Beyond Water: Far-IR Observations of Planet Formation



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H₂O Ice Phonon Modes

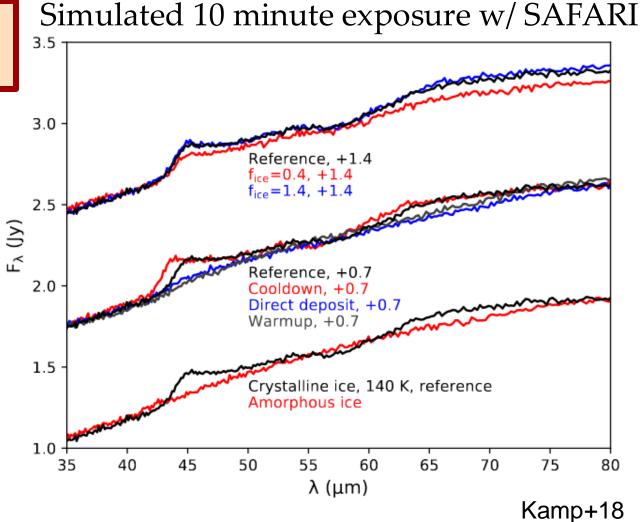
"How Are Potentially Habitable Environments Formed?" – Decadal E-Q3a

- Mid-IR ice features only probe surface (Sturm+23d)
 - Difficult to constrain abundance
- Lower optical depth in far-IR → Tracing bulk ice content
- Far-IR features in emission
 - Not dependent on viewing angle!

Wavelengths: 45 µm 63 µm

R: ~300

Sensitivity: ~0.3 mJy

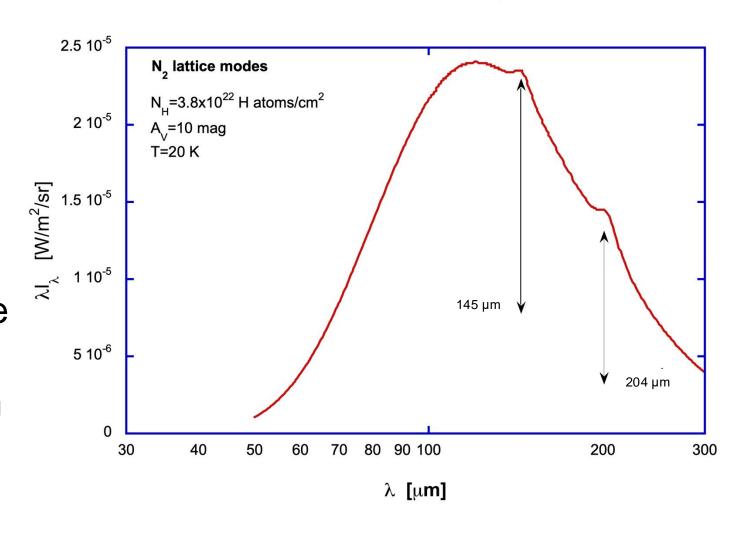


N₂ Ice Phonon Modes

- Nitrogen largely unconstrained in disks
 - Likely in N₂ or NH₃
 (Schwarz & Bergin 14,
 Krijt+23)
- FIR only way access to N₂ ice

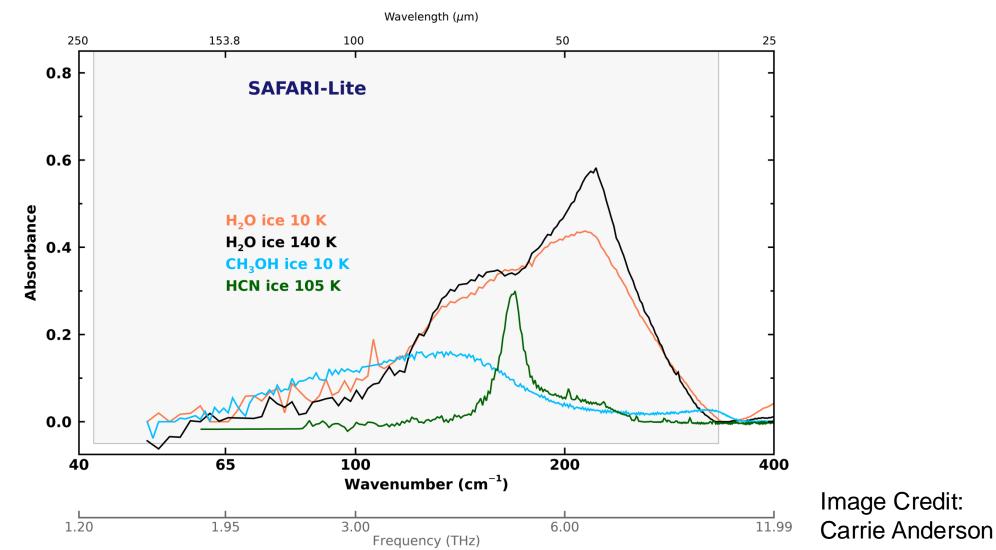
Wavelengths: 145 µm 204 µm

Sensitivity: 1% wrt continuum



Measuring C, O, N, S in ices

H₂O, HCN, NH₃, N₂, H₂S, CO, CO₂, CH₃OH, H₂CO



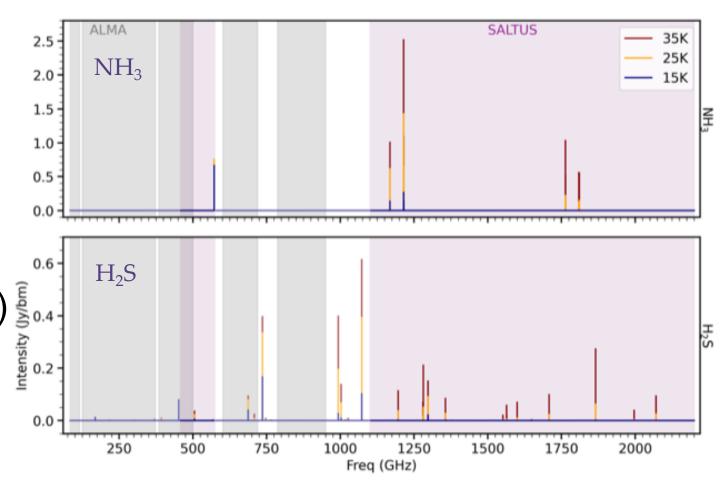
Measuring Major O, N, S Carriers in Gas Disks

- Major volatiles: CHONS
 - Important for habitability
- Only 1 detection of NH₃ gas in an outer disk (Salinas+16)
- O, N, & S distribution largely unknown
- Major carriers (H₂O, H₂S, NH₃) $\frac{1}{2}$ require THz instrument to observe

Wavelengths: 170 – 524 µm

 $R: \sim 10^5$

Sensitivity: 45 mJy



Organics in Protostellar Cores

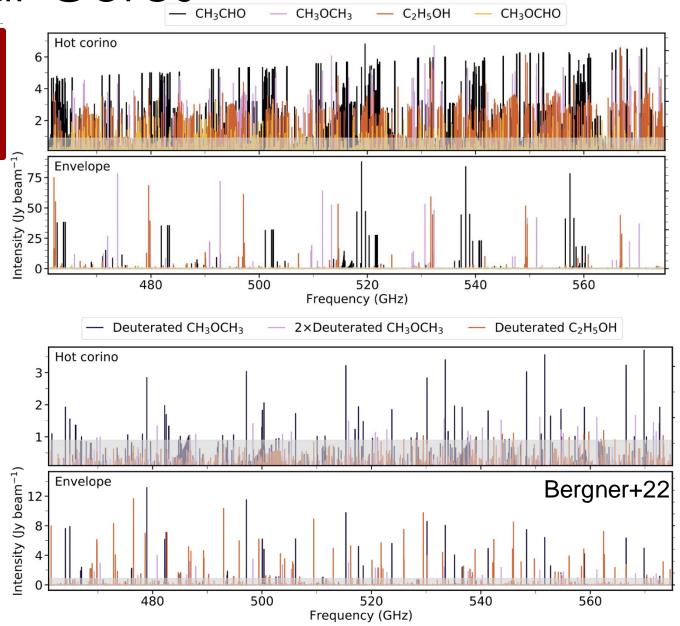
"What generates the observed chemical complexity of molecular gas?" – Decadal F-Q2c

- Emission from sublimated ices
- Isotopologue abundance traces formation
- Previous surveys suffer from beam dilution or resolve out emission

Wavelengths: 450-570 µm

 $R: \sim 10^5$

Sensitivity: 0.5 Jy



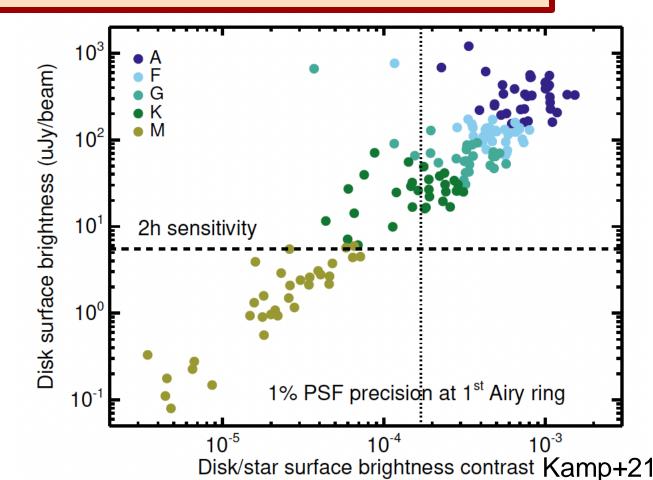
Deep Integrations on Debris Disks

"How Does the Distribution of Dust and Small Bodies in Mature Systems Connect to the Current and Past Dynamical States Within Planetary Systems?" –Decadal E-Q1d

- Emission from exo-Kuiper Belt peaks in FIR
 - No current detections
- Constrain frequency of exo-Kuiper Belts

Wavelength: 30-70 µm

Sensitivity: 22 µJy/beam



FIR Observations of Disks: more than just H₂O!

Observable	Wavelength (µm)	Frequency (THz)	R	Sensitivity
H ₂ O Ice	45 & 63	4.7 & 6.6	300	0.3 mJy
N ₂ Ice	145 & 204	1.47 & 2.0	300	1% wrt continuum
NH₃ Gas	107-524+	0.57-2.8	10 ⁵	45 mJy
Protostar Organics	520-650	0.45-0.57	10 ⁵	0.1 Jy
Exo-Kuiper Belts	30-70	4.3-10		22 µJy/beam