INTERSTELLAR DUST PROPERTIES Part 1

Karine Demyk, IRAP, Toulouse



Outine Introduction Observational constraints on dust Modelling the dust extinction and emission Main dust constituents and cosmic dust models Dust properties and evolution across the ISM cycle









- Gas and dust represent less than 10% of the Milky Way mass
- Dust represents ~ 1% of this mass

BUT dust

- is everywhere
- is well coupled to the gas
- is a good tracer of matter
- has a fundamental role in the evolution of astrophysical environments and of galaxies

Dust is everywhere







Dust and the ISM cycle

- The life cycle of the ISM, of stars and dust are intimately related
- Dust is a probe of the physical and chemical conditions of astronomical environments
- Dust is one of the drivers of ISM evolution and hence of galactic evolution
- Dust is key to promote chemical complexity





How can we determine and study dust properties ?



Experimental data :

Synthesis of dust analogues **Spectroscopic characterisation** Simulation of chemical and physical processes **Astrophysical conditions**







Observational constraints :

Extinction Emission **Polarization** Depletion **Presolar grains**





Modelling :

Cosmic dust models **Radiative transfer codes Chemical models** MHD simulations











Interstellar dust physics





Oservational constraints on dust





- 1930: Trumpler proposes that matter attenuates the visible light from stars depending on their distance
- 1934 : Stebbins makes the first measures of extinction in the UBV bands
- 1940-50: Stellar reddening by comparison of stars of the same spectral type

Extinction



$$I_{\lambda} = I_{\lambda 0} e^{-\tau_{\lambda}}$$

 I_{λ} : Specific intensity (W.m⁻².sr⁻¹) k_{ext} : Extinction coefficient (m⁻¹)

$$\tau(\lambda) = \int k_{ext}(\lambda) dl$$

τ: optical depth

$$A_{\lambda} = -2.5 \log_{10} \left(\frac{I_{\lambda}}{I_{\lambda 0}}\right) = 1.086\tau_{\lambda}$$



The extinction curve

The extinction curve gives information on the size and composition of grains:

- UV rise \Rightarrow grains with radius a $\ll \lambda$ ie. a < 10 nm
- 2175 Å bump \Rightarrow carbonaceous grains (electronic transition)
- U, B, V bands \Rightarrow extinction in $\lambda^{-1} \Rightarrow$ grains with radius a $\sim \lambda$ ie. a ~ 0.1 µm

 $E(B - V) = A_B - A_V$ Color excess:

Total-to-selective visual extinction ratio:

R_v characterise the extinction curve



Extinction in the mid infrared

• MIR domain : vibrational transitions \Rightarrow grain composition



Scattering

- Scattering depends on the size, shape and composition of the grains
- Grains of radius a $\sim 0.1 \,\mu m$ scatter light in the visible
- Larger grains scatter light at longer wavelengths, in the NIR
- Scattering depends on the albedo ω and the phase function g

$$\omega = Q_{sca}/Q_{ext}$$
$$g = \langle \cos(\theta) \rangle = \frac{\int_0^{\pi} I(\theta) \cos(\theta) d\Omega}{I(\theta) d\Omega}$$

Rayleigh and Mie scattering phase function



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"Coreshine" in the L183 Dark Cloud

On a given line of sight, dust emission depends on:

$$I_{\nu} \propto \int_{LOS} \epsilon \times N_H \times X_d \times ISRF$$

 N_{H} (cm⁻²) : gas column density X_d : dust abundance Intensity of the ISRF ϵ (erg.s⁻¹.sr⁻¹.cm⁻¹.g⁻¹) : dust emissivity

• Kirchoff law \Rightarrow at thermal equilibrium, emitted

power = absorbed power $\iff \kappa_{abs} \propto \epsilon$

Different emission mechanisms depending on the grain size and nature

Emission



PAHs



VSG 5-10 nm



SILICATES 10-300 nm



Amorphous carbon







• Due to the presence of non-spherical and partially aligned grains containing paramagnetic inclusions

• In absorption starlight is polarised // to the B field lines

$$p_{\lambda} = p_{max} e^{-k_p (ln(\lambda_{max}/\lambda))^2}$$
 [Serkowski 1975]

- $\lambda_{max} \sim 0.55 \ \mu m \Rightarrow grain radius \sim 0.1 \ \mu m$
- The peak position is sensitive to grain size
- p_{max} ~ a few %
- Correlated to extinction
- The 10 µm feature is polarised

Polarization







- Polarized emission is \perp to B field lines
- P/I = polarisation fraction in the FIR/submm
- Observed by ARCHEOPS, WMAP, Planck



Polarization





- Electronic absorption lines of atoms or ions
- In the UV spectra of O and B stars
- Copernicus (1972), HST (90's), FUSE (1999)
- Depletion factor: $D(X) = \left[\frac{X_{gas}}{H}\right] = log\left(\frac{N(X)}{N(H)}\right)_{obs} log\left(\frac{X}{H}\right)_{ref}$
- Depletion varies from one element to the other
- Depletion increases with condensation temperature of the elements



Depletion



Table 2. Adopted Gas and Solid Phase Abundances of Selected Elements

Х	$(X/II)_{ISM}$	$(X/II)_{gas}$	$(X/II)_{dust}$		
	[ppm]	[ppm]	[ppm]		
\mathbf{C}	324	198	126 ± 56		
0	682	434	249 ± 94		
Mg	52.9	7.1	45.8 ± 4.9		
Al	3.5	0.1	3.4 ± 0.3		
Si	44.6	6.6	38.0 ± 3.1		
\mathbf{S}	17.2	9.6	7.6 ± 2.0 3.2 ± 0.2		
Ca	3.2	0.1			
Fe	43.7	0.88	42.8 ± 4.0		
Ni	2.1	0.04	2.0 ± 0.2		
	[Hensley&Draine+20				















- Photo-electric absorption edges
- Gas and dust simultaneously
- Mg, Fe, Si, Ca, Ti ...
- Chandra, XMM-Newton
- More data to come with Athena and XRISM



X-ray observations



Pre-solar grains



- Micro-meteorites



stars, SN

• Sample return missions : STARDUST, HAYABUSA, OSIRIS-Rex • Interplanetary grains (MIR stations, stratospheric flights) Inclusions in meteorites



Samples brought back from Ryugu

K. Demyk, The physics of star formation, 12-23, February, 2024

Image credit: JAXA, University of Tokyo, Kochi University, Rikkyo University, Nagoya University, Chiba Institute of Technology, Meiji University, University of Aizu, AIST





Dust properties: size distribution

- Constrained by the extinction curve and depletion measurements
- The most used is the MRN size distribution (for spherical grains silicate and graphite grains): [Mathis, Rumpl, Nordsieck, 1977]

$$N(a) \propto a^{-\beta_s}$$
 with $a_{\min} = 5 \text{ nm}, \beta_s \sim 3.3 - 3.6$

- Many updated versions of the MRN size distribution exist, in particular to include the PAH grain population [see dust models from Complegne+2011, Weingartner] & Draine 2001].
- Log-normal grain size distributions are also proposed for large grains [see the THEMIS 1 & 2 dust models from Jones+2013, Ysard+2024]
- grain destruction \Rightarrow power-law size distribution
- grain coagulation \Rightarrow log-normal size distribution



a_{max} ~ 250 nm



 \Rightarrow the dust mass is in big grains \Rightarrow the dust surface is provided by small grains



Grain charge



Modelling the dust extinction and emission





ii C_{ext}, Q_{ext}, \mathcal{K}_{ext} refer to an individual grain !!

Modelling the extinction

$$I(\lambda) = I_0(\lambda) \times e^{-\tau(\lambda)}$$

$$\tau(\lambda) = \int k_{ext}(\lambda) dl$$
Extinction coefficient (cm)
$$\tau(\lambda) = \frac{C_{ext}}{\sigma_{gr}} = \frac{(C_{abs} + C_{sca})}{\sigma_{gr}}$$

$$\kappa_{ext} = \frac{C_{ext}}{V_{gr}\rho_{gr}}$$
Ciency
Opacity or mass extinction coefficient (cm². g⁻¹)

$$NC_{ext} = \sigma_{gr} NQ_{ext} = Nm_{gr} \kappa_{ext}$$

C_{ext} , Q_{ext} , \mathcal{K}_{ext} contains the information on the dust properties



Modelling the dust extinction

- To calculate the absorption, scattering, emission and polarisation cross section of the grains, one needs to understand the interaction of small particles with the electromagnetic radiation
- This interaction is specified by the dielectric function ε or optical constants m of the grain material:

$$\varepsilon = \varepsilon_1 + i\varepsilon_2$$
 $m = n + ik = \sqrt{\varepsilon}$

refraction absorption (sometimes called index index extinction coefficient!)

- or Van de Hulst (1958)]
- For a spherical grain small compared to the wavelength :



Reasonably simple expression also exists for spheroids

Solution first formulated by Mie in 1908 for spherical grains [See books from Bohren & Huffman (1988)

$$C_{abs} = \frac{18\pi V}{\lambda} \frac{\varepsilon_2}{(\varepsilon_1 + 2)^2 + \varepsilon_2^2} \qquad C_{sca} = \frac{24\pi^3 V^2}{\lambda^4} \left| \frac{\varepsilon - 1}{\varepsilon + 2} \right|^2$$







Extinction as a function of size: spherical grains

- When the particle size $a \approx \lambda$, one has to use different methods to calculate C_{abs} and C_{sca}
- If the particles are spherical one can use Mie Theory (many public codes exist)



- for a $\approx \lambda$ the absorption and scattering properties depend on the grain size

• for a $\ll \lambda$, the absorption and scattering properties do not depend on the dust size K. Demyk, The physics of star formation, 12-23, February, 2024

Extinction cross section of complex grains

- If the particles are not spherical or spheroidal
- If grains are aggregated
- If grains are complex in term of composition and structure :
 - core-mantle grains
 - composite grains with inclusions
 - aggregates of grains of different compositions
 - Different methods are used (some codes are public):
 - DDA [Draine & Flatau 2010]
 - T-Matrix [Mischenko+1996]

➡ Effective medium theories (EMTs) [see eg. Min+2008]

• Each theory has its own limitations



K. Demyk, The physics of star formation, 12-23, February, 2024

Dust temperature (1/2)

• Grains are heated by:

- absorption of a photon from the radiation field
- collision with atoms, electrons, cosmic rays, grains
- energy delivered by chemical reactions at grains surface
- Radiative heating is the most important in the ISM







Dust temperature (2/2)



- Big grains have a constant temperature
- Small grains :
 - absorb fewer photons than larger particles
 - reach higher temperature than larger ones (small heat capacity : $C(T) \approx 3N_{at}k_B$
 - exhibit higher temperature fluctuations than larger ones

$$T \approx \frac{h\nu}{C(T)} \approx \frac{h\nu}{3N_{at}k_B}$$

• 30 atoms (~0.5 nm) + $\langle h\nu \rangle = 8 \text{ eV} \Rightarrow T \sim 1000 \text{ K}$ (eg PAHs)

Modelling grains emission: the big grains

- Medium is optically thin
- Grains in thermal equilibrium
- No temperature gradient on the line of sight

- ISM big grains have T \leq 20-30 K \Rightarrow emit in the FIR/mm domain
- In the FIR/mm, semi-classical physical models assume an asymptotic behaviours : $\kappa_{\lambda} = \kappa_{\lambda_0} \left(\frac{\lambda}{\lambda_0}\right)^{-\beta}$ with :
 - $\beta = 2$ from Lorentz model
 - $\beta = 1-2$ for phonons model

Modified Black Body model:

$$I_{\nu} = B_{\nu}(T_d)(1 - e^{-\tau_{\nu}}) \approx B_{\nu}(T_d) \times \tau_{\nu}$$

 $\tau(\lambda) = Nm_{gr}\kappa_{ext}$ with :

$$I_{\nu} \approx \tau B_{\nu}(T) = \frac{M_{dust}B_{\nu}(T)}{d^{2}\Omega}\kappa_{0}\left(\frac{\nu}{\nu_{0}}\right)$$

In the Rayleigh-Jeans limit : $I_{\nu} \approx \frac{M_{dust} 2kT_{dust}}{d^2 \Omega c^2} \left(\frac{\kappa_0}{r^{\beta}}\right) \nu^{2+\beta}$ $d^2\Omega c^2$



Modelling dust emission : small grains

- Strong temperature fluctuation if $h\nu_m > \int_0^{T_{eq}} C(T) dT$







Modelling dust polarisation

Polarisation requires alignment of dust grains with the magnetic field

- Magnetic dissipation
- Radiative torque alignment (RAT)

Polarised intensity depends on

- Grain alignement
- Polarisation properties of the grains (composition, shape)

From Guillet+2017, used in DustEm :

 $f(a) = \frac{1}{2} f_{\rm max}$ Fraction of align dust (in mass) :

 $\sigma_{\rm pol}(\lambda) = \sum_{i\,i} n_j(\lambda)$ Polarisation cross section :

Total polarised intensity : $P_{\nu}(\lambda) = \sum_{i,i} n_j(a_i) f_j(a_i) \left(\right)$ See also Hoang & Lazarian 2016 Siebenmorgen+2014 Voshchinnikov+2016

$$\max \left(1 + \tanh\left(\frac{\ln\left(a/a_{\text{alig}}\right)}{p_{\text{stiff}}}\right)\right)$$

$$a_i) f_j(a_i) \left(\frac{C_{2,\text{ext}} - C_{1,\text{ext}}}{2}\right)(j,i) \qquad \begin{array}{l} C_{1,\text{abs}}, C_{1,\text{sca}}, C_{1,\text{ext}} \colon \mathbb{E} // B_{\mu} \\ C_{2,\text{abs}}, C_{2,\text{sca}}, C_{2,\text{ext}} \colon \mathbb{E} \perp \text{to} \end{array}$$

$$\left(\frac{C_{2,\text{abs}} - C_{1,\text{abs}}}{2}\right)(j,i) B_{\nu}(\lambda, T_j(a_i))$$

OOS Bno

- Observational constraints : depletion, extinction, emission, scattered light, polarisation from X-ray to mm
- Spectroscopic observations provide information on the dust composition and structure Analysis of presolar grains provide information on dust composition and formation site
- Several components of dust exist: silicates, carbonaceous grains, ices, PAHs • Distribution of size: from ~ 0.5 nm to up to ~ 0.5 μ m in the ISM • Grains are not spherical and are partially aligned

- Silicates represent ~70% in mass





Main dust constituents and cosmic dust models



Silicates : the 9.7 & 18 µm features

- Main dust component : ~ 70 % in mass
- Mainly amorphous
- Crystalline and amorphous in circumstellar environments
- Mostly Mg-rich silicates such as amorphous enstatite (MgSiO₃) and forsterite (Mg₂SiO₄)





Silicates : composition and structure





Olivine



1 cm

MgSiO₃ glass



Mg₂SiO₄ glass



~400 nm





- SiC
- Oxides : Al₂O₃, TiO₂, Mg_xFe_{1-x}O
- MgS ?
- TiC?
- The most refractory could be nucleation seeds
- Difficult to observe because of spectral blending
- Broad band at 90-100 μ m :
 - Hydrated silicates?
 - Carbonates?





Other large grains



Aromatic dust: the Aromatic Infrared Bands

- Observed in photo-dominated regions, circumstellar shells and disks around evolved and young stars
- ~10-20 % of cosmic carbon
- ~ 5 % of the dust mass
- Heated stochastically
- Band strengths and band ratios vary with the environments
 - $I_{7.7\mu m}/I_{11.3\mu m}$ / with charge
 - I_{3.3µm} stronger for small particles and.or strong radiation field



Aromatic dust: Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons

- 7.62







• Hydrogenated amorphous carbon (HAC or a-C:H) :

- In absorption in sightlines with sufficient N_H
- 3.38, 3.42, 6.85 et 7.25 µm features : stretching and bending of C-H bonds in CH₂ and CH₃ groups
- ratio aliphatic/ aromatic variable:
 - < 15 % aromatic in Dartois+2004
- ~ 85 % aromatic in Pendelton+2002



Hydrogenated amorphous carbon



Volatile dust : ices



- Ices mantles form at $A_v \cong 2\text{-}3$
- Dense clouds
- Protostars of all masses
- Circumstellar shells of OH/IR stars and some AGB
- Elemental budget => grain mantle of 5-10 nm
- Main species: H₂O, CO, CO₂, CH₃OH, NH₃, CH₄
- Others likely species: H₂CO, OCN-, OCS, HCOOH, CH₃CH₂OH, HCOO-, CH₃CHO, NH₄+,SO₂, PAH

H ₂ O	100		
CO	7-25		
CO ₂	15-28		
CH ₃ OH	6-9		
NH ₃	3-10		
CH ₄	1-11		



[See review from Boogert+2015]



Cosmic dust models

- Based on the physical characteristics of the dust : • dielectric constants
 - heat capacity for emission modelling
 - photo absorption cross-section
- These data come from laboratory astrophysics studies of dust analogues
- Consider various dust populations, shape and size distributions
- Constrained on a set of observations and cosmic abundances









Some dust models for the DISM

Constraints from extinction & emission (old models):

- graphite & PAHs
- Compiègne et al. 2011: astrosilicates & amorphous carbon & PAHs & PAHs+
- refractory
- Jones et al. 2013, 2017, Koehler et al. 2015: THEMIS model : lab silicates (MIR) & a-C(:H)

Constraints from extinction, emission & polarisation (new models):

- Siebenmorgen et al. 2014, 2017: astrosilicates & amorphous carbon & PAHs polarised extinction
- Guillet et al. 2018: astrosilicates & amorphous carbon & PAHs polarised extinction and emission
- Draine & Hensley (2021): Astrodust + PAHs polarised extinction
- extinction and emission

• Draine & Lee (1984) and later versions [eg. Weingartner & Draine 2001, Draine & Fraisse 2009]: astrosilicates &

• Zubko et al. 2004: astrosilicates & graphite or amorphous carbon & PAHs & H₂O ice and organic

• Ysard et al. 2024 : The THEMIS II model: lab silicates (MIR/FIR) at low T & a-C(:H) - polarised



Astrodust & THEMIS models for the DISM

Astrodust

- Reproduces grain evolution in the DISM: destruction and re-condensation
- Two dust components:
 - astrodust: porous mixture of silicates & carbonaceous matter on grain surface
 - PAHs
- Spheroidal grains



Assumption about composition:

amorphous silicate hydrocarbon material other materials (e.g. Fe oxides, Al₂O₃, CaCO₃)

Hensley & Draine 2020, 2023 Draine & Hensley 2021

https://dataverse.harvard.edu/dataverse/ astrodust;jsessionid=6ad4b0855ffdf13379ecb46eb838



- Reproduces grain evolution in the DISM: mantle accretion and processing
- Core/mantle grain model
- Aromatic carbon (a-C), hydrogenated hydrocarbons (a-C:H) and silicates (low temperature experimental data) with Fe inclusions





Some dust models for dense environments

- Pollack (1994) model: lab silicates, Fe, organic C molecular clouds and transition disks • Ossenkopf et al (1994): lab silicate and amorphous carbon grains, ices - dense protostellar
- cores
- Zubko et al. 2004: astrosilicates & graphite or amorphous carbon & PAHs & H₂O ice and organic refractory
- Jones et al. 2013, 2017, Koehler et al. 2015: THEMIS model : core-mantle aggregates with lab silicates (MIR), a-C(:H) & H₂O ice
- Under progress: THEMIS 2 model : core-mantle aggregates with lab silicates (MIR), a-C(:H) & H_2O ice



Some dust models used in disk models

Table 1. Assumptions about disk shape, grain size, opacities, dust settling and PAHs in different thermo-chemical disk models. [Woitke+2015]

li.	reference	model setup & disk shape	radial range	grain size	dust opacities	dust settling	PAHs
	Semenov & Wiebe (2011), see Semenov et al. (2006)	adopted from D'Alessio et al. (1998), $T_{gas} = T_{dust}$	(10 – 700) AU	uniform 0.1 μm	n.a.	well-mixed	n.a.
	Gorti & Hollenbach (2008)	powerlaw $\Sigma(r)$, modified CG97	(0.5 – 200) AU	powerlaw, (0.005 – 50)μm	n.a.	well-mixed	reduced ISM abun- dance, PAHs in heat- ing and chemistry
	Dutrey et al. (2011), see	series of 1D vertical slabs,	(40 – 300) AU	uniform 0.1μ m	n.a.	well-mixed	n.a.
	also Semenov et al. (2010)	(2009), $T_{\text{gas}} = T_{\text{dust}}$					 Graphite is a wrong assumption use
	Walsh et al. (2014), based on Nomura & Millar (2005)	$\Sigma(r)$ from α -model, vertical hydrostatic equilibrium	(1 – 300) AU	MRN, details see (Nomura & Millar 2005)	mix of AS, graphite and water ice	well-mixed	amorphous carbon instead
	Du & Bergin (2014), based on Bethell & Bergin (2011)	powerlaw $\Sigma(r)$ with self- similar tapered outer edge, parametric	(1 – 140) AU	2 powerlaws: $C_1: (0.01 - 1) \mu m$, $C_2: (1 - 100) \mu m$	7:3 mixture of AS and graphite	C_1 well-mixed, C_2 reduced H	 AS (astrosilicates) are obsolete => consider rather THEMIS 2 silicates.
	Mathews et al. (2013), based on Qi et al. (2011)	powerlaw $\Sigma(r)$ with self- similar tapered outer edge, modified parametric	complete disk	2 powerlaws: C_1 : (0.005-0.25) μ m C_2 : 0.005 μ m - 1 mm	3:2 mixture of AS and graphite	C_1 well-mixed, C_2 reduced H	astrodust, labdata
	Akimkin et al. (2013)	viscous disk evolution, verti- cal hydrostatic equilibrium	(10 – 550) AU	dust evolution from initial MRN dist., (0.003 – 200)μm	AS	included in dust evolution	 Add ice mantles
	Bruderer (2013)	powerlaw $\Sigma(r)$ with self- similar tapered outer edge, parametric	complete disk	2 powerlaws: $C_1: (0.005-1) \mu m$ $C_2: 0.005 \mu m - 1 mm$	mixture of AS and graphite	C_1 well-mixed, C_2 reduced H	reduced ISM abun- dance, in heating,
	Woitke et al. (2009)	powerlaw $\Sigma(r)$, vertical hy- drostatic equilibrium	(0.5 – 500) AU	powerlaw (0.1 – 10) <i>µ</i> m	AS	well-mixed	 Check how the extinction efficiencies are calculated for grains > 1 µm : Mie
	this work (more details in Sect. 3)	two zones, powerlaw $\Sigma(r)$ with tapered outer edge, parametric	complete disk	powerlaw, 0.05 μm – 3 mm	lab. silicates mixed with AC, DHS	Dubrulle et al. (1995), about 100 size bins	theory, aggregates?



- There are many cosmic dust models
- Their differences are sometimes subtle because many models use the same or partly the same observational constraints and dust components.
- Some criteria to classify dust models:
 - The environment they are supposed to represent: diffuse vs dense medium
 - The observational constraints they consider
 - The adopted description of the dust: empirical (observational) vs experimental (measurement on cosmic dust analogues)
- No dust model is unique or perfect
- are obtained on dust analogues



• But they improve little by little as new observational constraints are available and as new results