# Signatures of Planets in Circumstellar Debris Disks

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# Outline

**Introduction**: 🔆 What is a debris disk? How its structure is created? What can it tell us about massive planets? What can we do with Spitzer: ...and what we cannot do: SEDs are degenerated We need SAFIR! We need high resolution imaging: - To interpret debris disk structure. We need high sensitivity observations: - To understand how debris disk are created (stochastic collisional events? or slow and constant grinding down of planetesimals?) - To study timescales and frequency of

terrestrial planet formation.

## Introduction

Many (>15%) MS stars are surrounded by debris disks: cold far-IR emitting dust (1-10M $_{\mathbb{C}}$ ) that reprocesses star light and emits at longer  $\lambda$ 's.

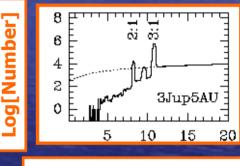
Debris disks are indirect evidence of planetary formation:

Dust is not primordial but must be "continuously" (?) replenished by a reservoir of undetected planetesimals (of unknown mass) producing dust by mutual collisions

## Do debris disks harbor massive planets?

To induce frequent mutual collisions the planetesimals' orbits must be dynamically perturbed by massive planetary bodies.

As dust particles spiral inward (due to PR drag), they can get trapped in Mean Motion Resonances with the planets. I.e. massive planets shepherds the dust grains in the disks.

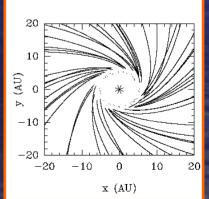


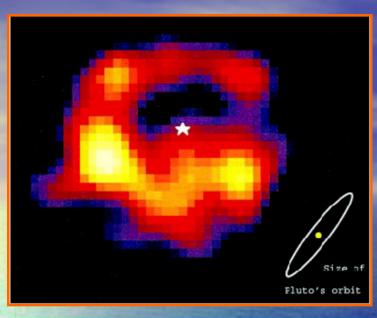
Semimajor Axis (AU)

Radial and azimuthal structure

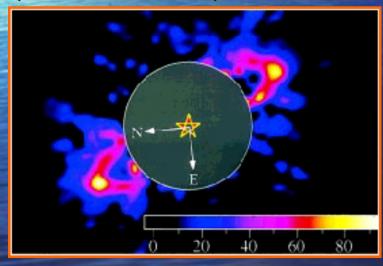
Massive planets may scatter and eject dust particles out of a planetary system

Gaps

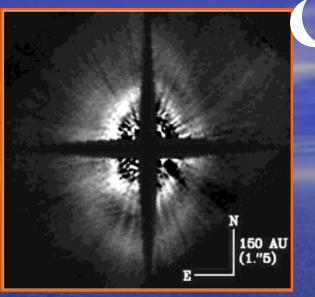




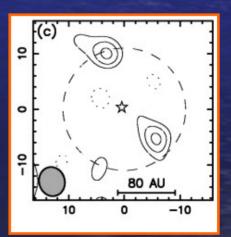
ε-Eri 850μm (emitted light) JCMT (Greaves et al. 1998)



HR4796A 1.6 µm (scattered light) NICMOS (Schneider et al. 99)



H141569 1.1µm (scattered light) NICMOS (Weinberger et al. 99)



Vega 1.3mm (emitted light) PdB (Wilner et al. 2002) Gaps and asymmetries observed in high-resolution observations suggest giant planets may be present.



Debris disk structure is sensitive to a wide range of semimajor axis (complementary to radial velocity and transit surveys).

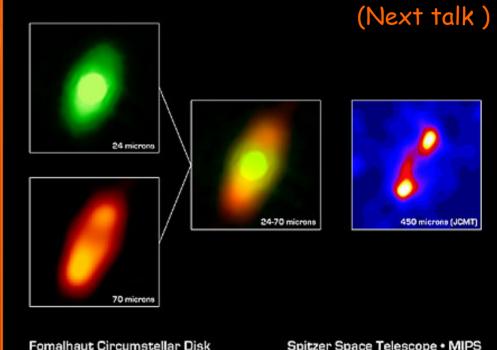
> We can learn about the diversity of planetary systems from the study of debris disks structure!

# What can we do with Spitzer?

Very few systems will be spatially resolved: in most cases we won't be able to look for planets by studying debris disk structure directly.

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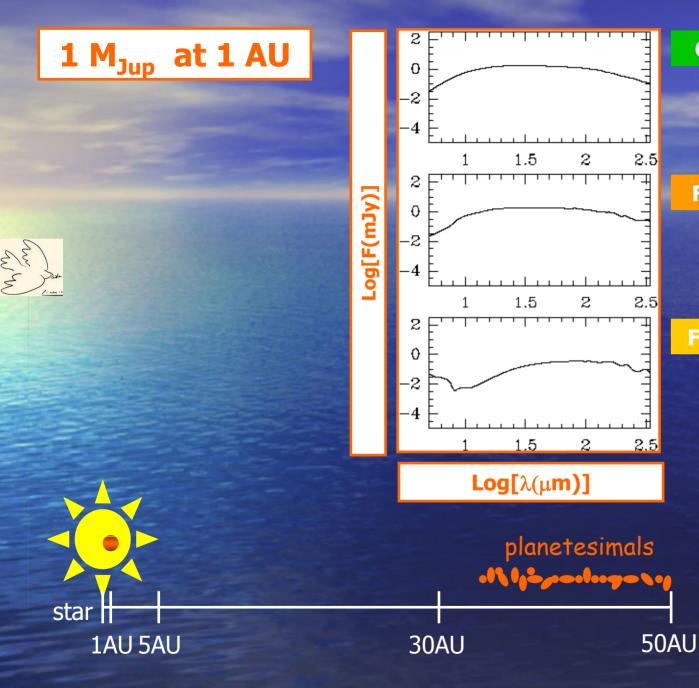
But the structure carved by the planets can affect the shape of the Spectral Energy Distribution (SED) of the disk



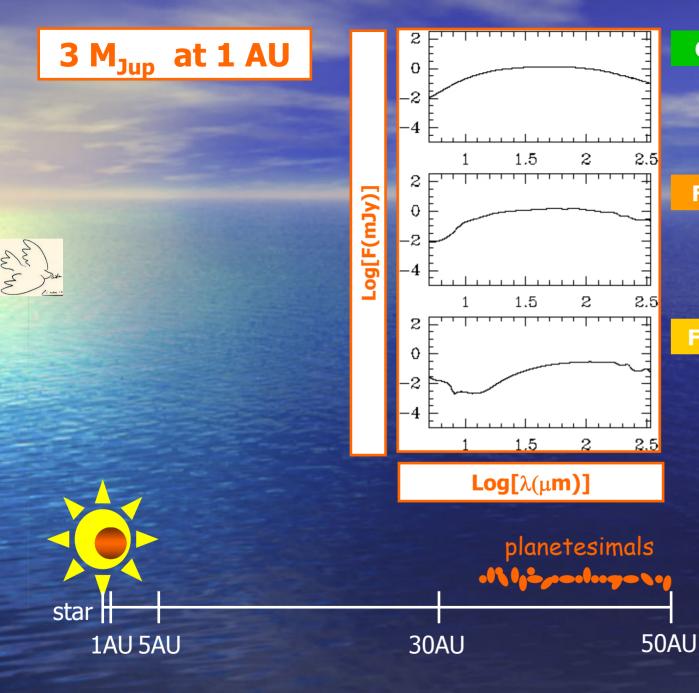
NASA / JPL-Caltech / K. Stapalfoldt (JPL)

Spitzer Space Telescope • MIPS 5062003-061

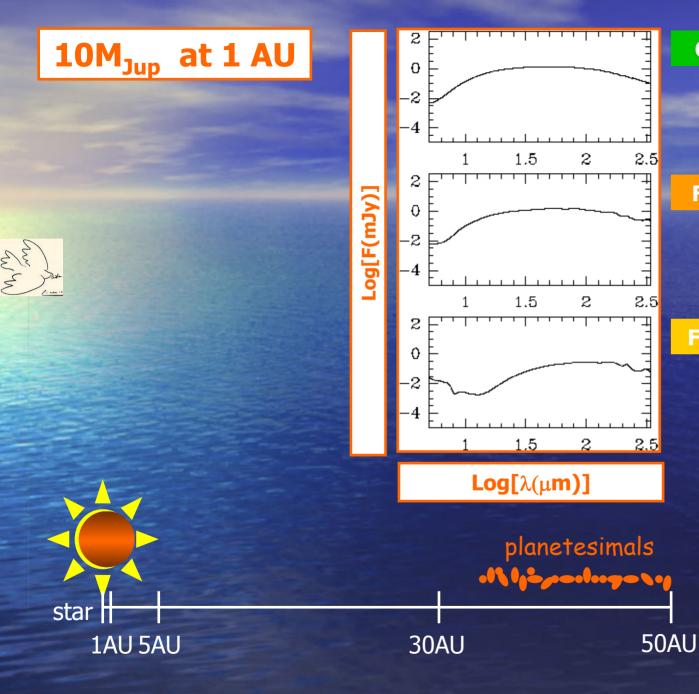
maybe we can study the debris disk structure indirectly (*FEPS*)



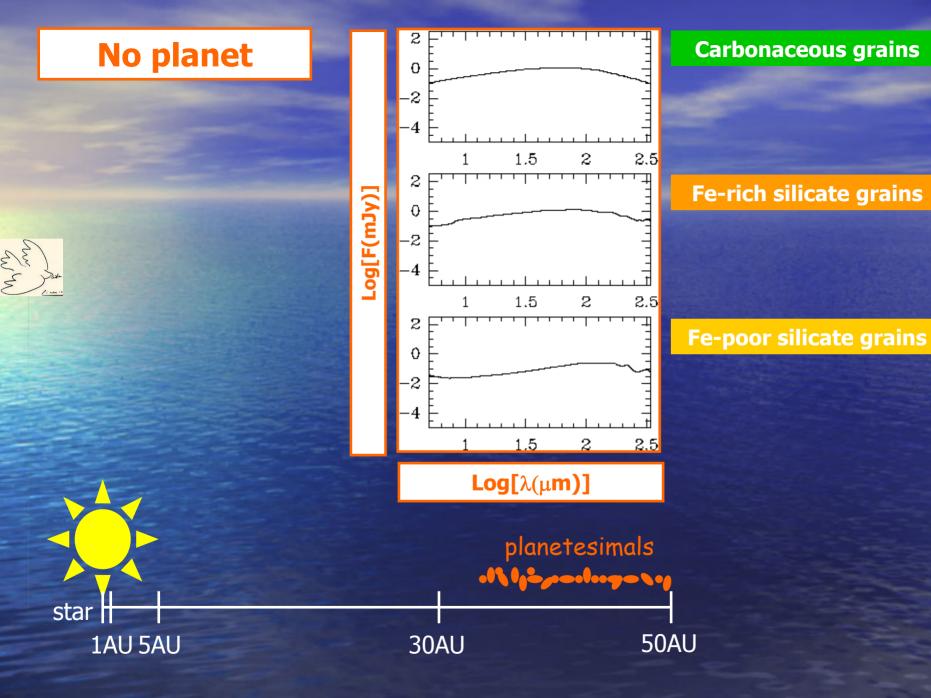
#### Fe-rich silicate grains



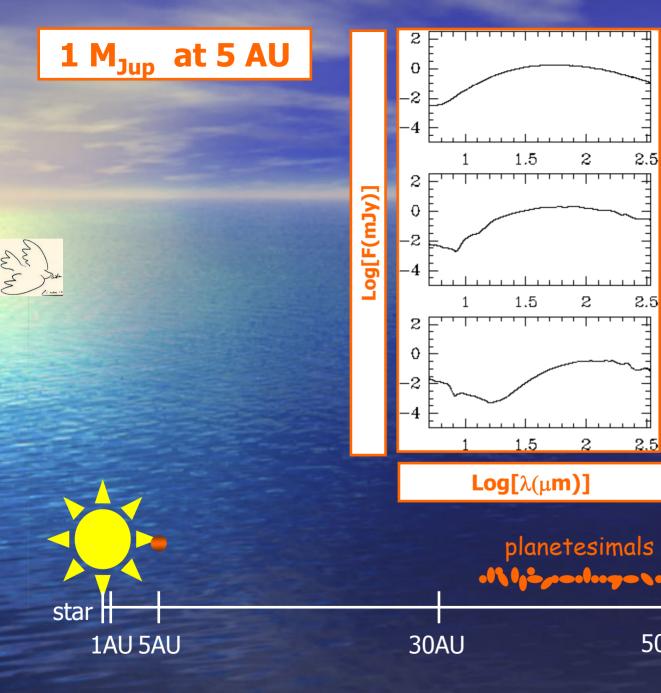
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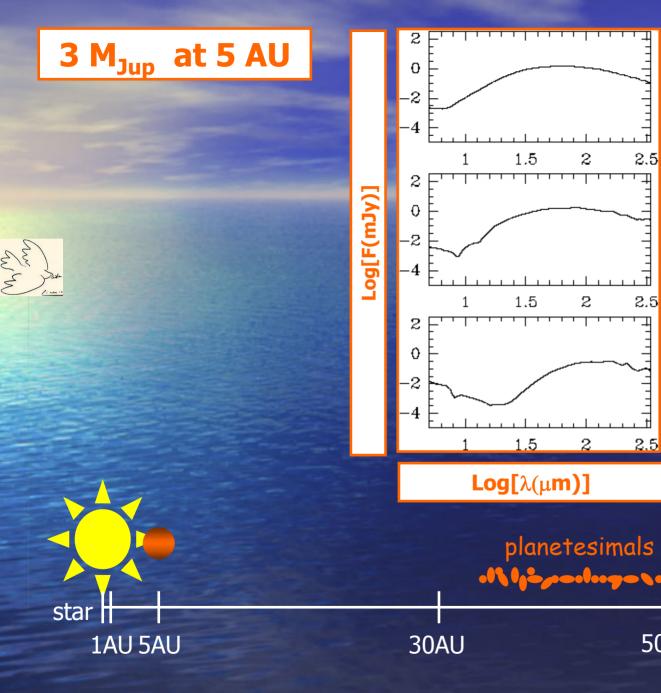


#### Fe-rich silicate grains

 $\square$ 

+

50AU



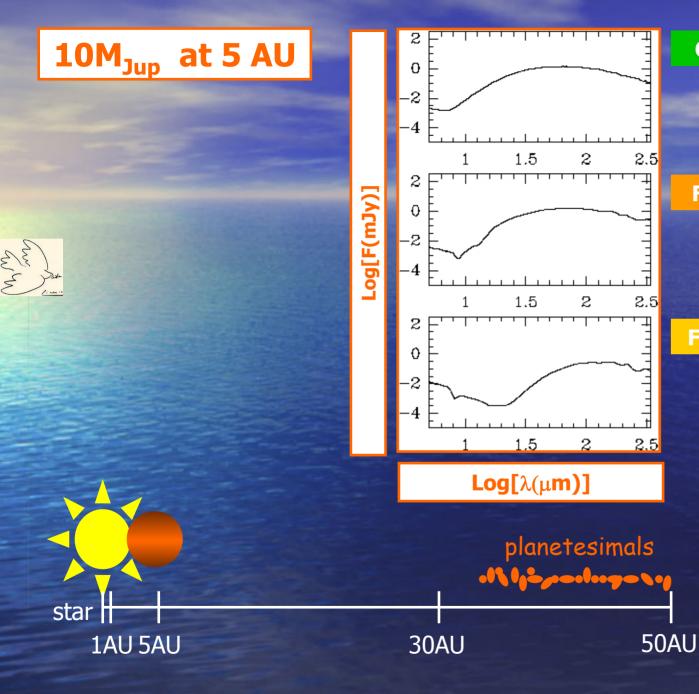
#### Fe-rich silicate grains

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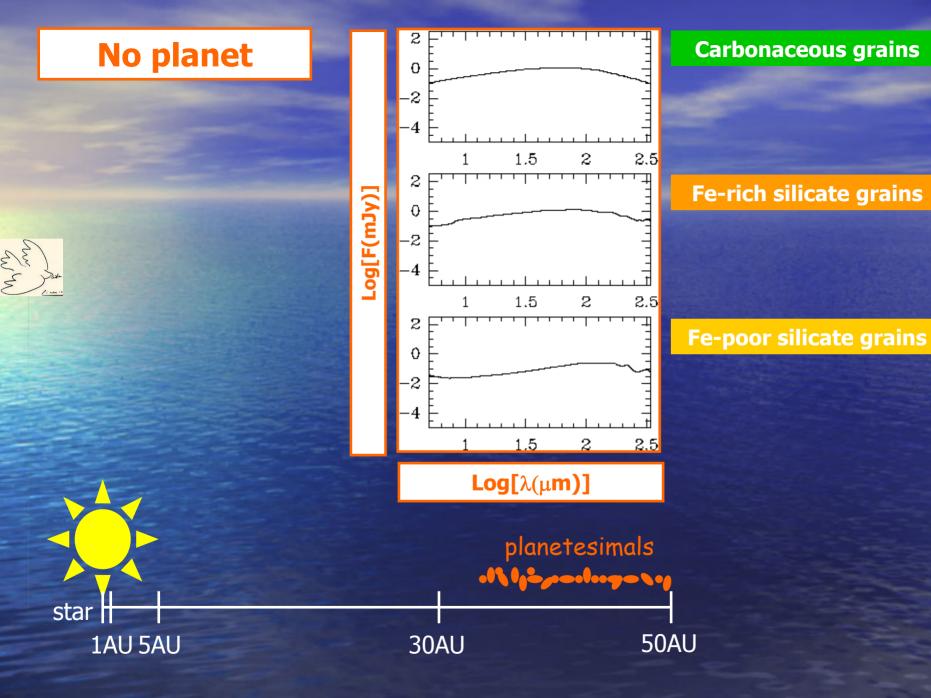
2.5

+

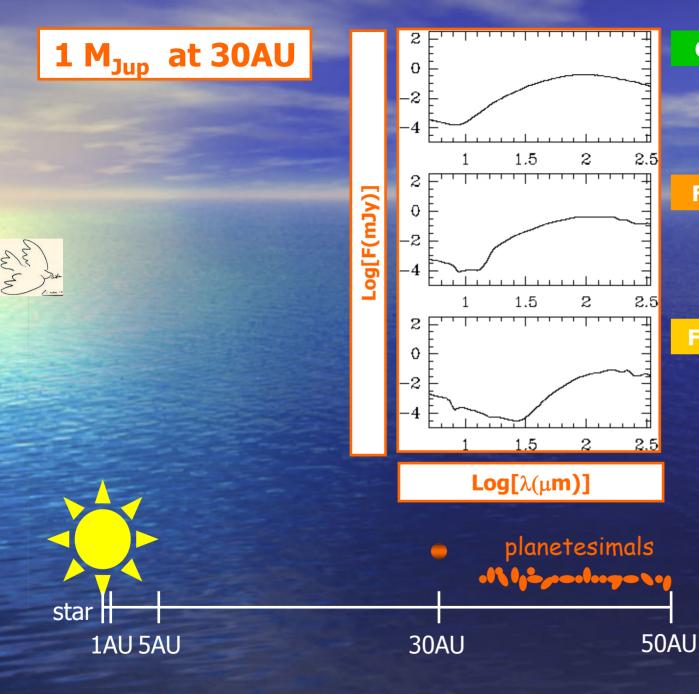
50AU



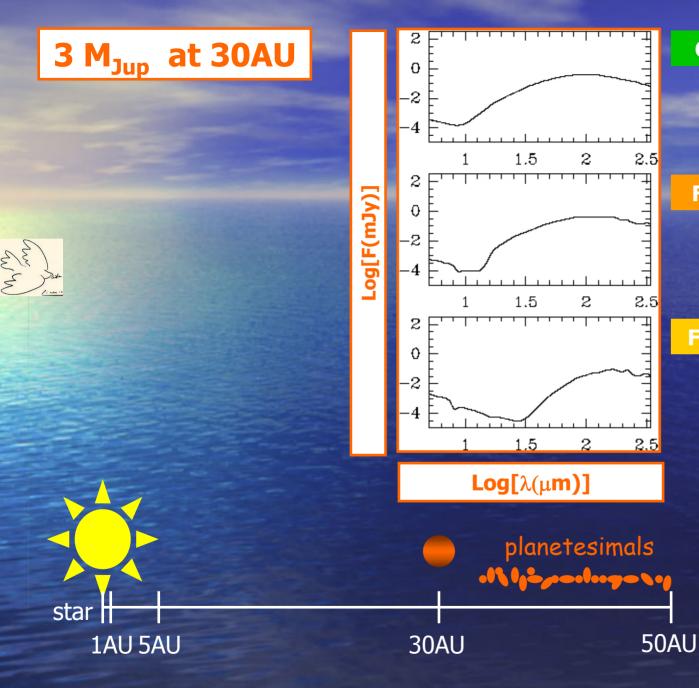
#### Fe-rich silicate grains



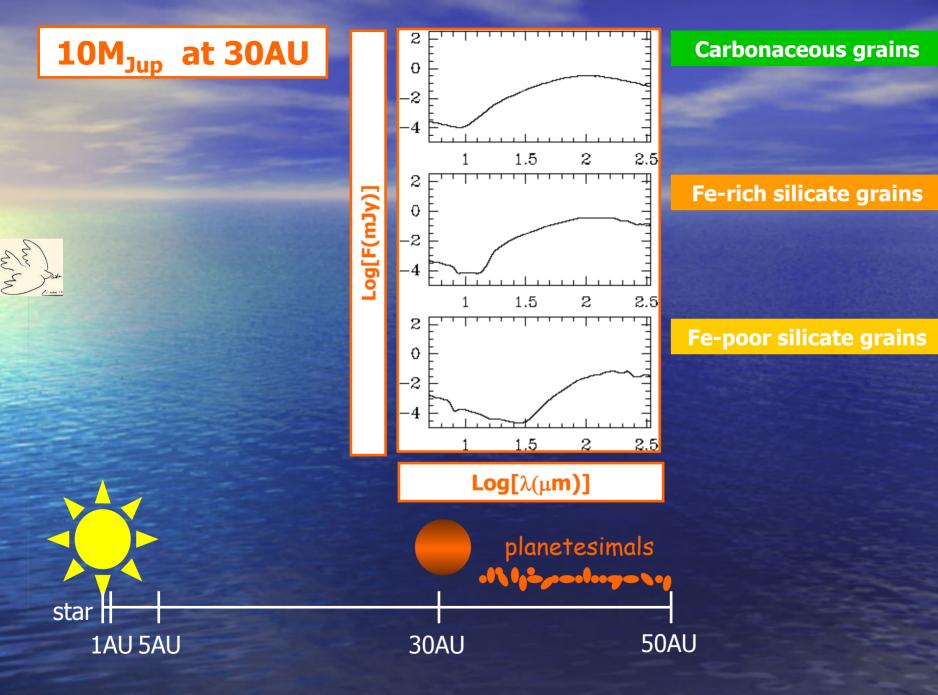


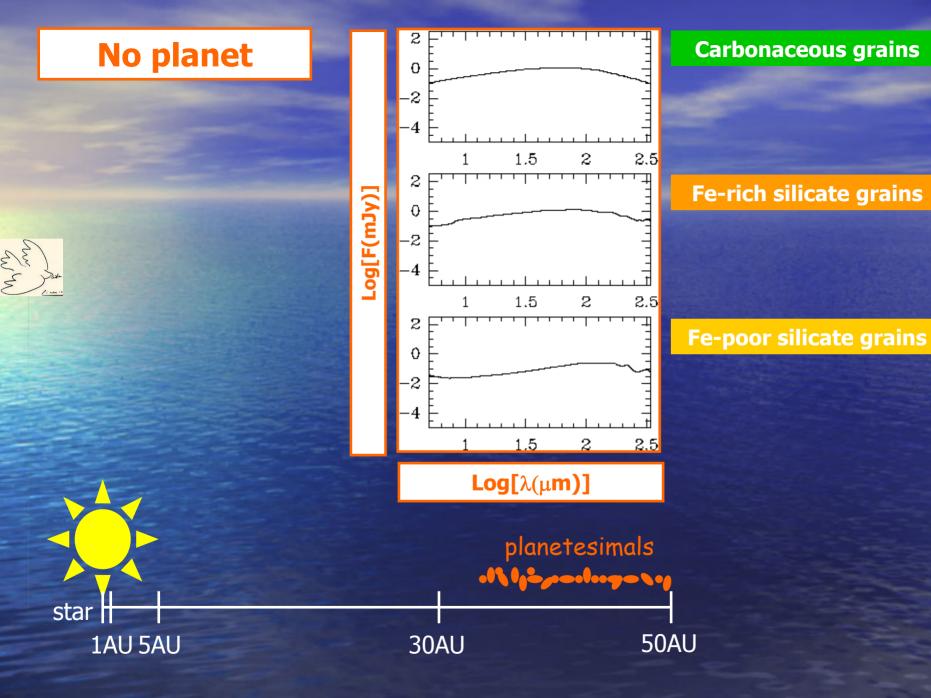


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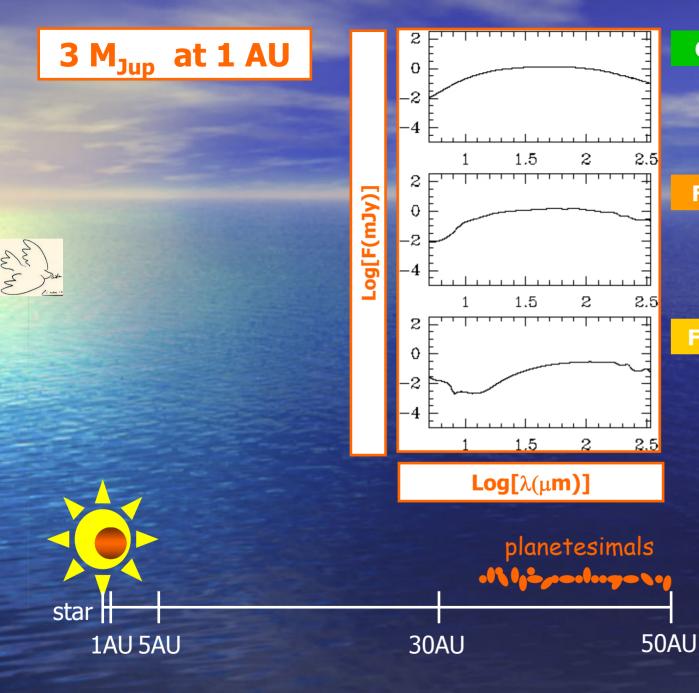


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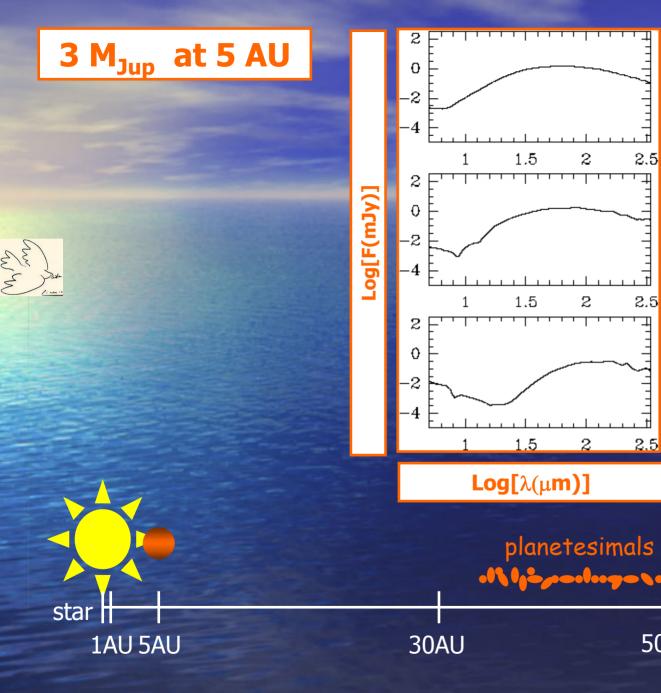








#### Fe-rich silicate grains



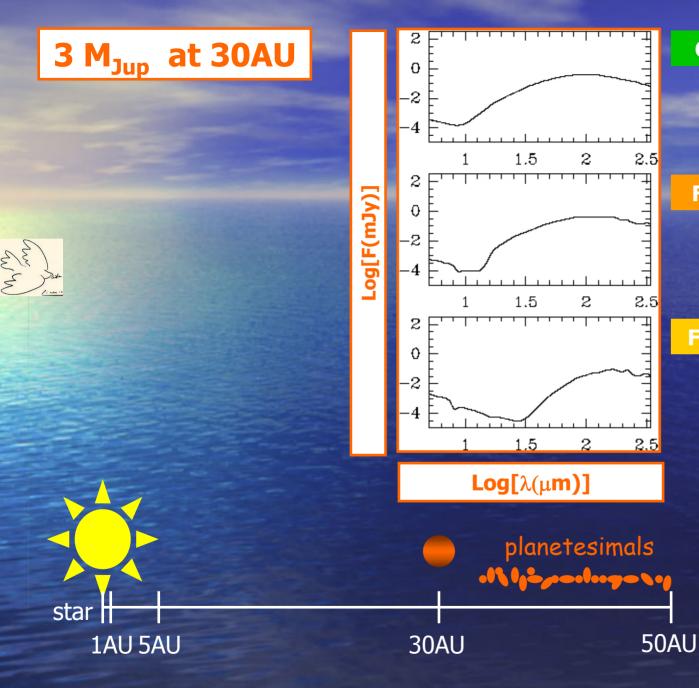
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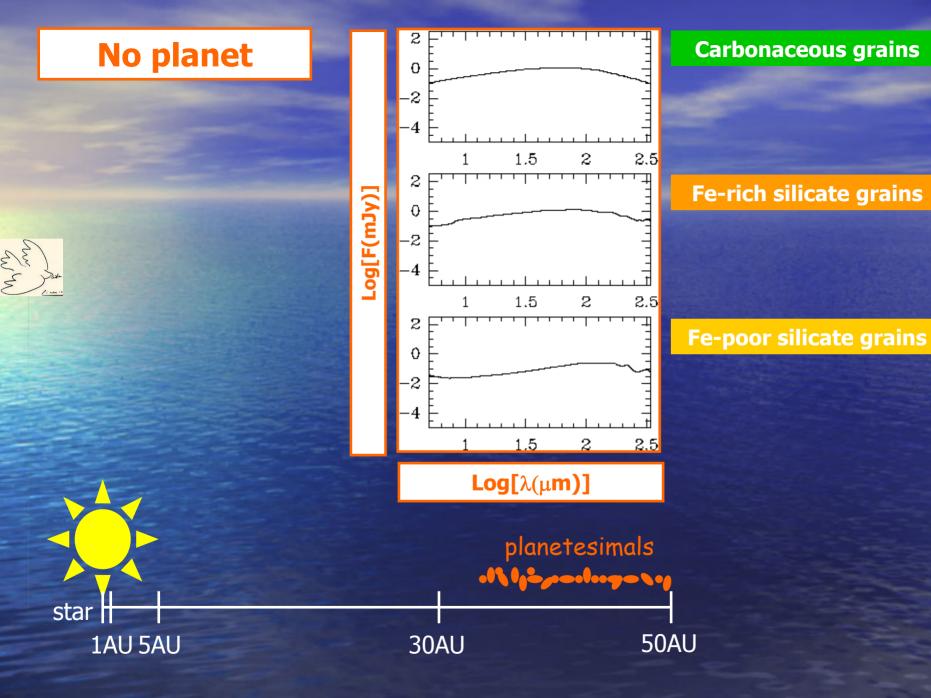
2.5

+

50AU



#### Fe-rich silicate grains



## What can we learn from the SEDs?

The SED of a dust disk generated by an outer belt of planetesimals with inner planets is fundamentally different from that of the disk without planets.

Significant decrease of the near/mid-IR flux due to the clearing of dust inside the planet's orbit.

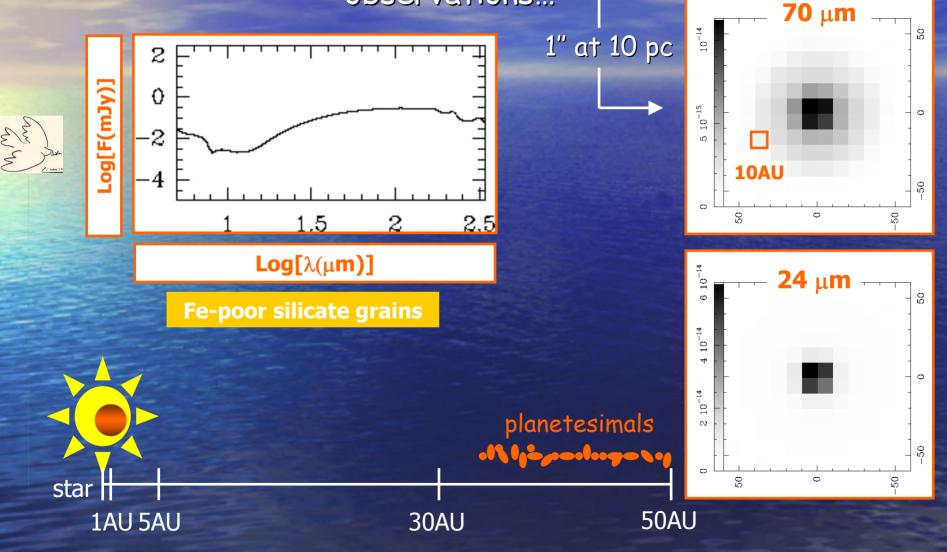
It is difficult to diagnose the mass of the planet

It may be possible to diagnose the location of the planet and the absence/presence of planets

but...

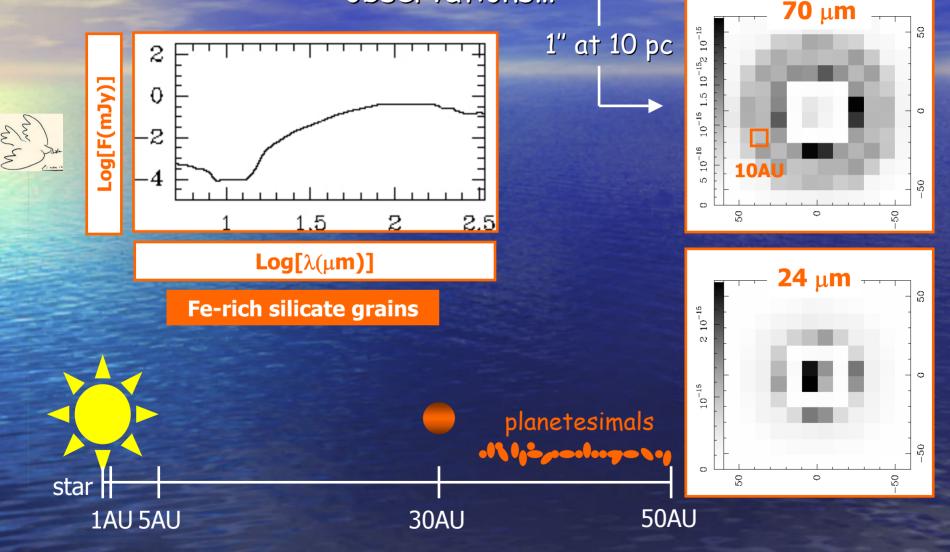


There are degeneracies that can only be solved with high-resolution observations...



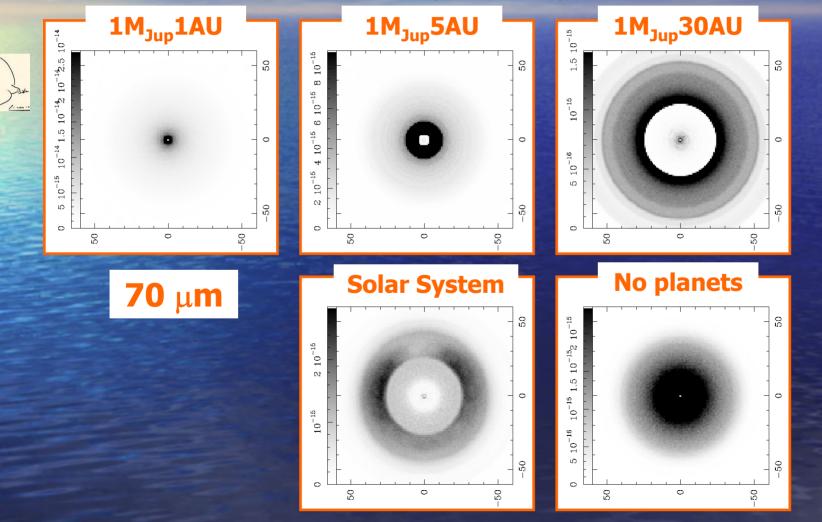


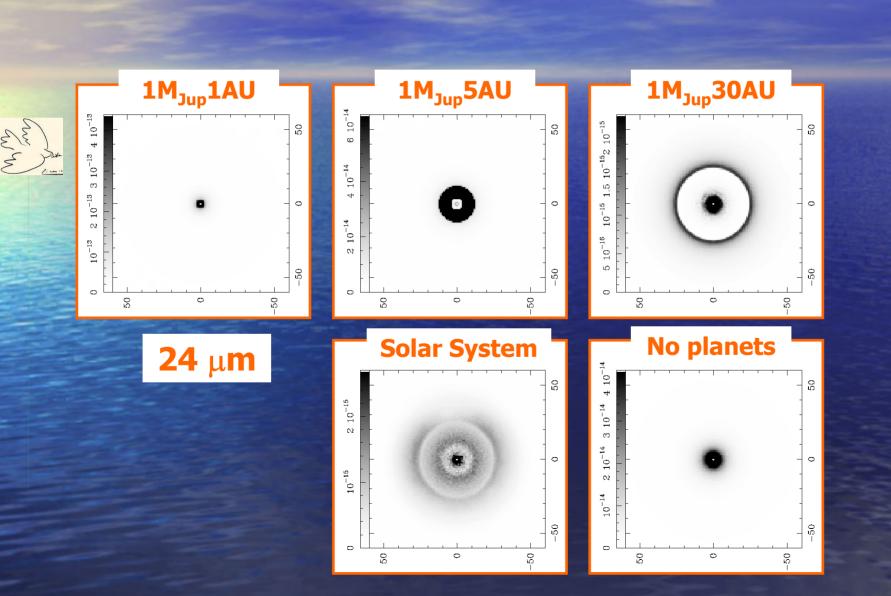
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## We need SAFIR!

We need high resolution imaging to interpret debris disk structure in terms of planetary architectures.





## And ALMA alone is not enough because ...

Warm dust (i.e. "zodiacal light") produced by asteroid-like bodies in terrestrial planet region may be invisible for ALMA (low τ; too diffused)

Vega observations with Spitzer (next talk) show that mm and far-IR observations are very different from each other, and both need to be considered in the interpretation of this systems. We need high sensitivity to understand the physical processes giving rise to debris disks, whether...

Steady production of dust during long periods of time ("standard scenario").

or...

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Stochastic collisional events [new Spitzer resutls; and observations of debris disks around old stars (few Gyrs)].

The high sensitivity of *SAFIR* will allow us to make deeper surveys of stellar clusters of known age, to study the number of stars with recent collisional events as a function of time.

### Questions SAFIR will answer....

Is the "late bombardment" epoch in the early Solar System common among other stars? Is its intensity below or above average?

Consequences for the survival of Life in the terrestrial planets in the habitable zone.

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Terrestrial planet formation should produce a clear IR signal. High sensitivity surveys will allow us to:

\* Study timescales for terrestrial planet formation.

\* Estimate whether they are common or rare.

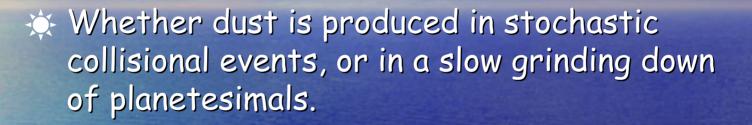
 $\bigstar$  Observation at different  $\lambda$ 's will allow us to tell where the action is taking place.

## Conclusions

Massive planets create structure in debris disks. High resolution observations are fundamental for its interpretation in terms of planetary architectures:

### High sensitivity observations are needed to study:

ele)



Timescales of terrestrial planet formation. Are terrestrial planets common or rare? Are other planetary systems more hostile to Life?

We need SAFIR!

### For details about the modeling:

"Study of the Dynamics of Dust from the Kuiper Belt: Spatial Distribution and Spectral Energy Distribution", Moro-Martin & Malhotra, 2002, AJ, 124, 2305

"Dynamical models of KB Dust in the Inner and Outer Solar System", Moro-Martin & Malhotra, 2003, AJ, 125, 2255

"Dust outflows from planetary systems", Moro-Martin & Malhotra, 2004, submitted to ApJ

\* "Model Spectral Energy Distributions of Circumstellar Debris Disks. II. Outer Belt of Planetesimals with Inner Giant Planets", Moro-Martin, Wolf & Malhotra, 2004, submitted to ApJ



