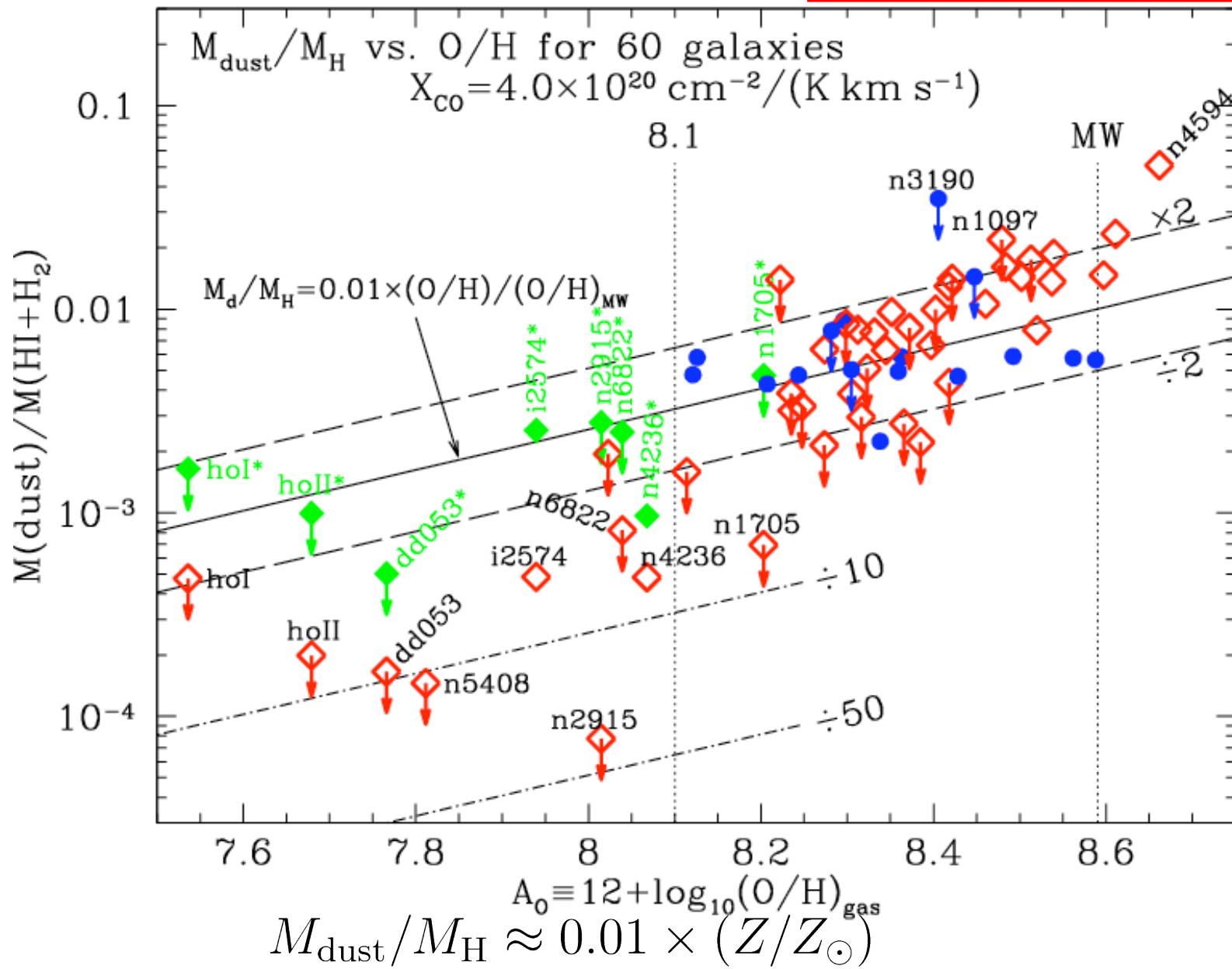
Spiral Galaxy M51 ("Whirlpool Galaxy")

NASA / JPL-Caltech / R. Kennicutt (Univ. of Arizona)

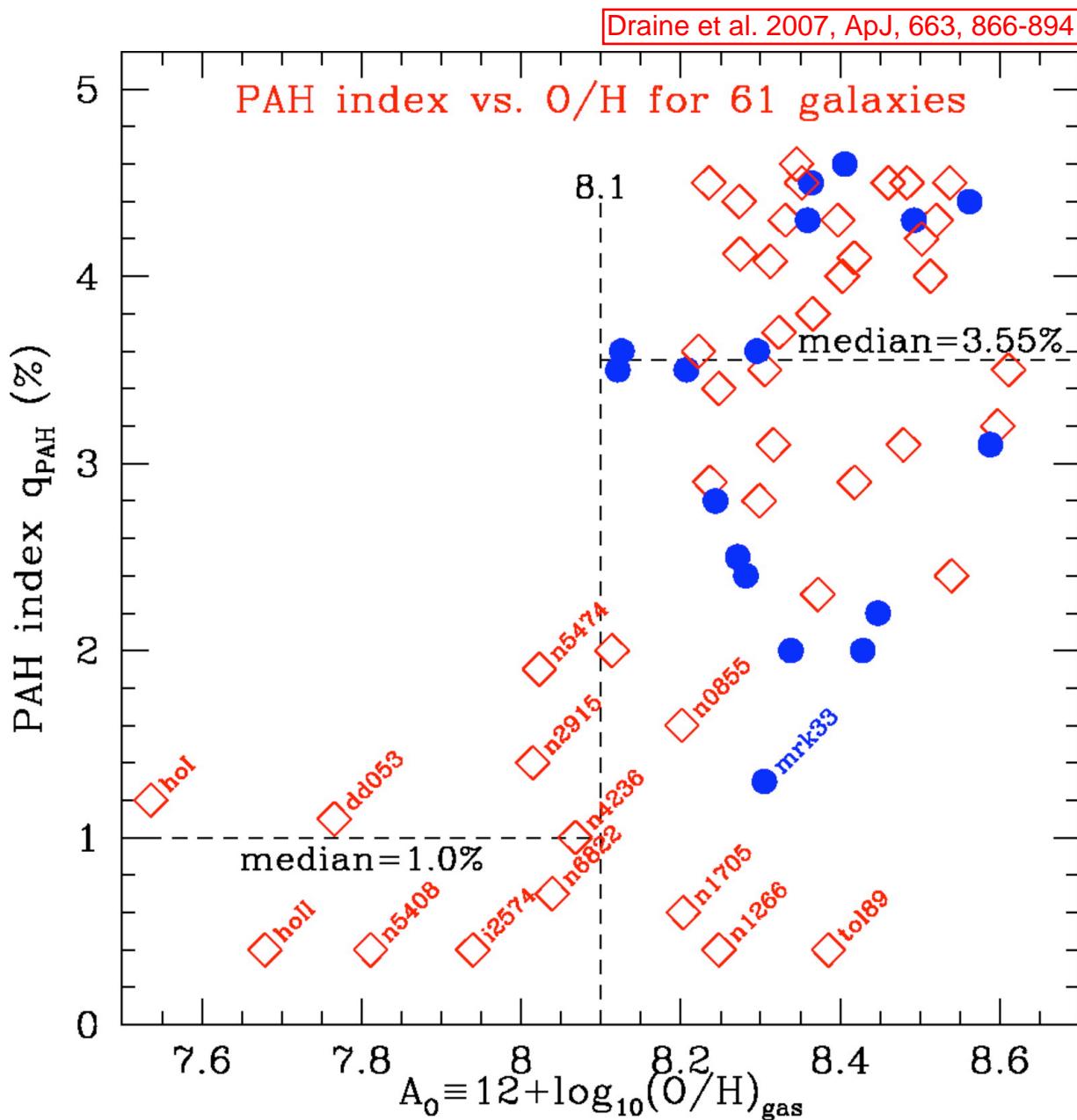
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ssc2004-19a

http://gallery.spitzer.caltech.edu/Imagegallery/image.php?image_name=ssc2004-19a



green: $M_{\text{dust}}/M_{\text{H}}$ in regions where IR emission is detected.



PAH index $q_{\text{PAH}} =$ fraction of total dust mass in PAHs with $N_C < 10^3$

**PAH fraction correlates with metallicity:
galaxies with $A_0 < 8.0$ have $q_{\text{PAH}} < 1.2\%$**

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image.php?image_name=ssc2004-19a](http://gallery.spitzer.caltech.edu/Imagegallery/image.php?image_name=ssc2004-19a)
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