



What are the dustiest main sequence stars telling us about planetary systems?

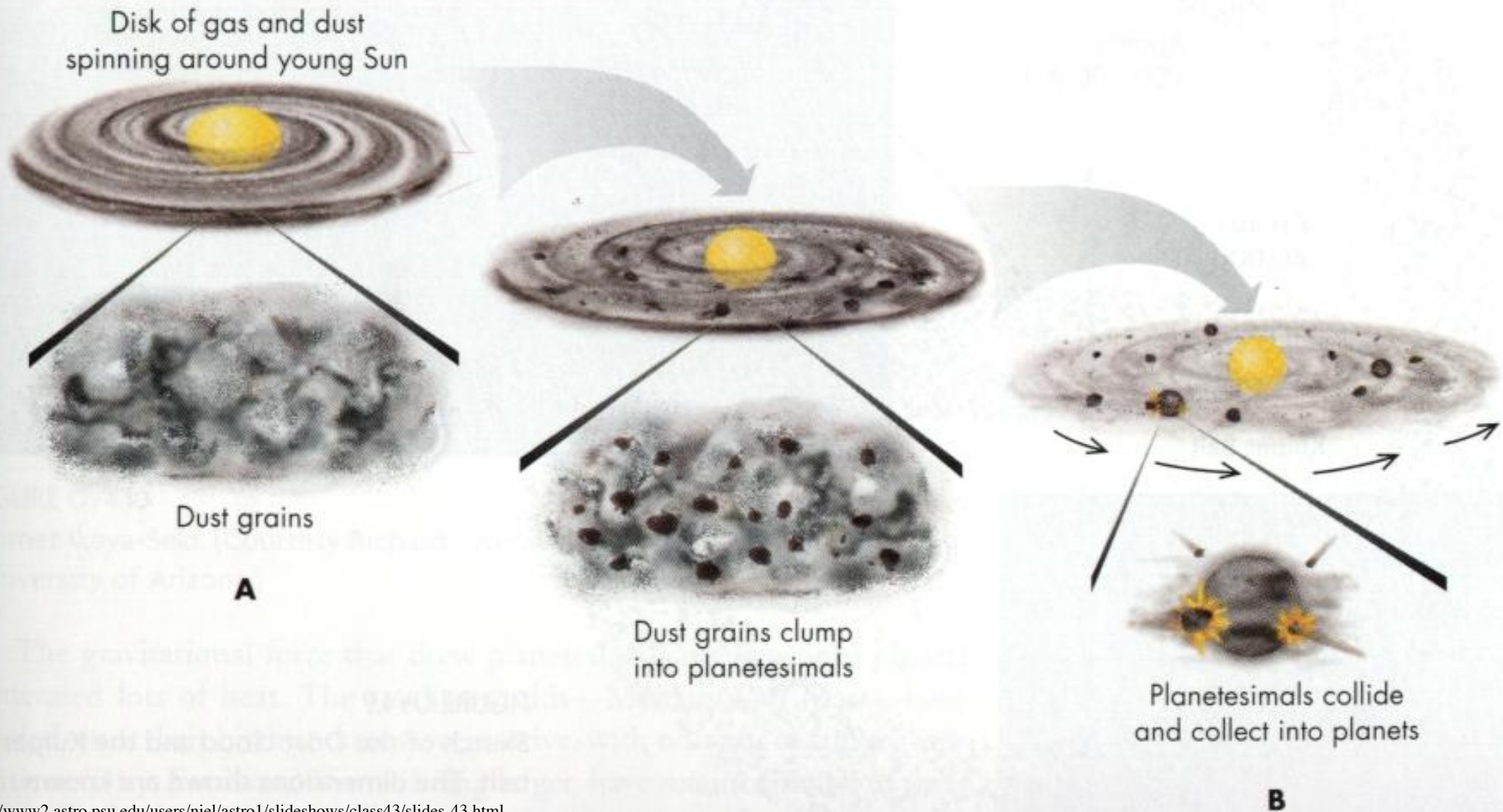
Dr. Carl Melis

Associate Research Scientist

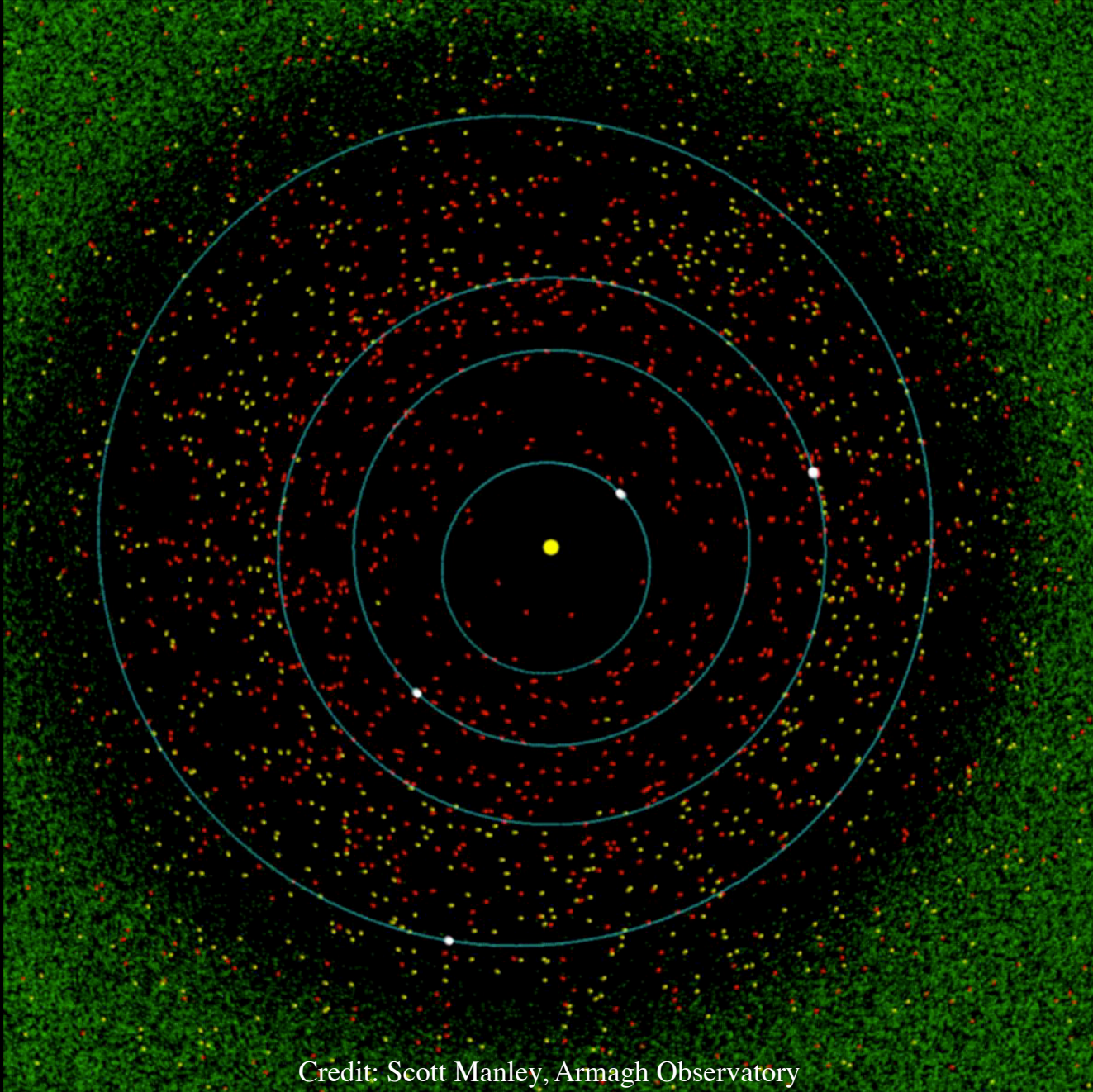
UC San Diego Center for Astrophysics and Space Sciences

Image Credit: Gemini Observatory/Lynette Cook + NASA/David A. Hardy

Planetary System Formation Review

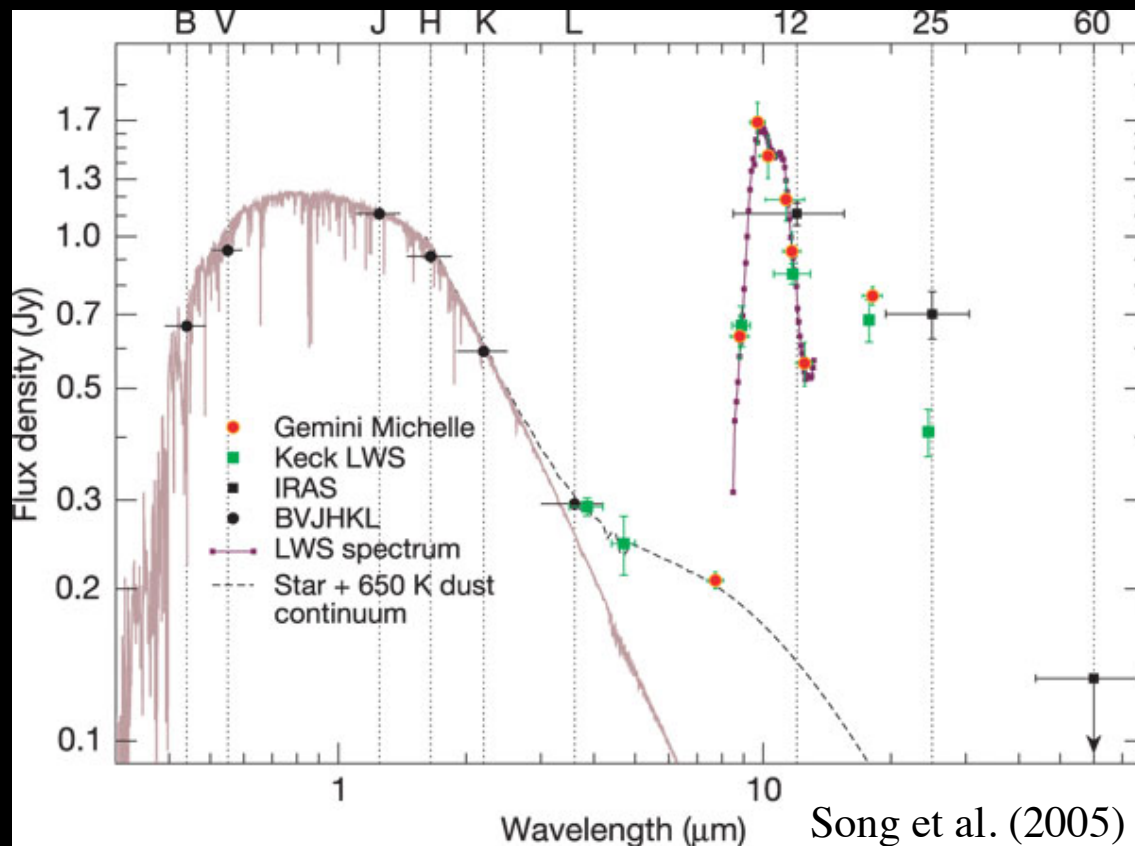


Planetary systems are dynamic!



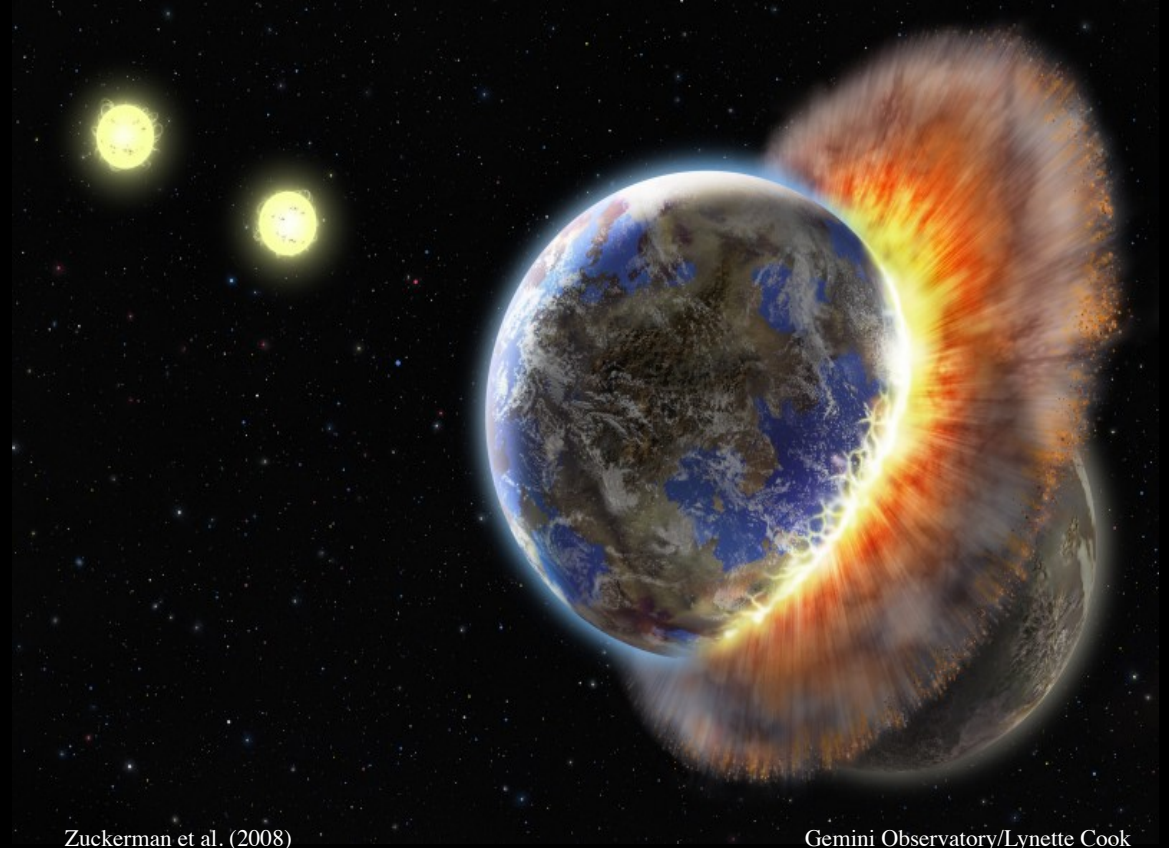
Credit: Scott Manley, Armagh Observatory

Signatures of Rocky Planet Formation/Evolution

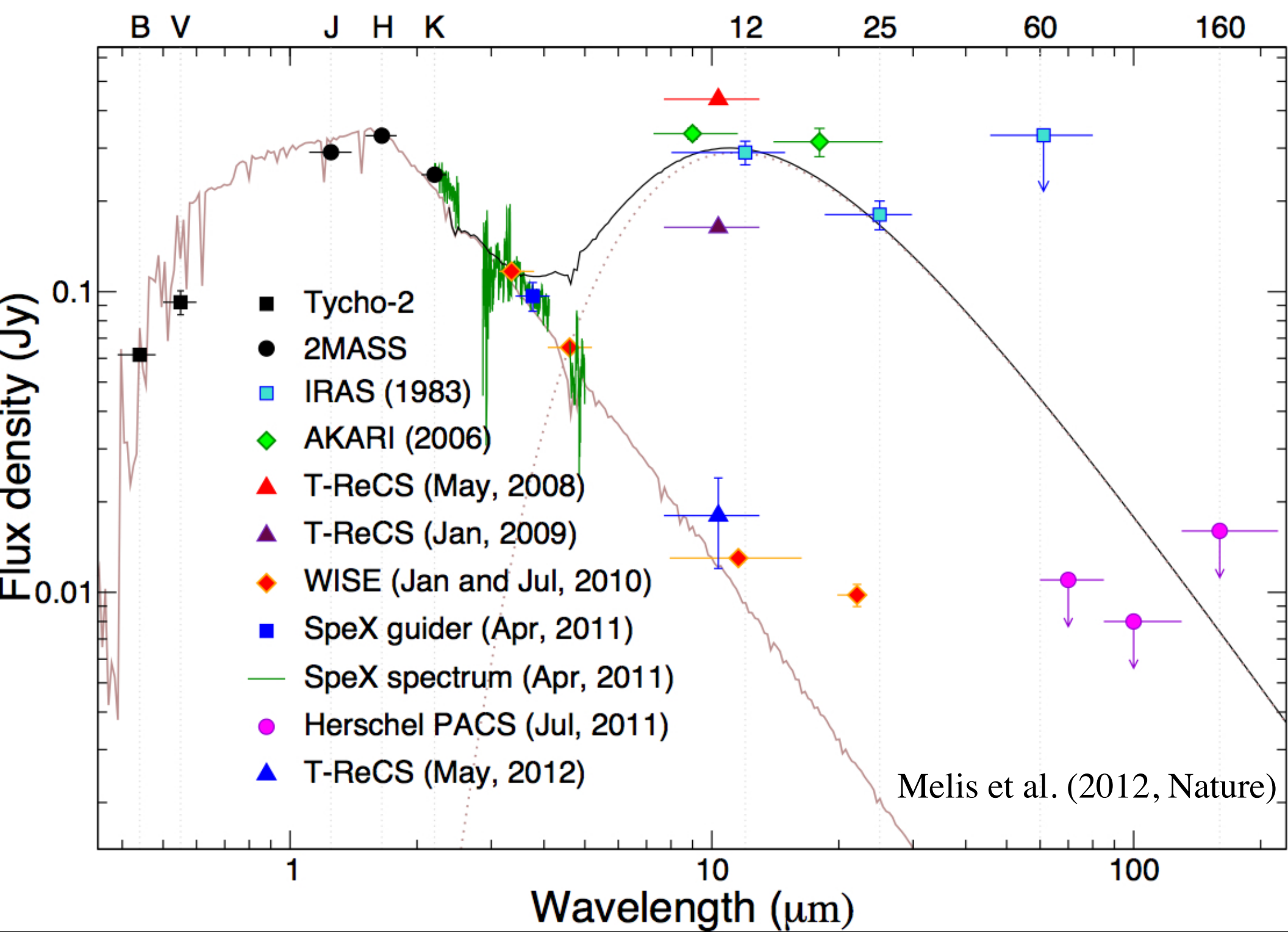


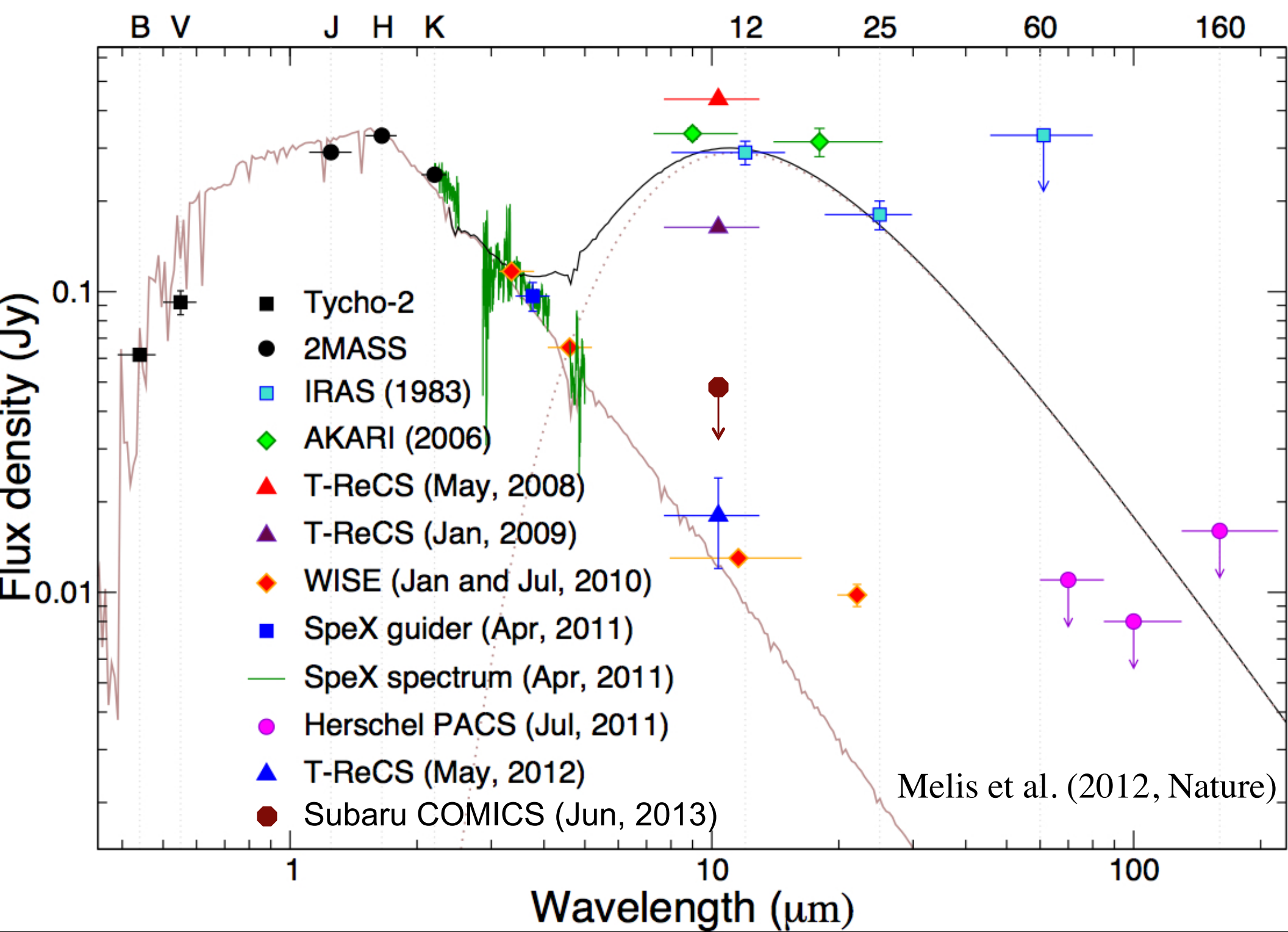
BD+20 307: one million times dustier than the Sun's zodiacal cloud.

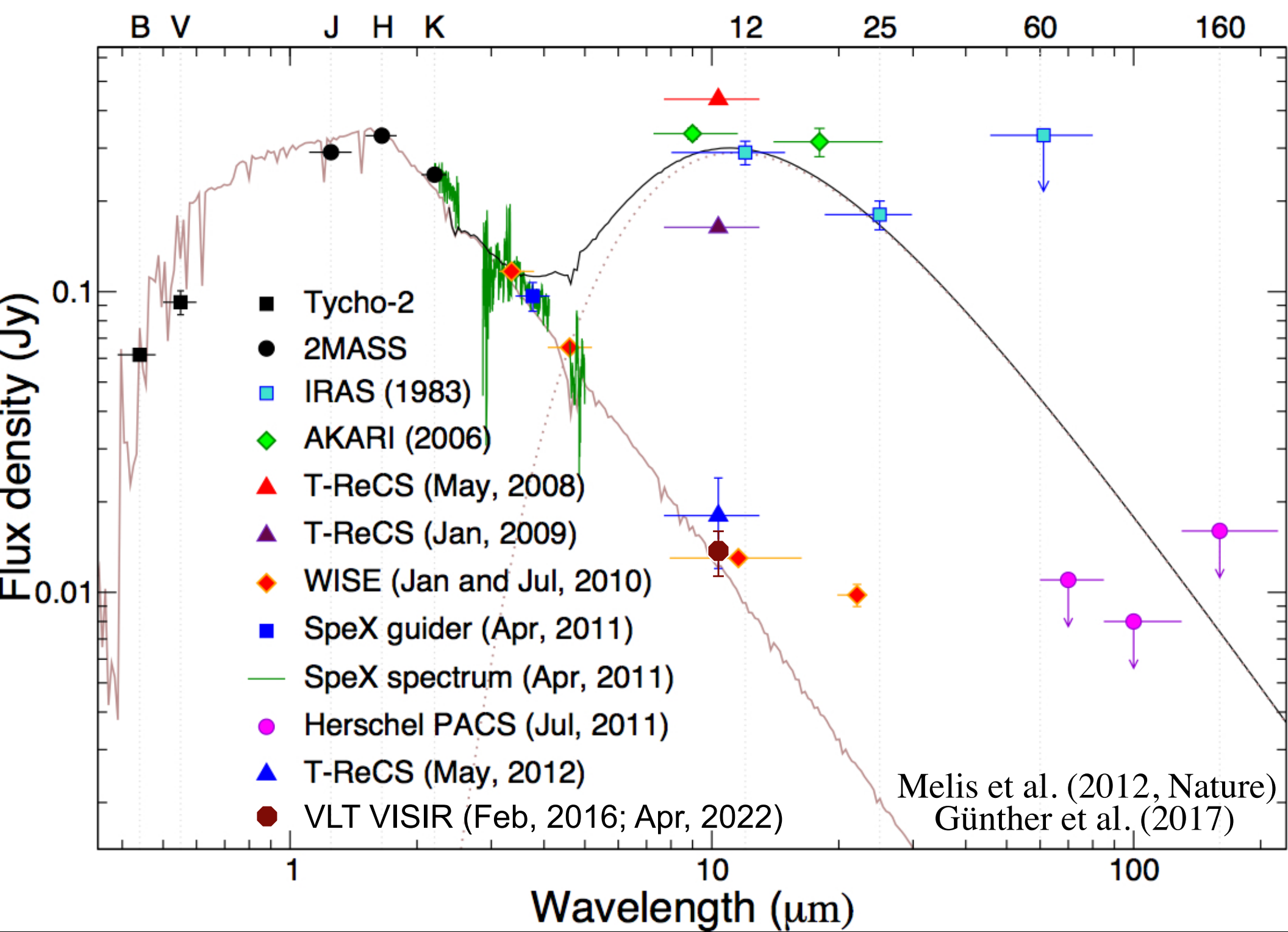
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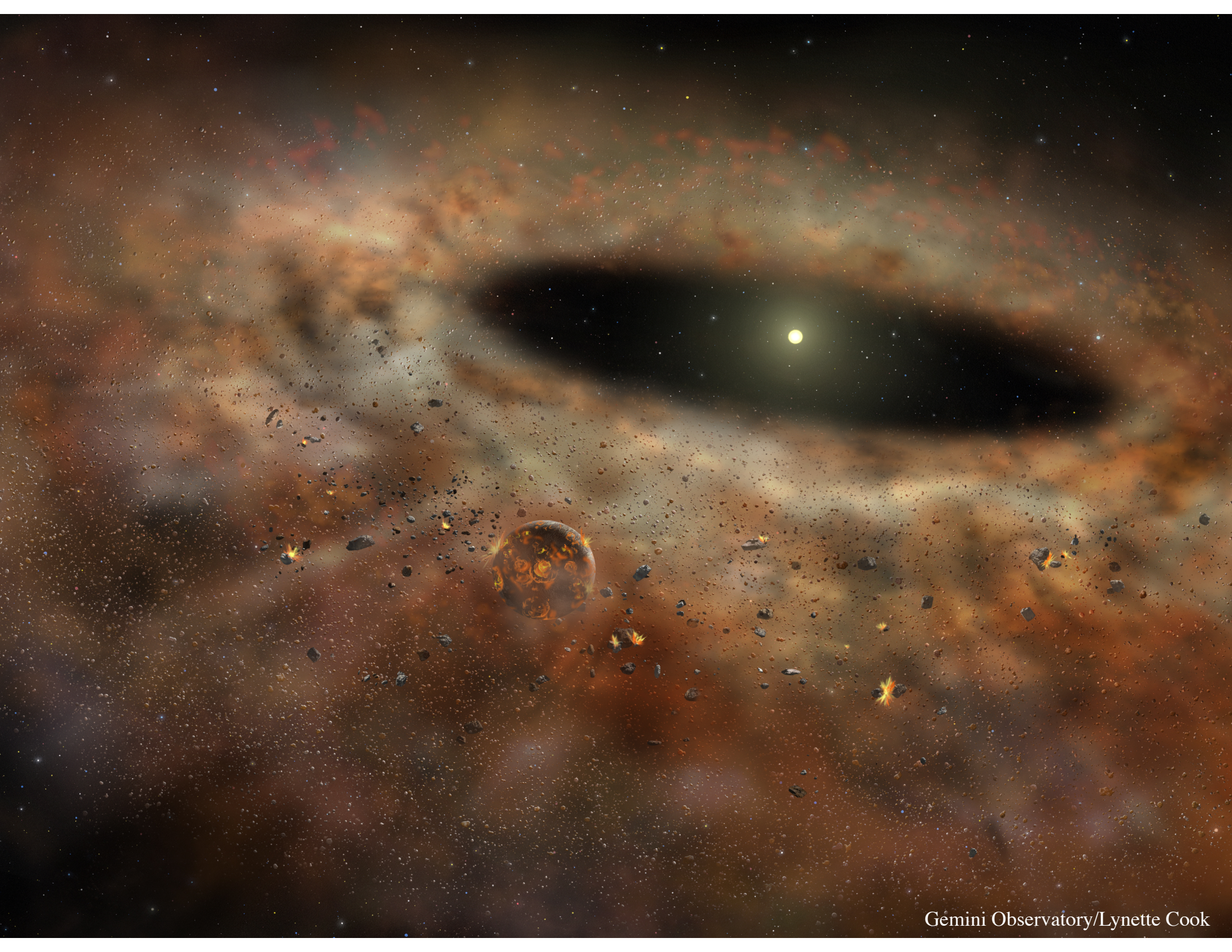


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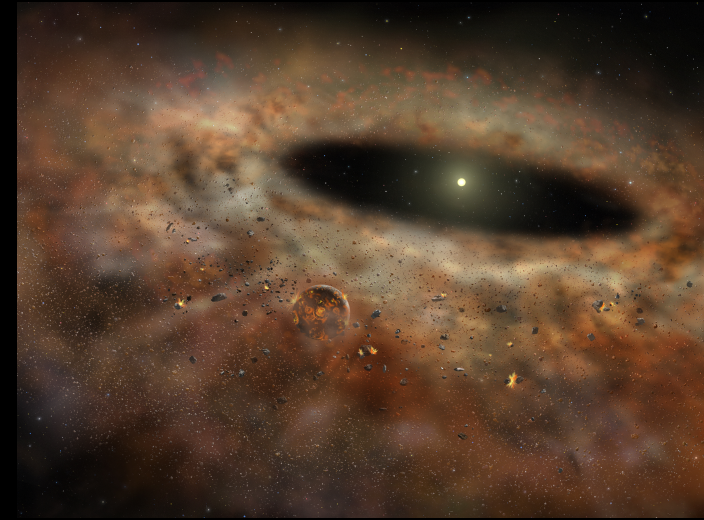
A space scene with a bright yellow star in the upper right, a planet with orange and brown patterns in the lower right, and a trail of asteroids and dust leading from the planet towards the left. The background is a dark field of stars.

Where did it go?

Disk Parameters

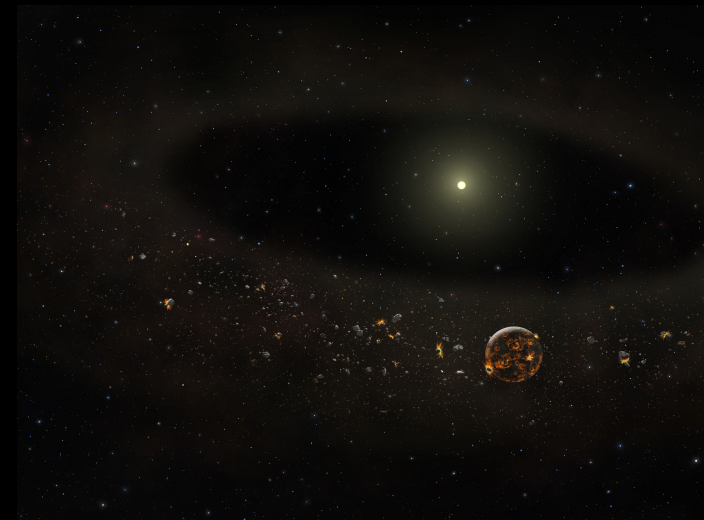
Pre-2009 Epoch

- $T_{\text{dust}} \approx 450 \text{ K}$; $R_{\text{dust}} \approx 0.4 \text{ AU}$
- $L_{\text{IR}}/L_* \approx 11\%$
- $M_{\text{dust}} > 5 \times 10^{21} \text{ g}$



Post-2009 Epoch

- $T_{\text{dust}} \sim 200 \text{ K}$; $R_{\text{dust}} \sim 2 \text{ AU}$
 - $L_{\text{IR}}/L_* \approx 0.1\%$
 - $M_{\text{dust}} > 10^{21} \text{ g}$
 - $L_{\text{IR}}/L_* < 0.05\%$ for any remaining 450 K dust.
- \Rightarrow Grains with radius up to $\sim 1\text{mm}$ must be removed from 0.4 AU ($L_{\text{IR}}/L_* \propto a^{-1/2}$).



What about the star?

TYC 8241 2652 1 itself is pretty normal for its age and spectral type.

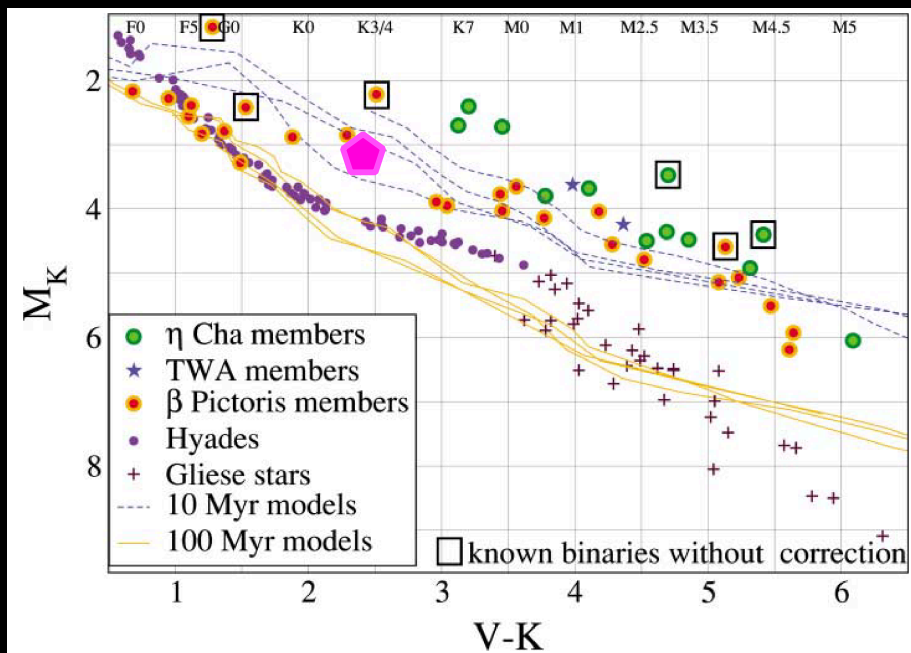


Figure 2 Absolute K magnitude versus $V - K$ color of main sequence and pre-main

Zuckerman & Song (2004)

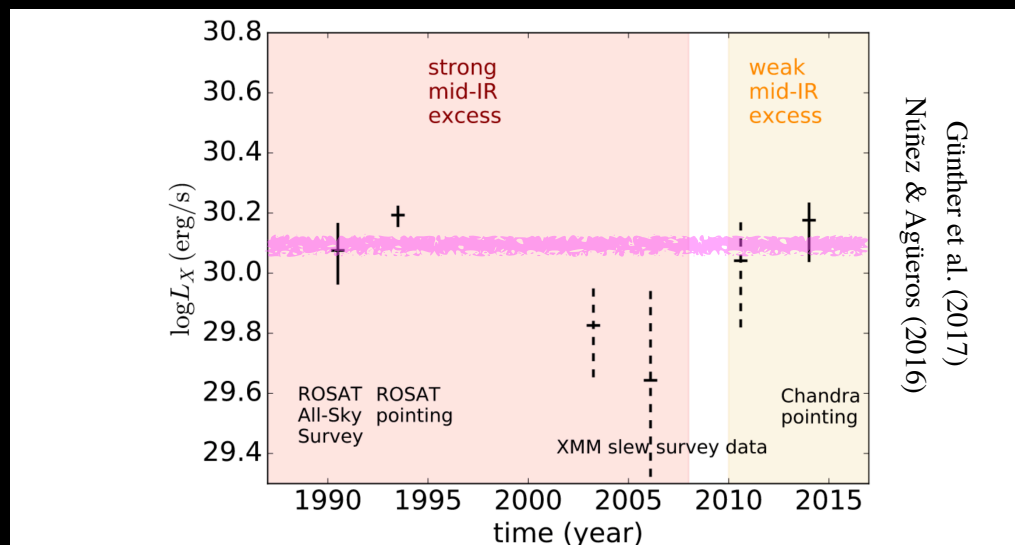
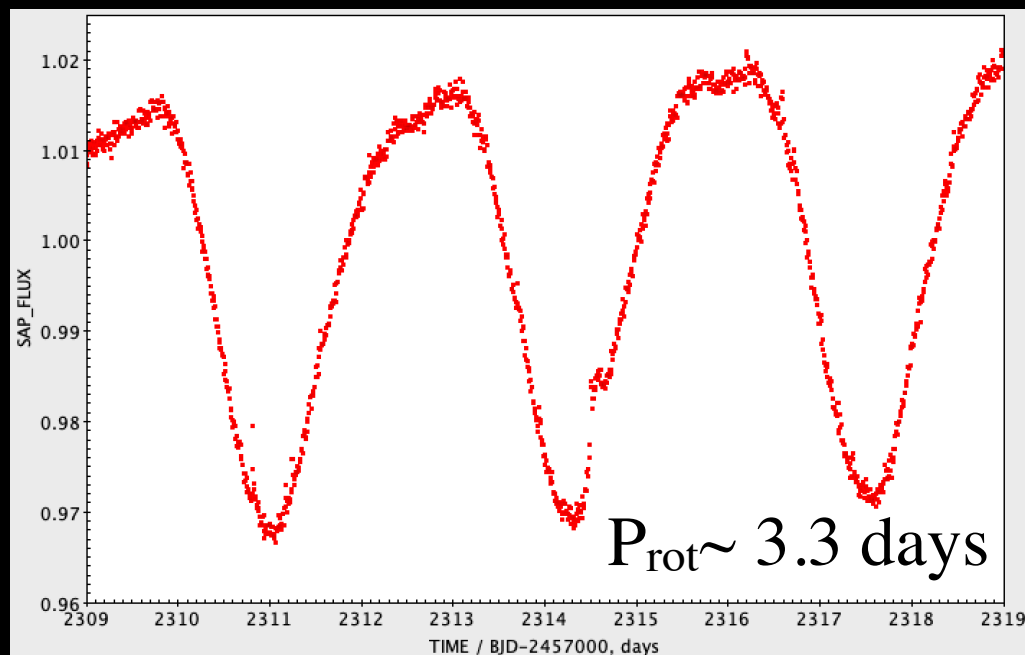
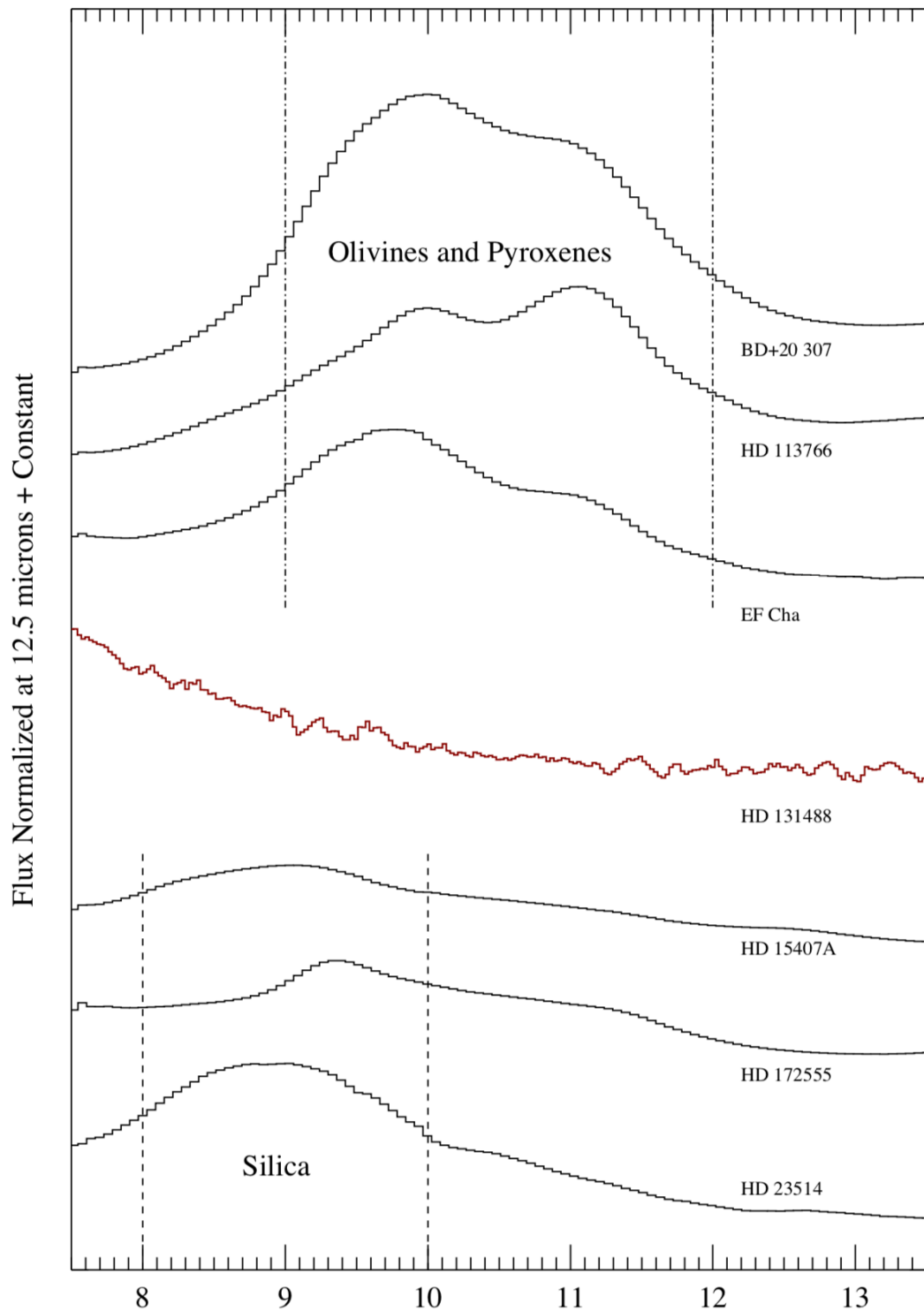


Figure 2. Observed X-ray luminosity of TYC 8241 2652 1 is constant

Günther et al. (2017)
Núñez & Agüeros (2016)



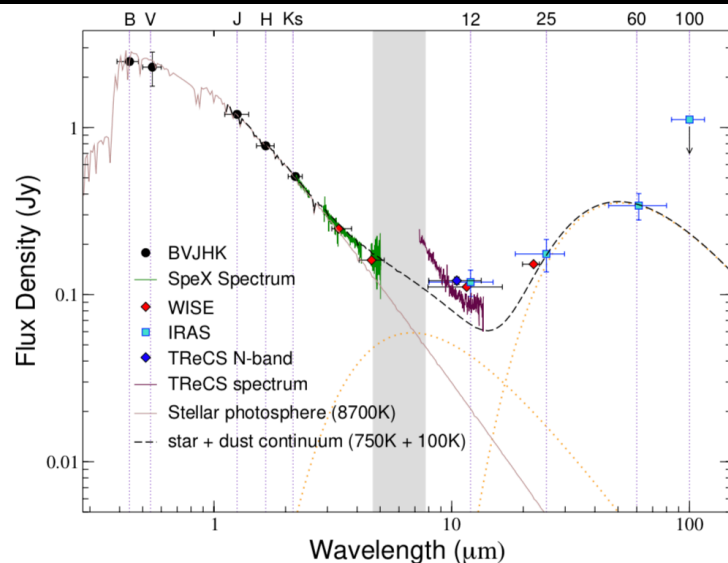
Alien Dust



Melis et al. (2013)



Alien Dust: host planetary systems



~5-20 Myr old

Melis et al. (2013)

Lisse et al. (2017)

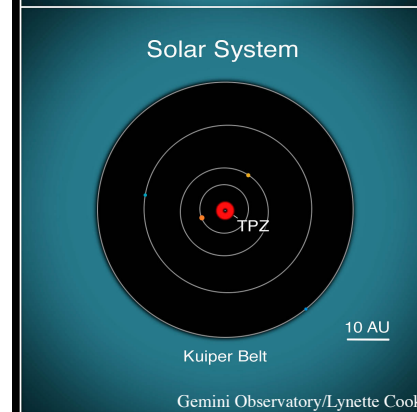
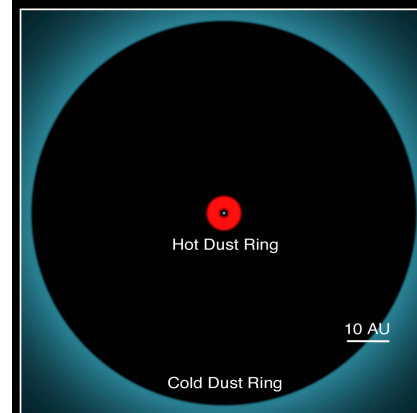
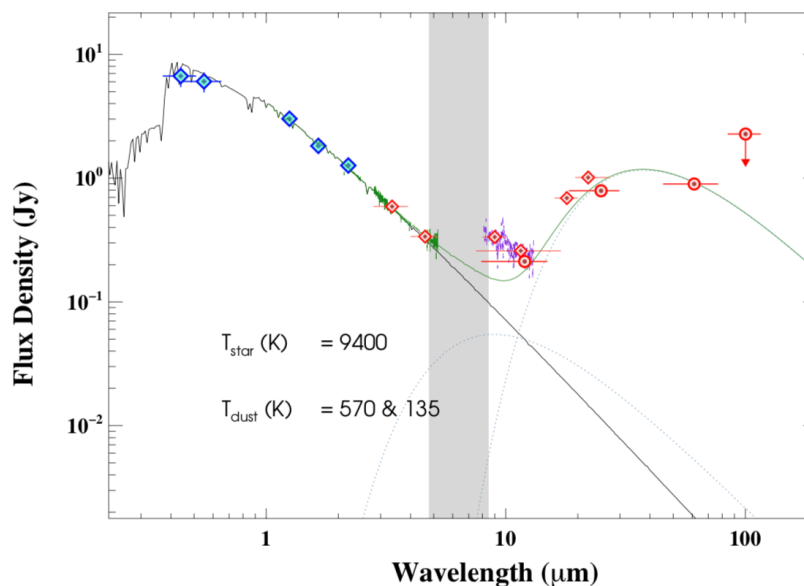
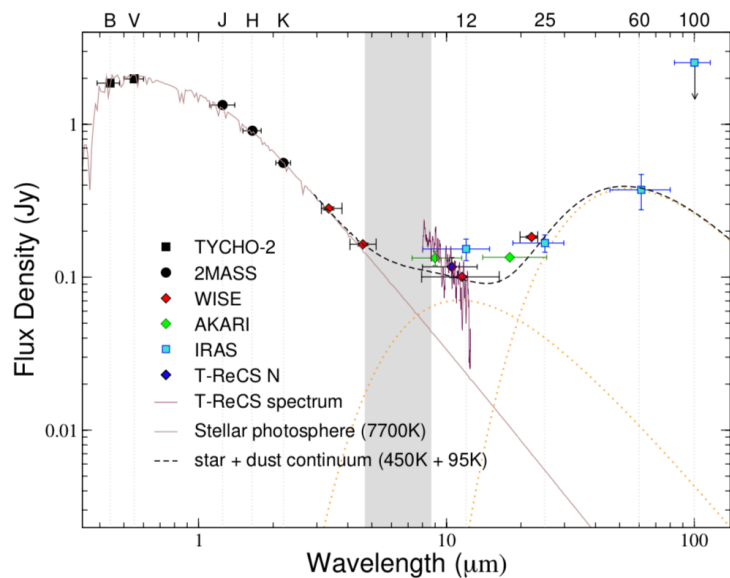
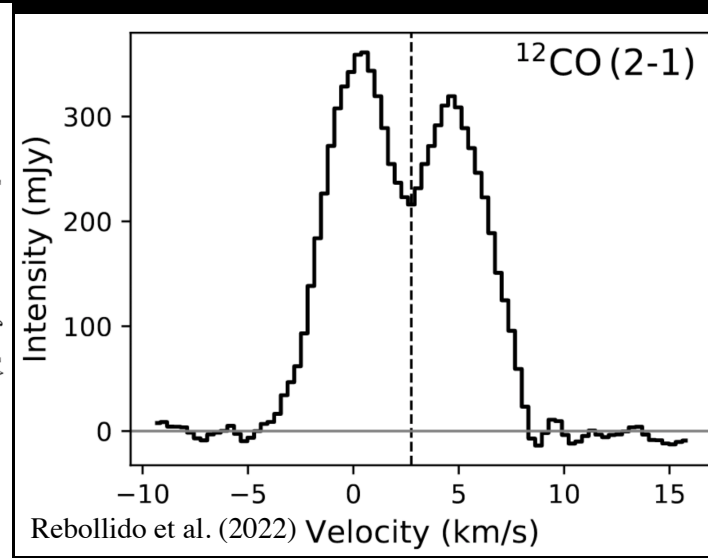
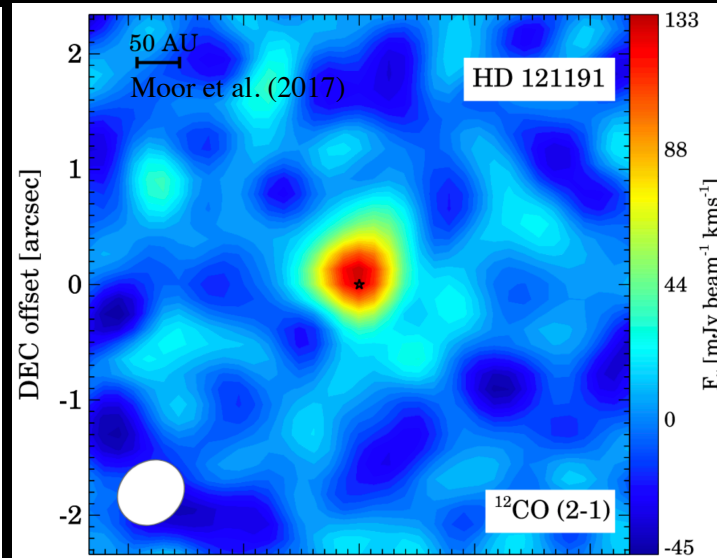
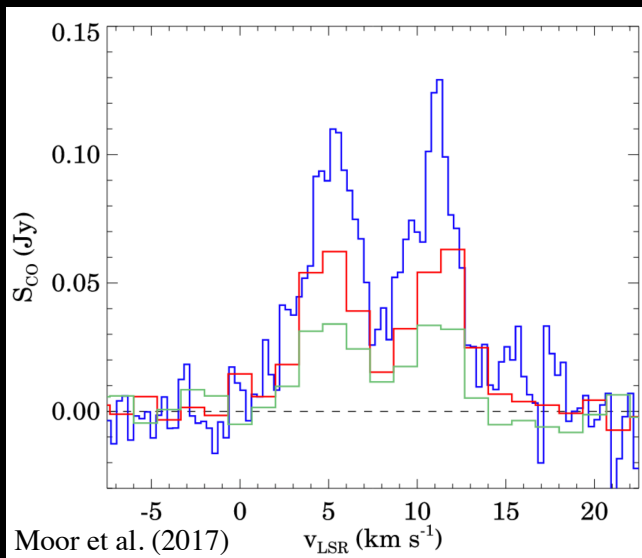
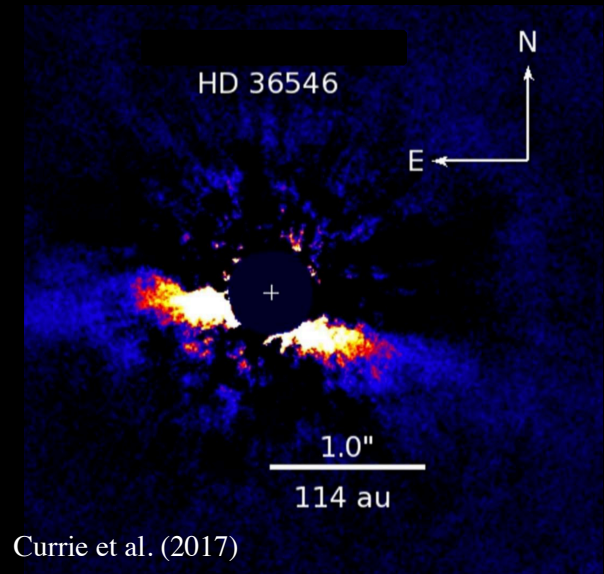
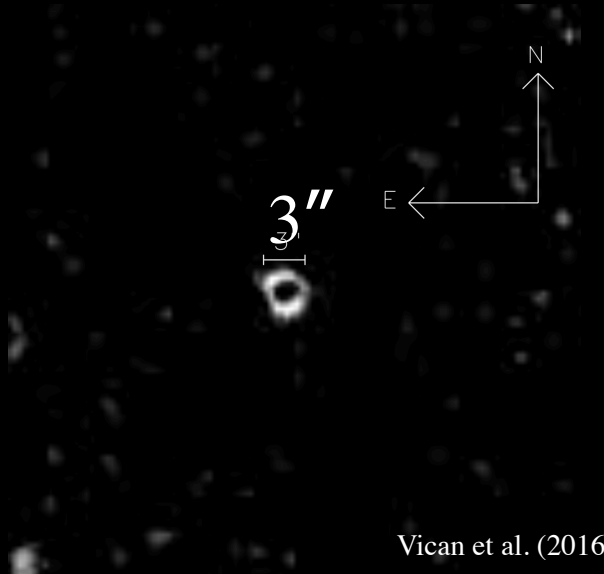
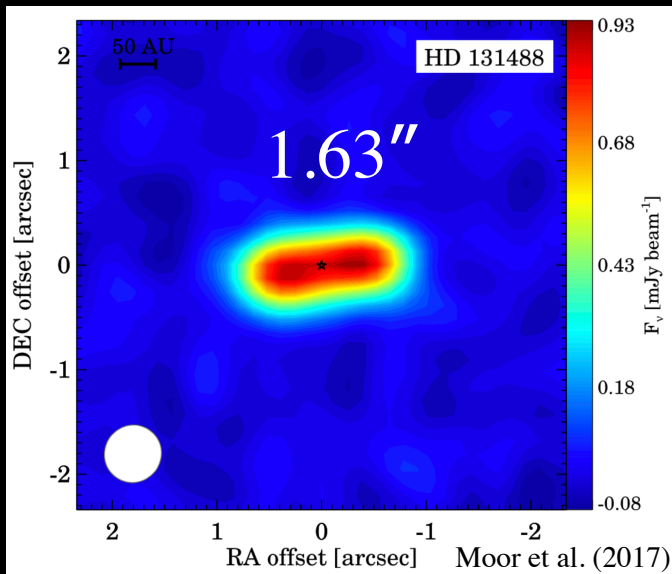


Figure 2: Spectral energy distributions for HD 131488 (top), HD 121191 (bottom left), and HD 36546 (bottom right). All three stars exhibit excess emission longward of $5 \mu\text{m}$ that turns over

Alien Dust: host planetary systems



Alien Dust: just a bunch of comets?

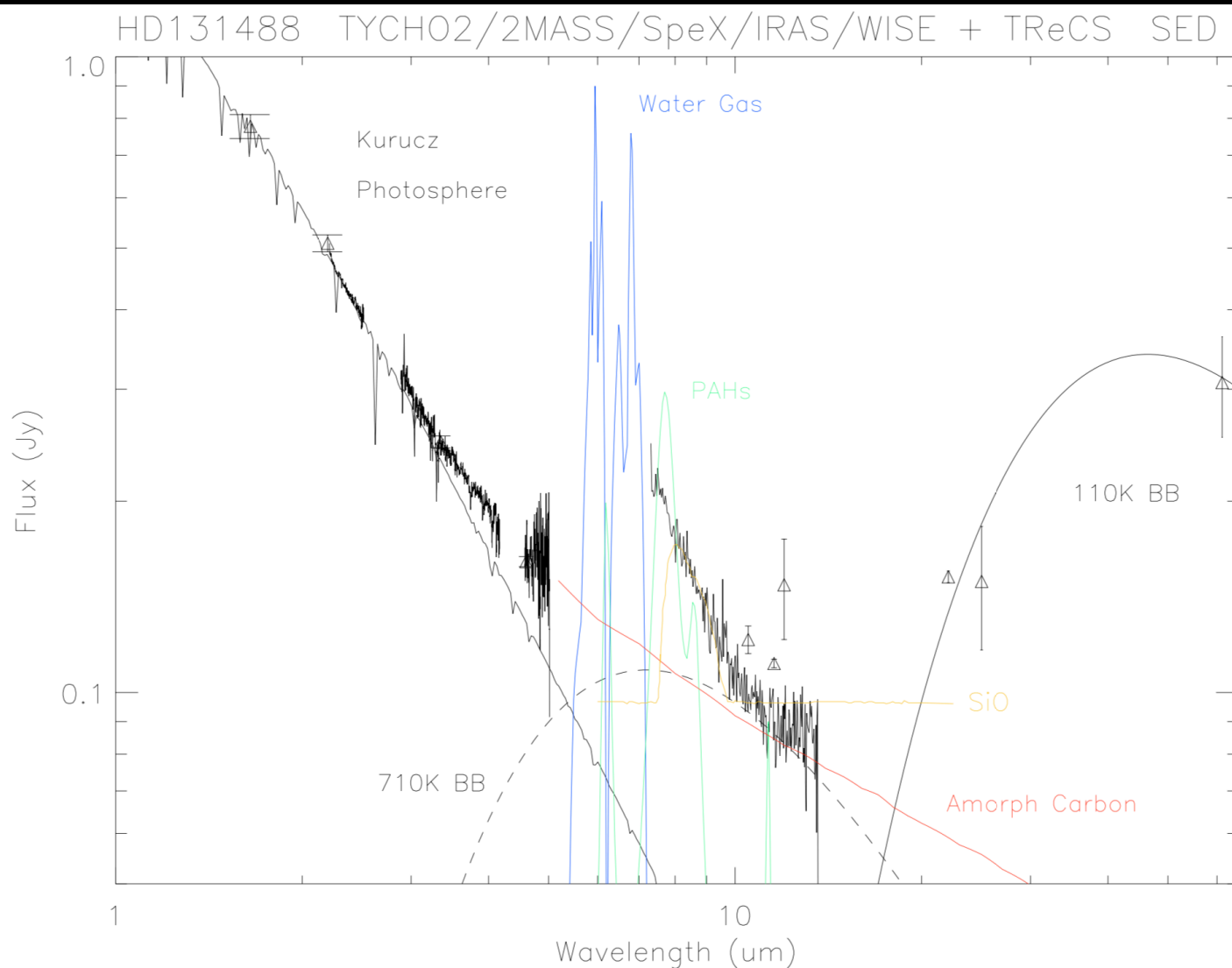


Figure 4: An alternative model to explain the unusual mid-infrared spectral feature seen in HD 131488 (and similarly HD 121191 and HD 36546) as described in Lisse et al. (2017) and Melis et al. (2013). In this model the dust is produced by dynamically hot comet-like bodies colliding

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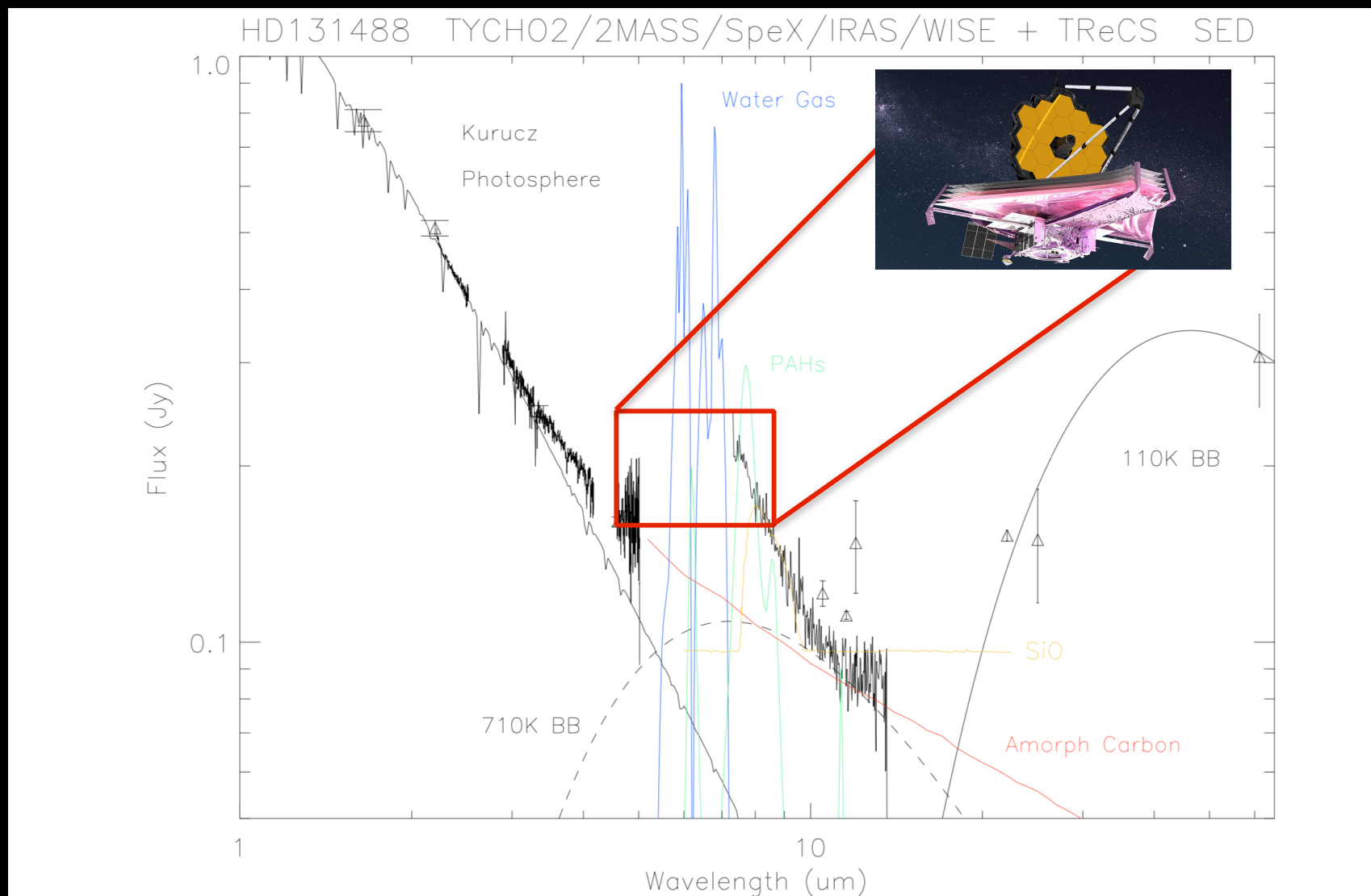


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Alien Dust: ...or something truly strange?

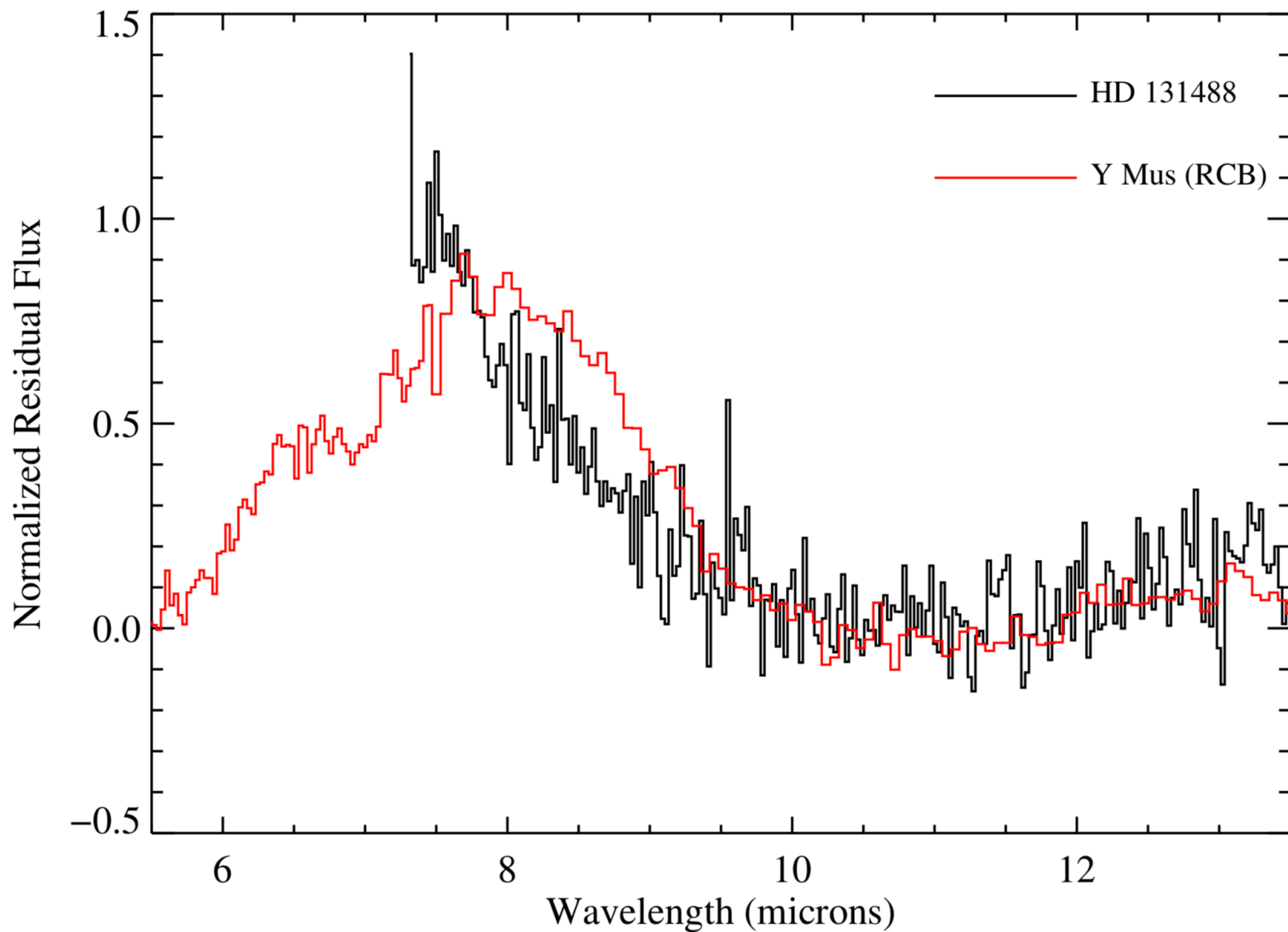
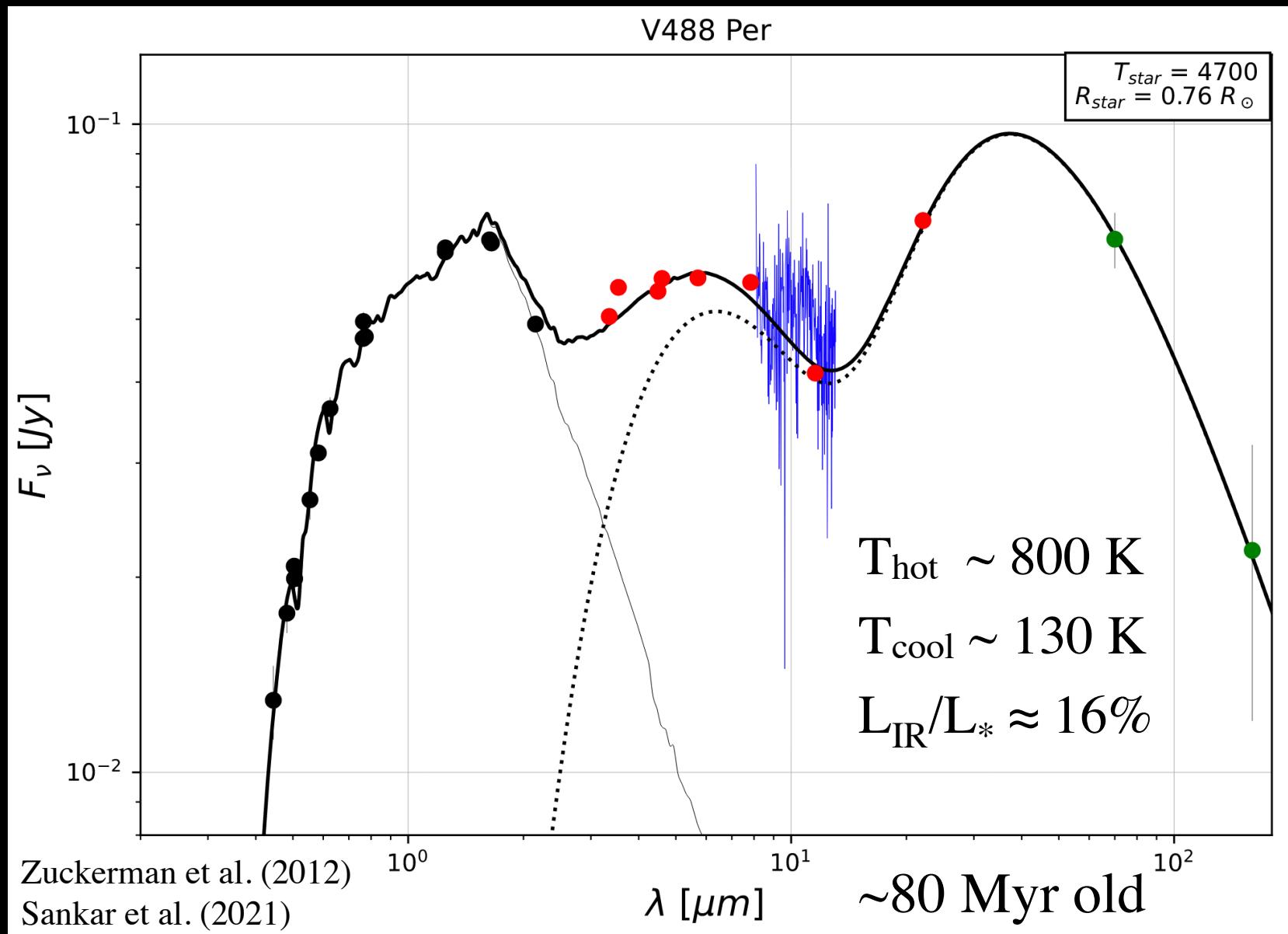
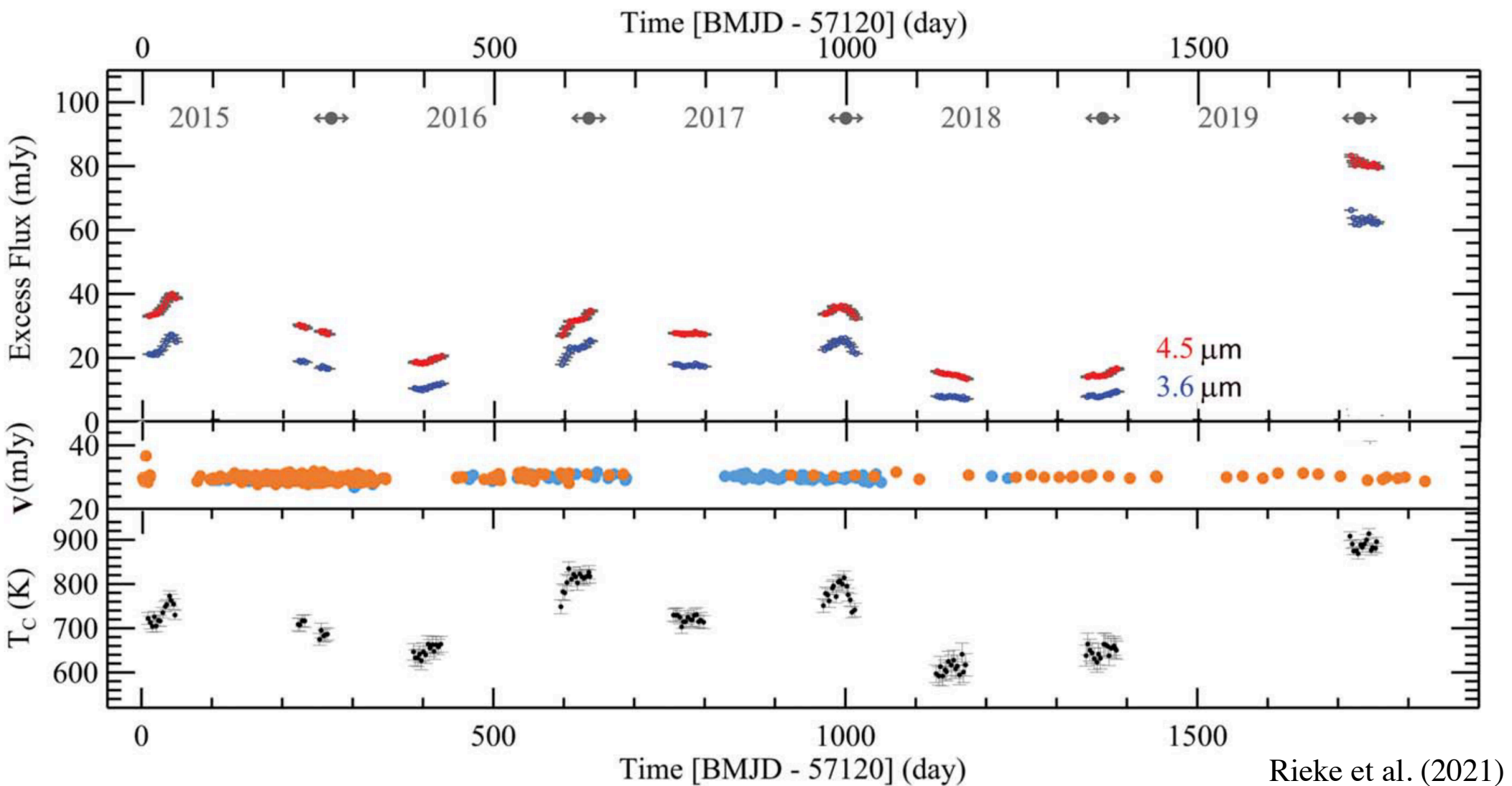


Figure 3: Mid-infrared spectra for HD 131488 and the RCB star Y Mus (García-Hernández et al. 2011ab, 2013). Dust and stellar continuum emission are subtracted from each spectrum, then the

The dustiest main sequence star known

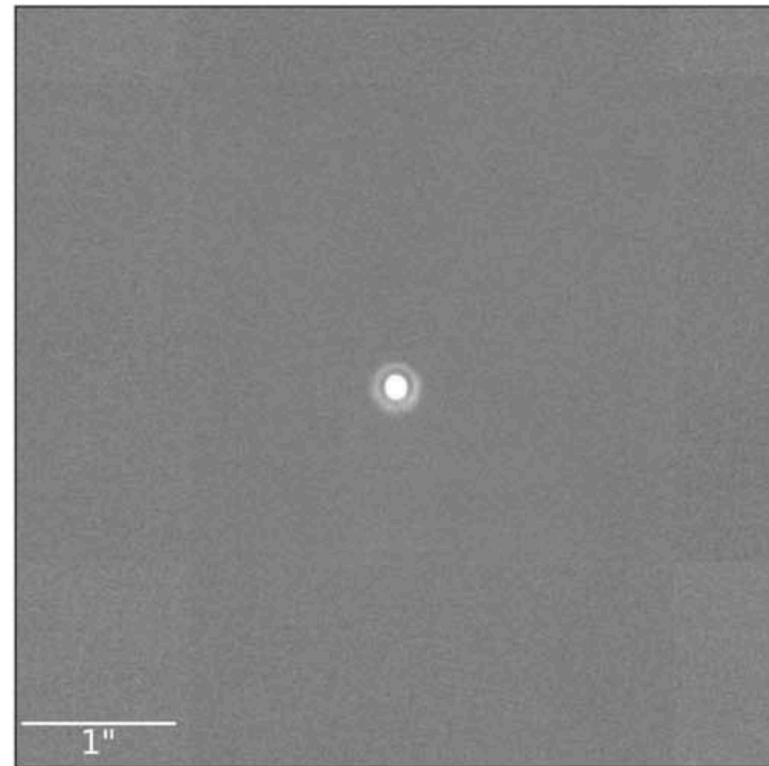
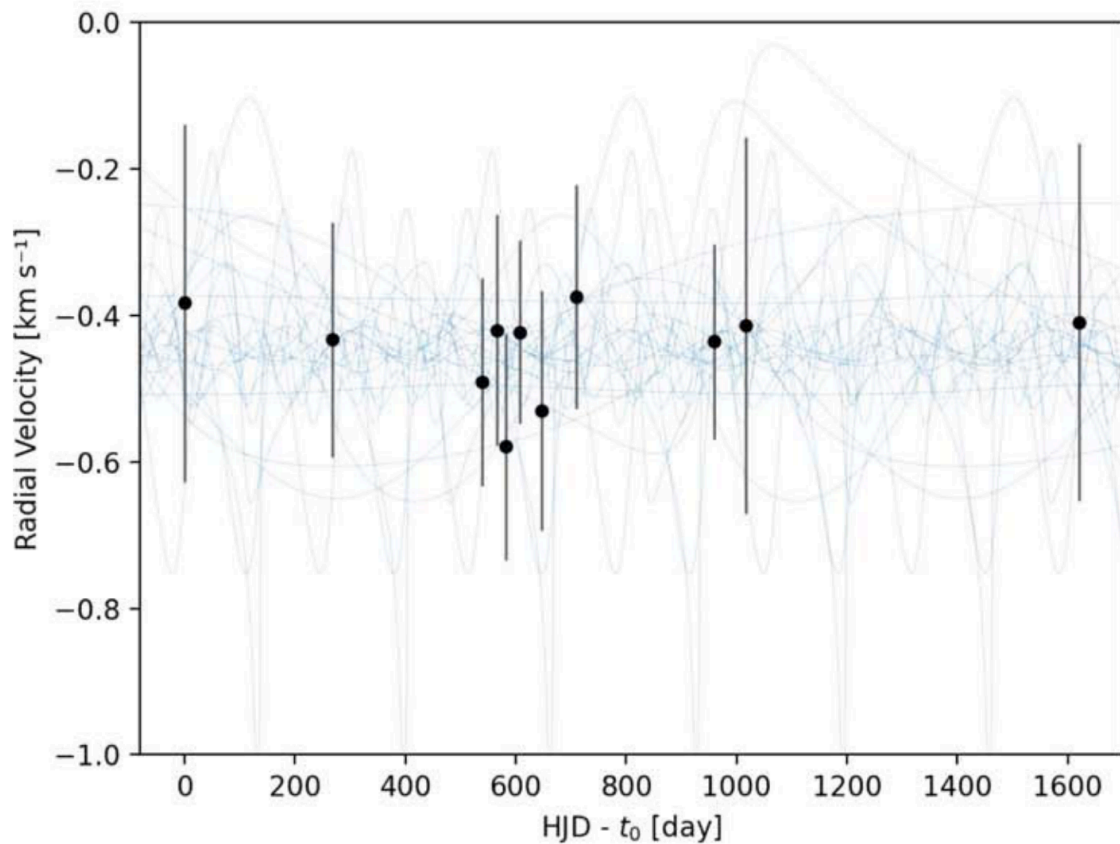


V488 Per: also variable in the IR



V488 Per: why so dusty? and variable?

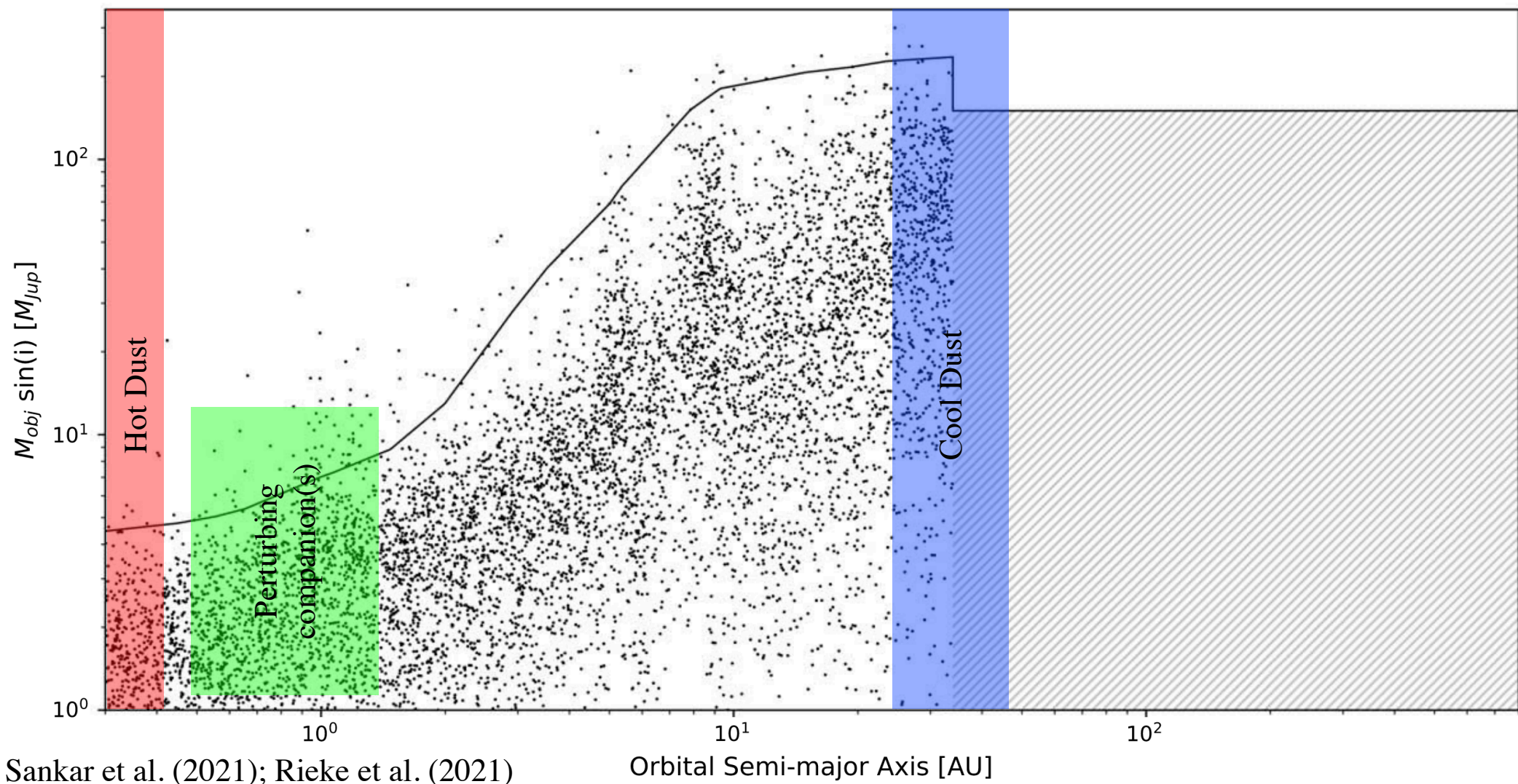
Is it a companion stirring an asteroid belt?



Sankar et al. (2021)

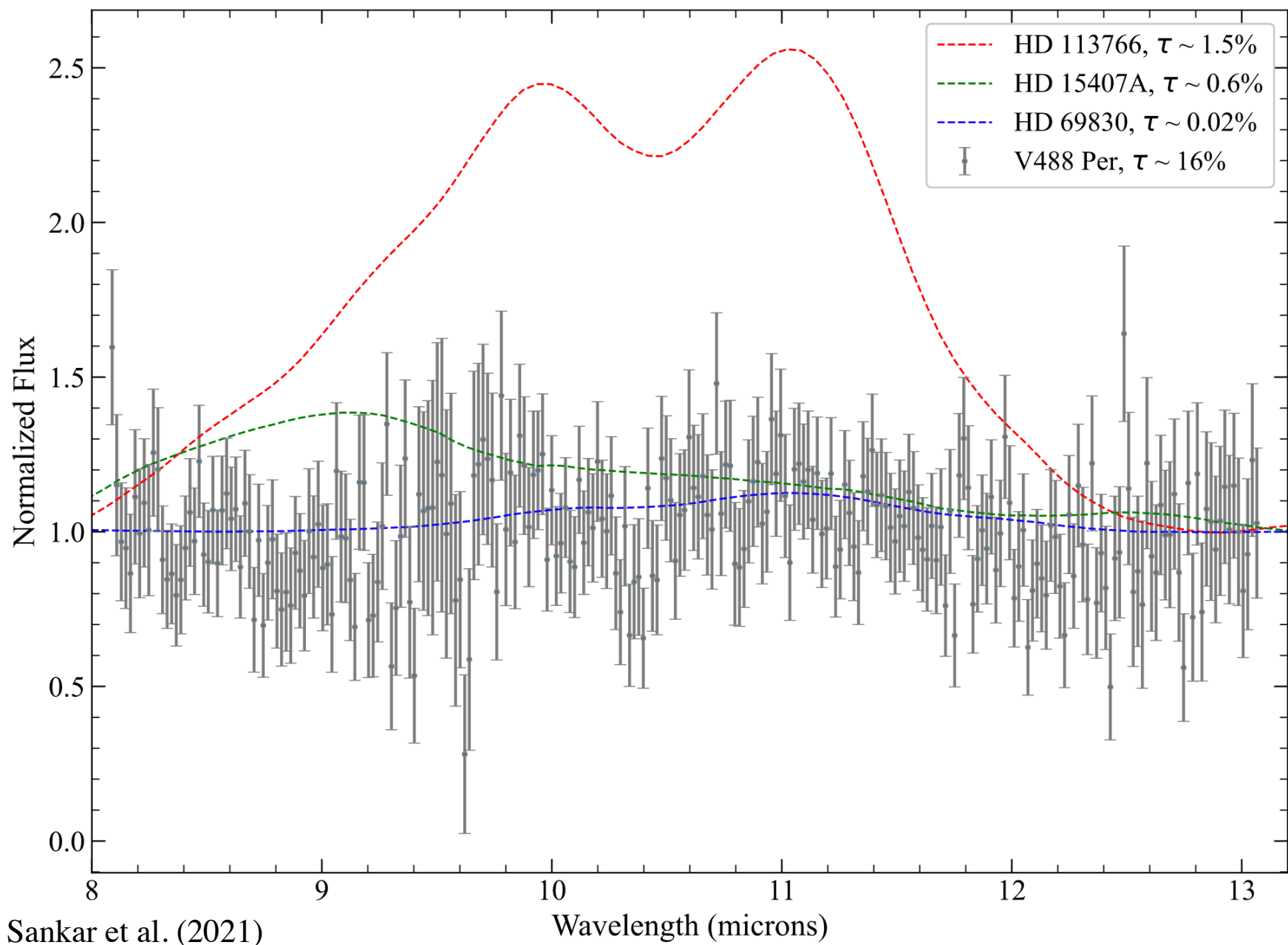
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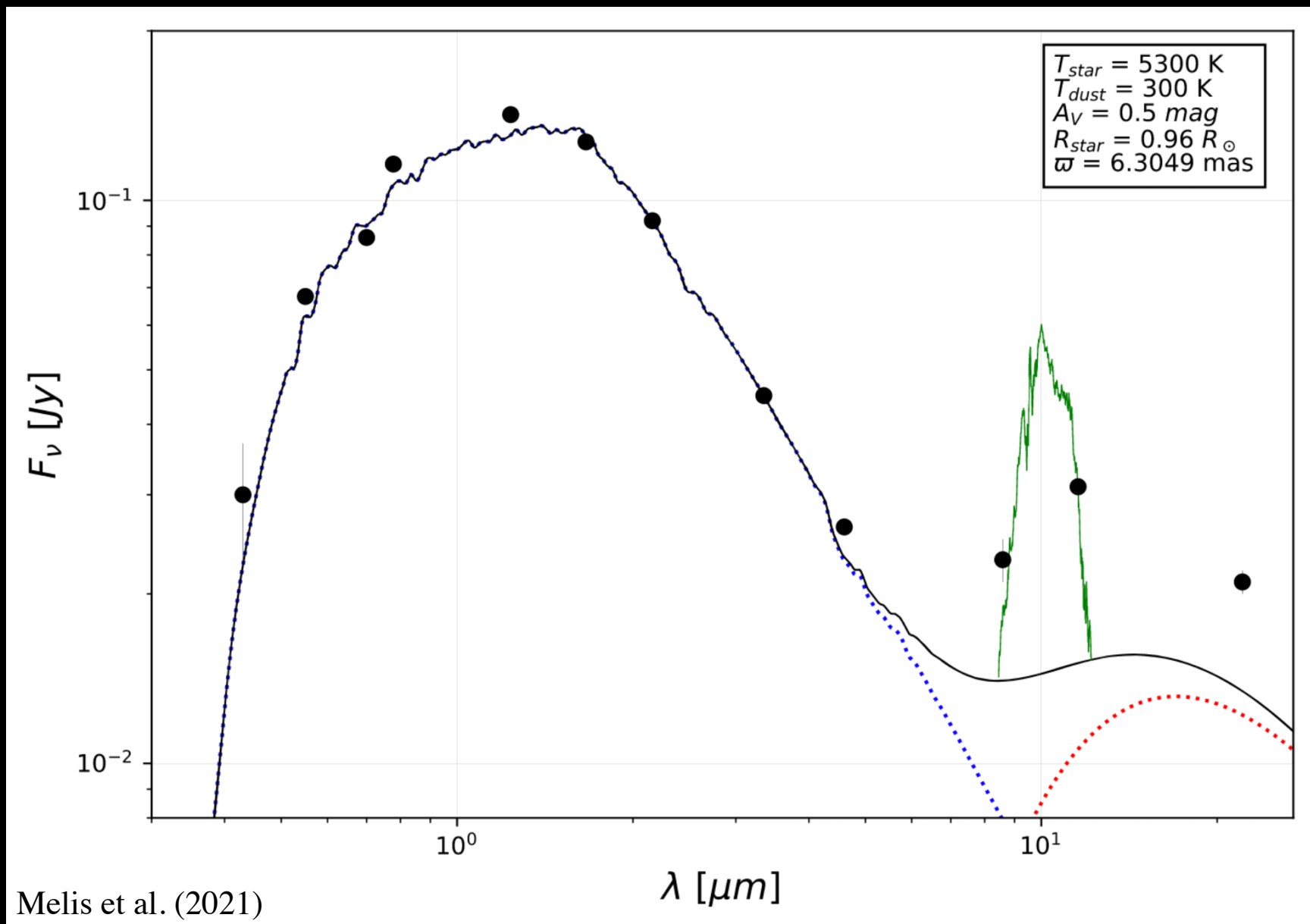


Sankar et al. (2021); Rieke et al. (2021)

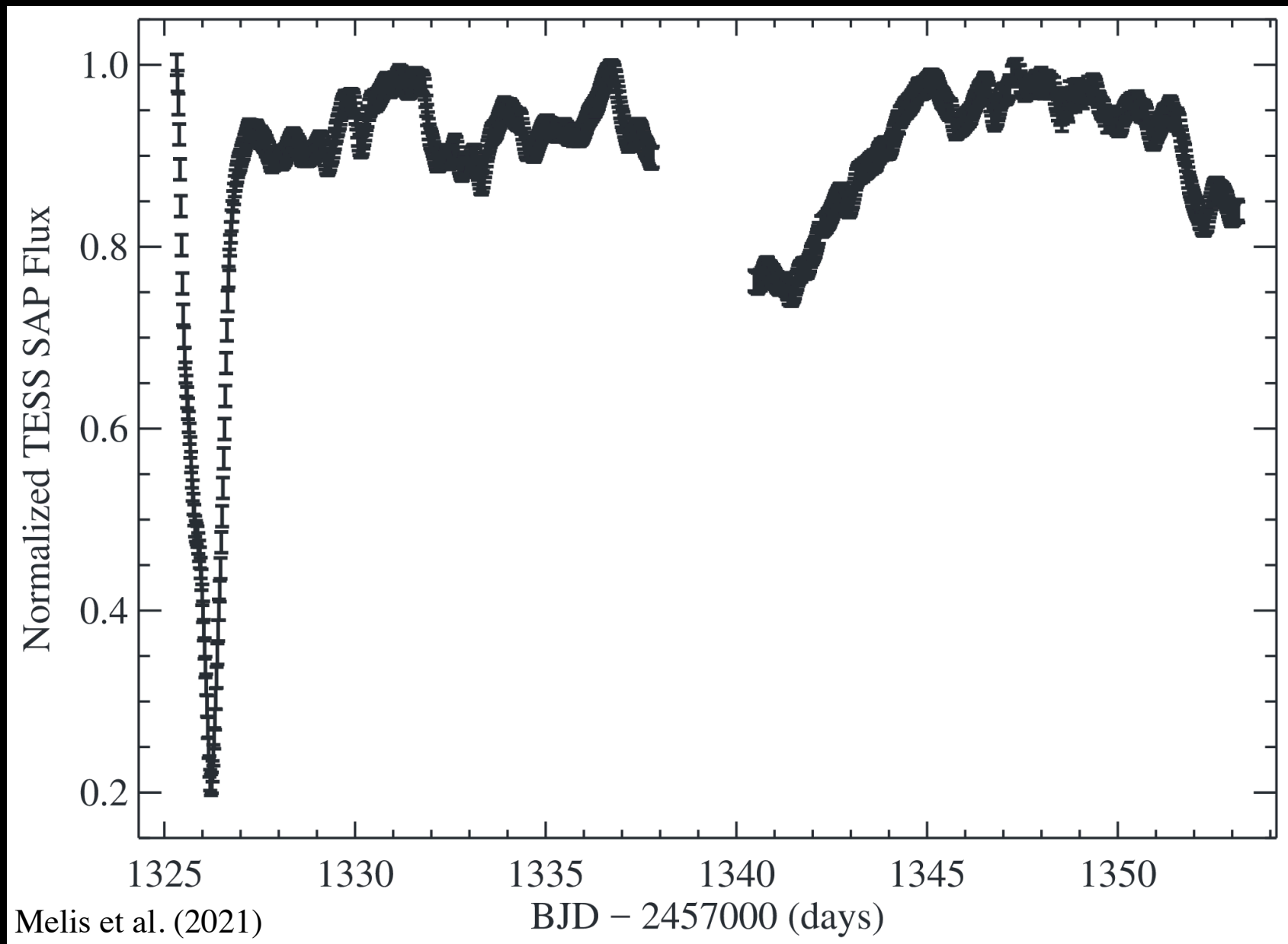
V488 Per: but no mid-IR spectral feature?



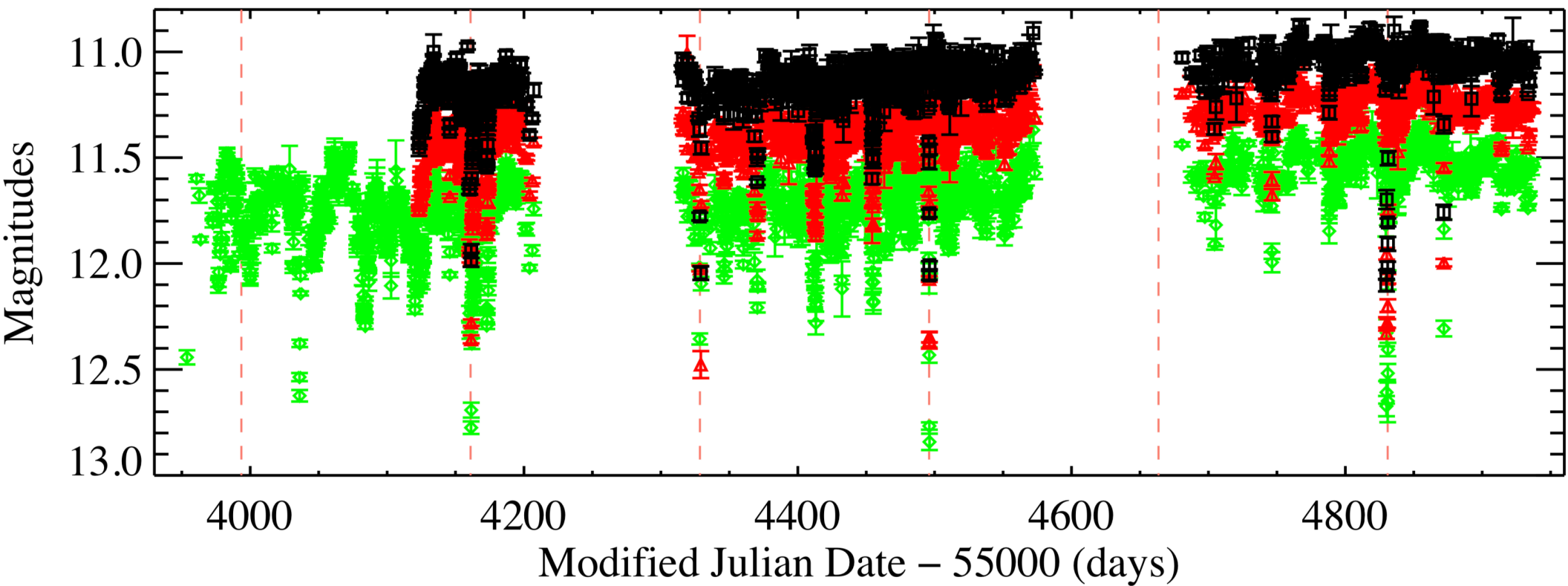
TYC 8830 410 1: dusty



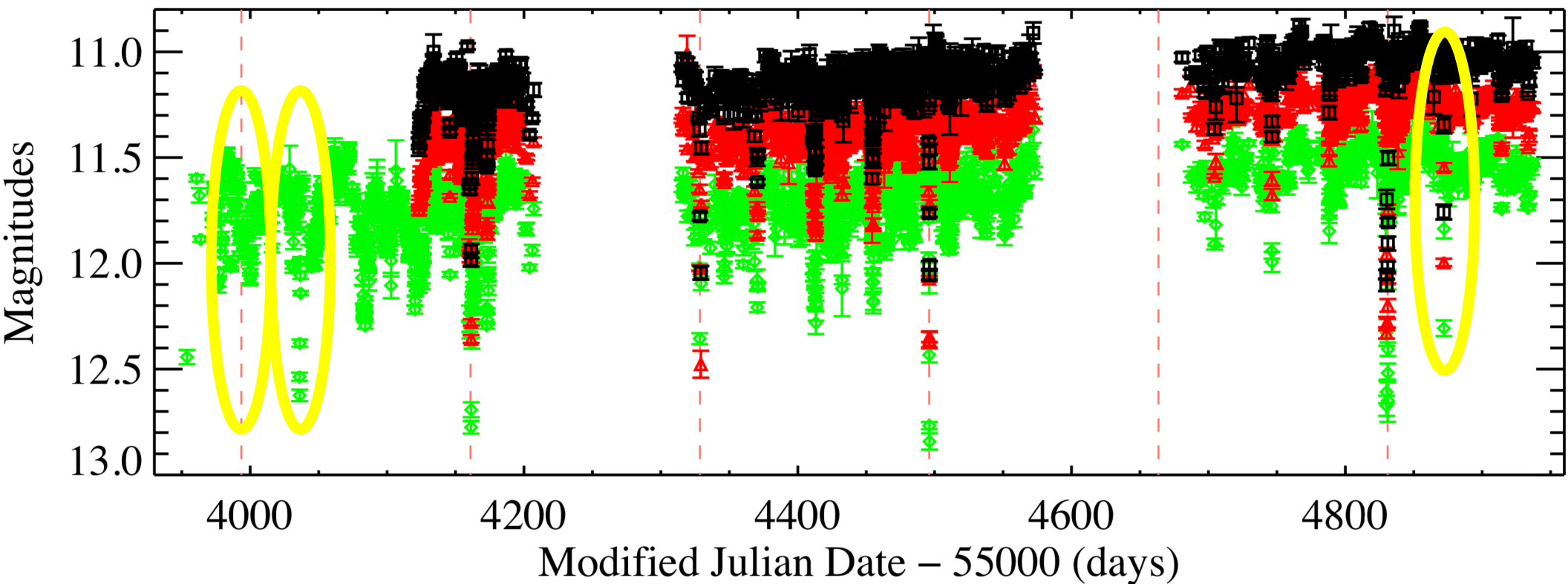
TYC 8830 410 1: dusty dipper



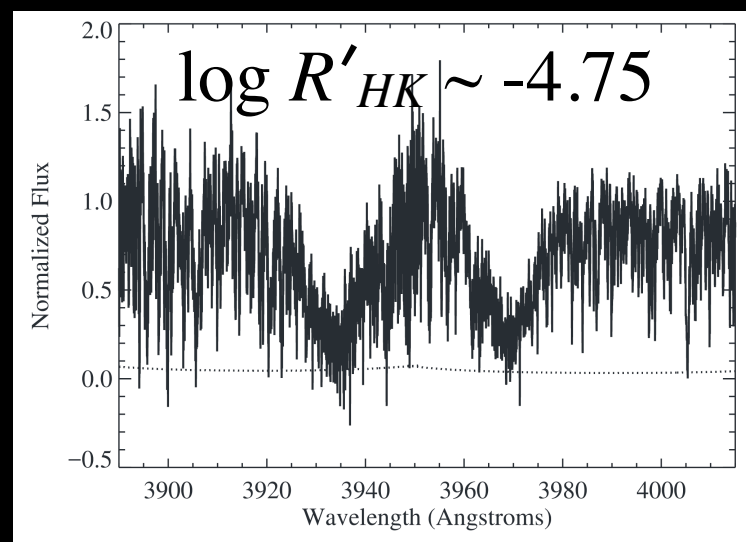
TYC 8830 410 1: dusty dipper



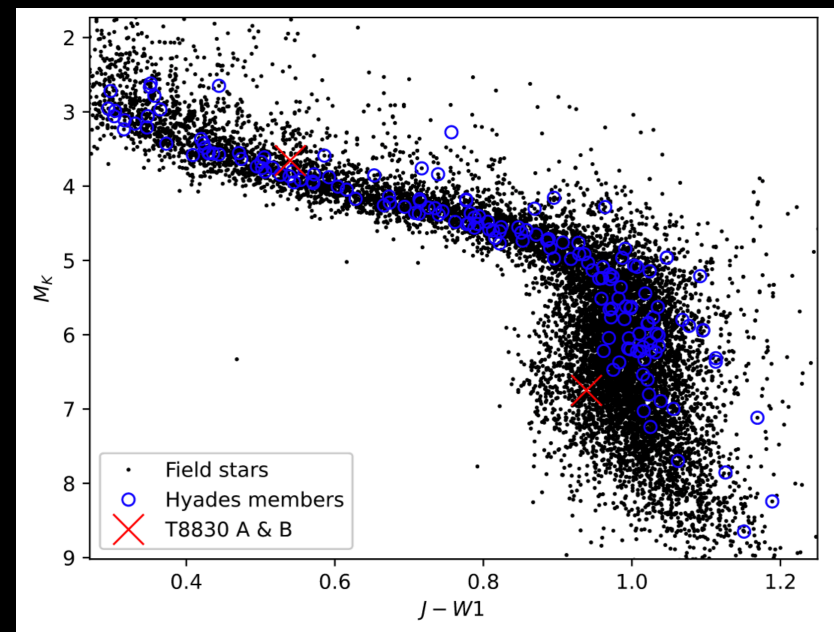
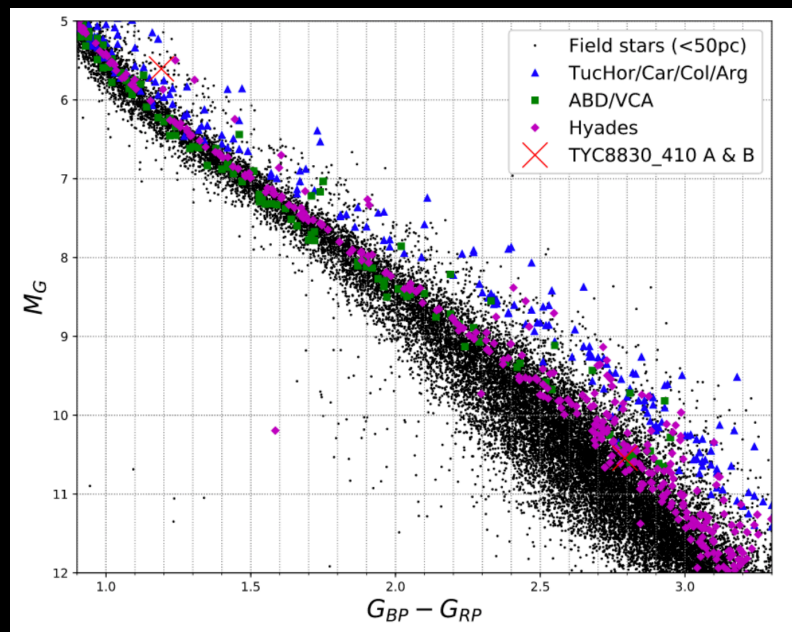
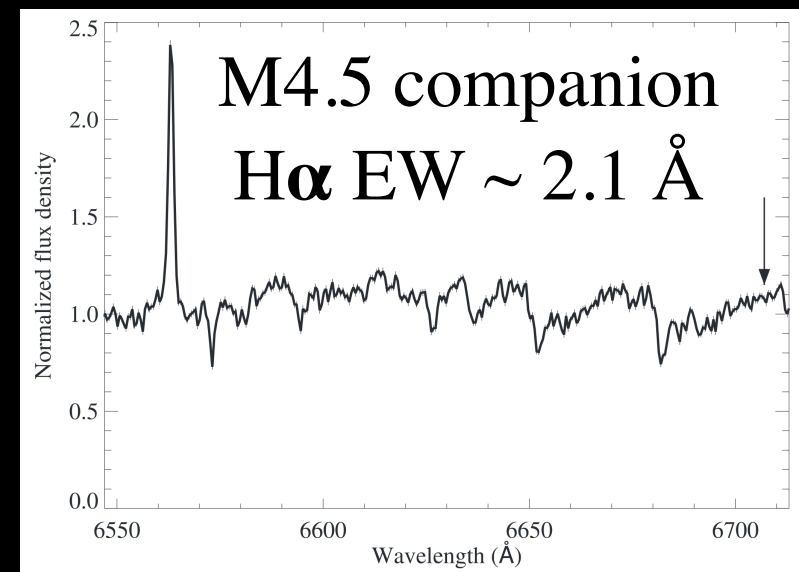
TYC 8830 410 1: dusty dipper



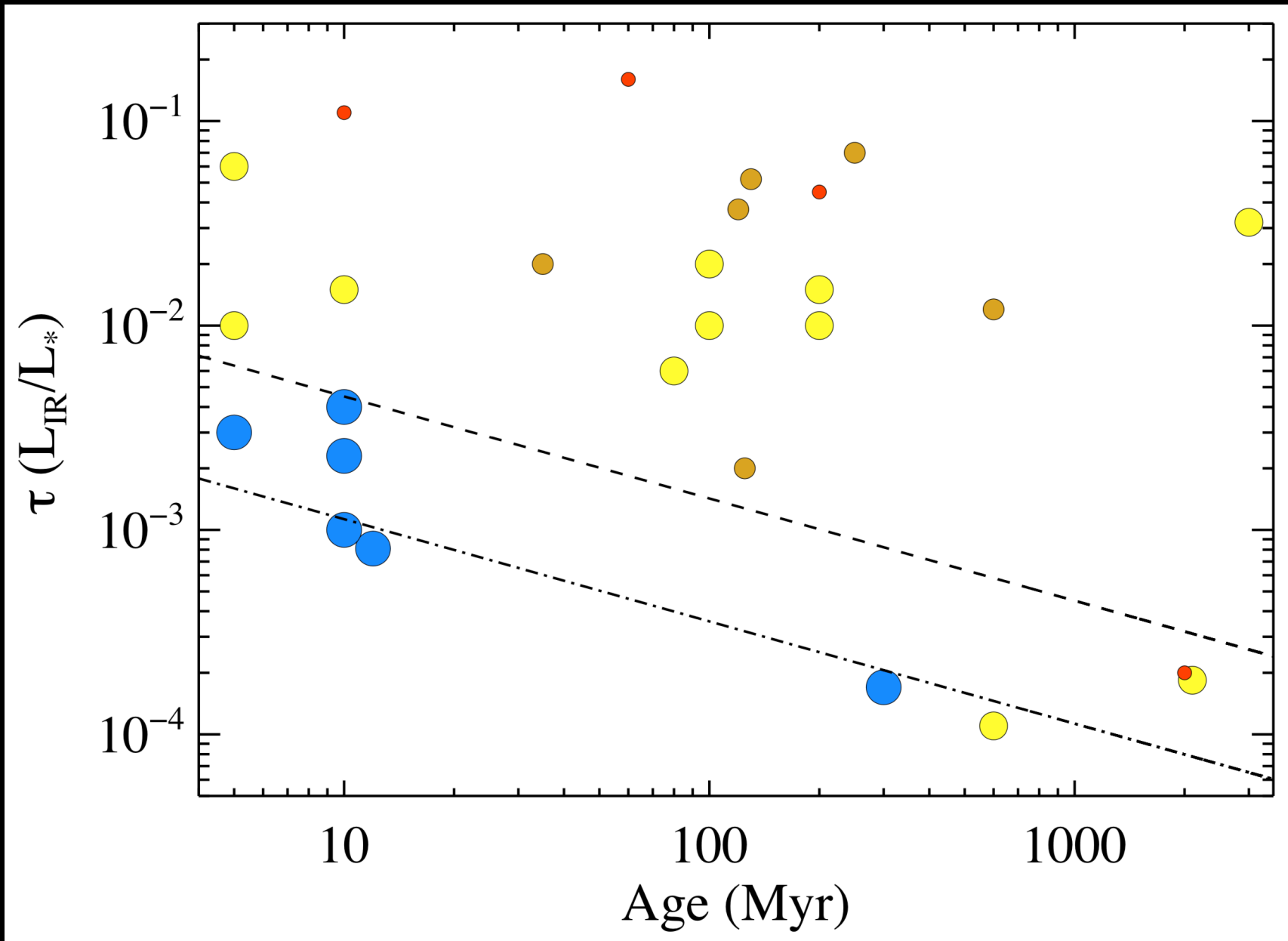
TYC 8830 410 1: dusty old dipper



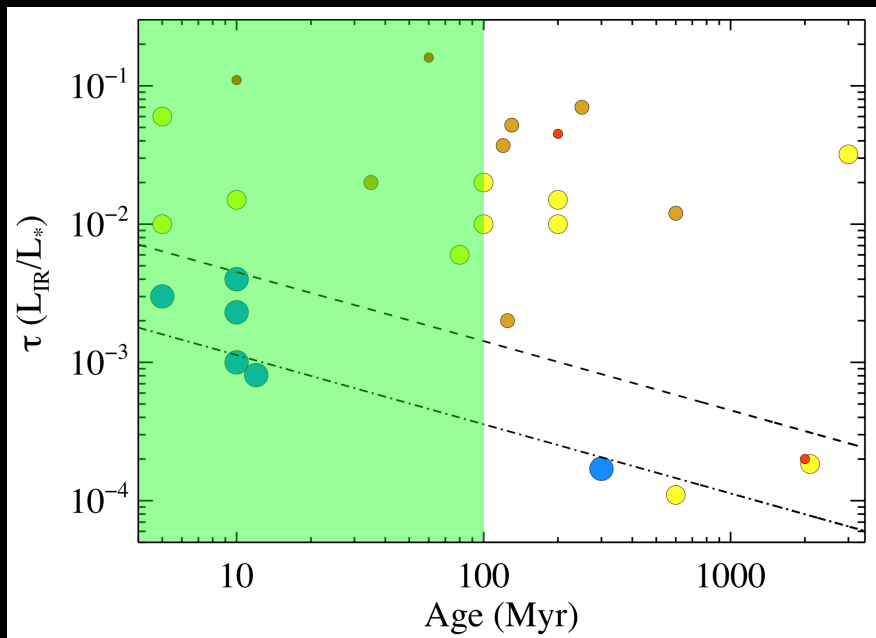
300-600 Myr old!



The Dustiest Main Sequence Stars



Youngins: planet formation?



Giant-impact formation events should occur at ages $< \sim 100$ Myr (Hartmann & Davis 1975; Genda et al. 2015; Levison et al. 2015).

- $\sim 0.5\%$ of FGK stars in the 10-100 Myr age range have extreme quantities of warm dust (Balog et al. 2009; Melis et al. 2010).
- But there should be ~ 1 Earth-like planet for every FGK star! (Petigura & Marcy 2013; Burke et al. 2015).

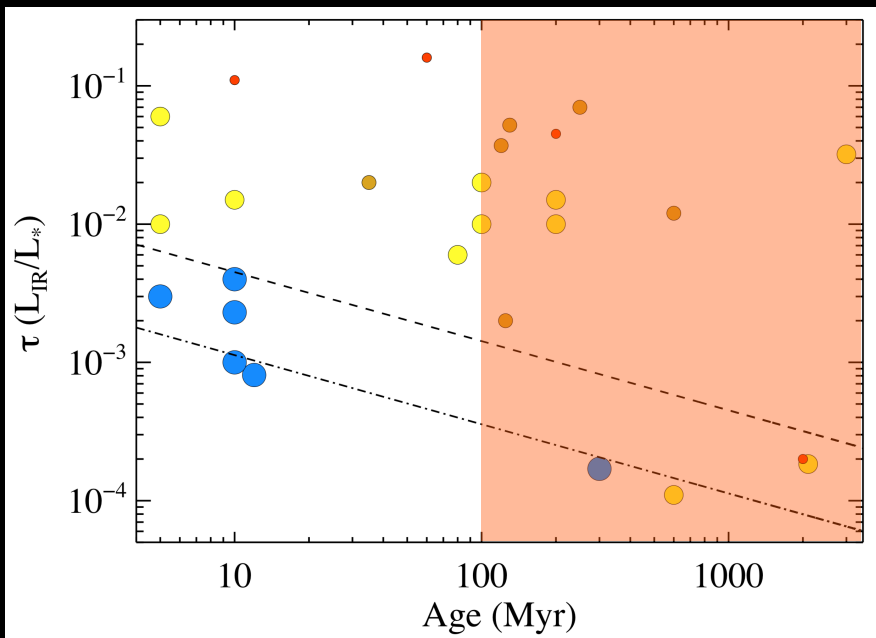
Where are all the dusty stars?

Perhaps some process acts to remove dust effectively (Najita, Kenyon, et al.).

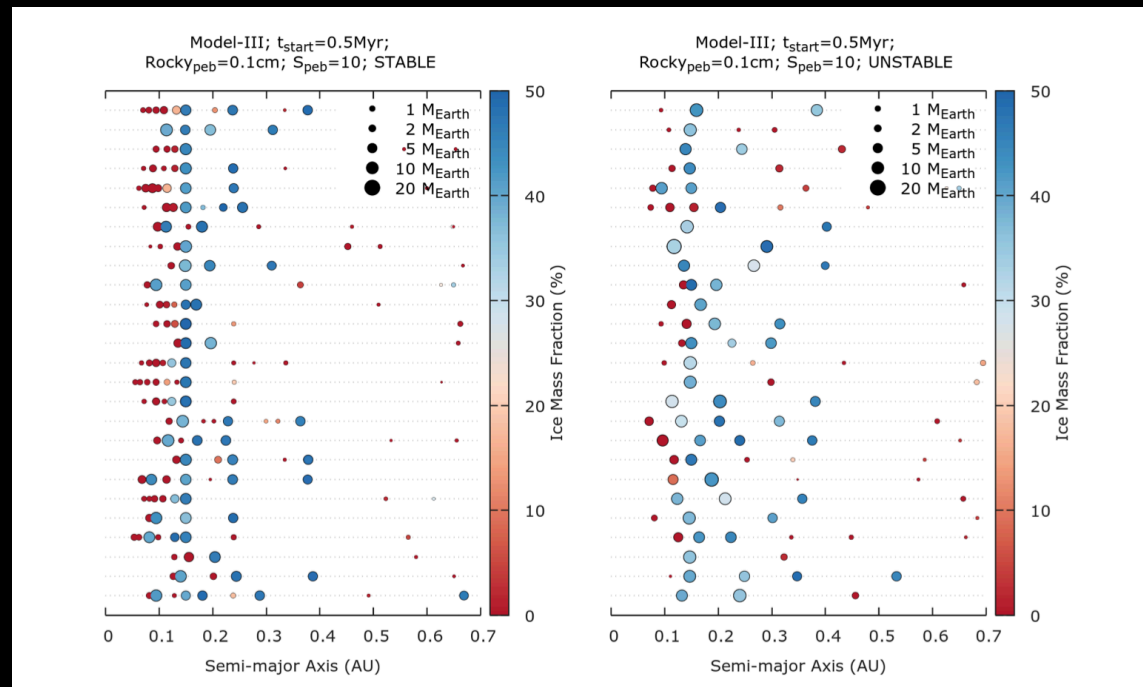


Gemini Observatory/Lynette Cook

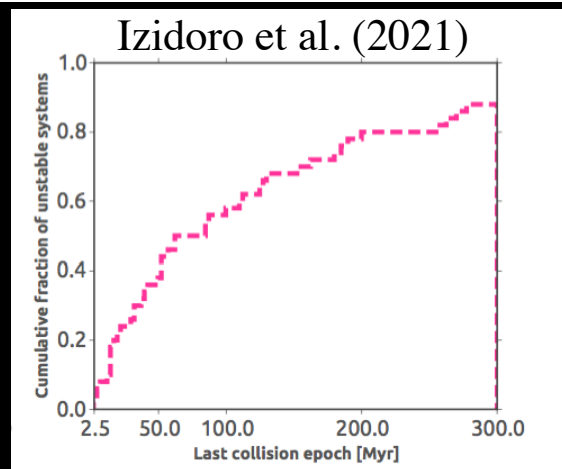
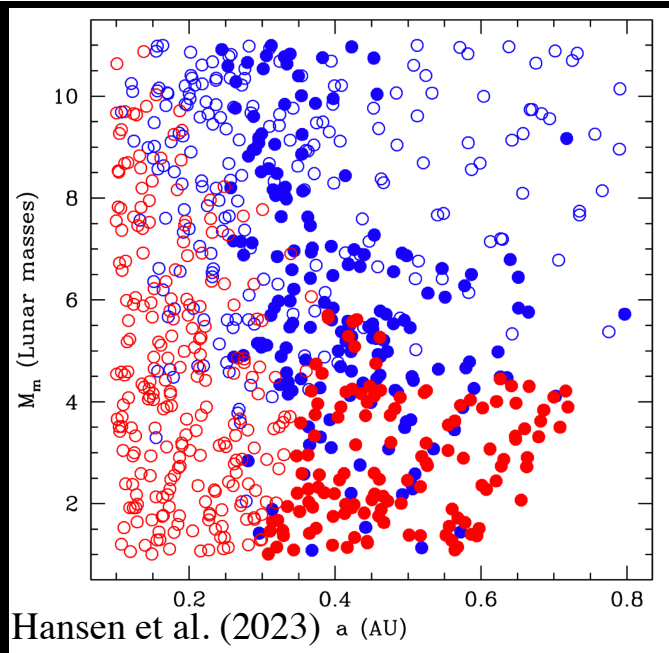
Older and old: instabilities?



Tight-packed inner planetary systems



Exomoons



Conclusions

The background of the slide is a detailed illustration of a protoplanetary disk. A bright, glowing central star is partially visible on the left, illuminating the surrounding disk of gas and dust. The disk shows concentric rings and a bright edge. In the foreground, several large, dark, rocky bodies of various sizes are scattered across the scene, some appearing to be in motion or orbiting. The overall color palette is dominated by warm, golden-brown and blue tones, with a starry field of distant stars in the background.

- Strong evidence for violent processes that produce copious amounts of dust around other stars.
- More observations and theoretical work are necessary to robustly attach events occurring around main sequence stars to a specific phase of planetary system formation or evolution.