Lords of the IR Ring



RickPatriceEliArendtBouchetDwek

John Danziger (not shown)

SN1987A: Twenty five years of Pummeling the Ring

Eli Dwek

Goddard Space Flight Center



The circumstellar ring around SN1987A: A perfect environment for studying physical processes in a dusty plasma

Collisional heating of the dust (electron collision)
IR cooling of the X-ray emitting gas, IRX
Grain destruction by sputtering (heavy ions)
Derivation of physical properties of the plasma (density, temperature) from IR emission

First detection of the ring at IR wavelengths T-ReCS instrument on the Gemini South 8m telescope (Bouchet et al. 2004)



Shock-heated circumstellar dust T-ReCS instrument on the Gemini South 8m telescope (Bouchet et al. 2004, 2006)



T-ReCS observations resolved the ring, but with only two wavelengths, it could not constraints the dust composition



IR emission is generated by shock-heated circumstellar dust

Spitzer – MIPS 24 μ m (day 6184) IRAC 3.6–8 μ m (day 6130) IRS 12–37 μ m (day 6190)

> Spitzer observations day 6190 (Gehrz, Polomski)



Dust: $T_{dust} \approx 180 \pm 15 \text{ K}$ $M_{dust} \approx (1-2) \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}_{sun}$ Plasma: $T_e \approx 4 \times 10^6 \text{ K}$ $n_e \approx (0.3 - 1) \times 10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}$





Collisional Heating of Dust



There is a degeneracy between grain radii & plasma densities required to heat the dust to 180 K with electrons



electrons are stopped in the grains $n_e \approx 10^4 \, {\rm cm}^{-3}$ $T_{\rm gas} = 5 \times 10^6 \,\mathrm{K}$

dust grains are transparent to electrons $n_e \approx 10^3 \, {\rm cm}^{-3}$





For $n_e \approx 10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ and $T_{gas} \approx 10^6 \text{ K}$

$$\tau_{\rm sput} \approx 1 - 15 \ {\rm yr}$$

Plasma Temperature

Depending on grain size and composition: dust is destroyed on a dynamical timescale! The Evolution of the IR Emission since the time since the first shock-ER encounter

More mathematical treatment in Dwek + 2008



What do observations tell us? Three observing periods

♦ days 6800 – 7950 : Photometry at $3.6 - 24 \mu m$ and $5 - 30 \mu m$ spectroscopy

 \bullet day ~ 8000: Photometry at 3.6 – 24 μ m

• days 8600 – 10,400 : 3.6 and 4.5 μ m photometry

Days 6800 – 8000

fluxes are increasingspectral shape unchanged $\tau_{sput} > t$ plasma conditions fixed



The mysterious dust component

Candidates for component X



Conditions for both components to reside in the same plasma

carbon 0.01–0.05 μ m $t_{sput} \approx 2 \text{ yr}$ silicate 0.2–0.5 μ m $t_{sput} \approx 7 \text{ yr}$



Comparison of IR with soft X-ray fluxes Arendt et al. 2016, AJ, 151, 62 Frank et al. 2016, preprint





X-ray cummulative

 $F_X \sim t^2$



dust is destroyed $F_{IR} \sim t$





t₀ ≈ 5500 days = epoch of shock-ring encounter



Both, X-ray and IR fluxes increase with time, but IR emission rises less rapidly than the X-ray emission

Dust lifetime Arendt et al. 2016

 $F(\lambda) \sim (t - t_0)$





Grain destruction time $\tau \approx 6700 \, d$ Theoretically it should be ≈ 1200 d

Evolution of the line emission Arendt et al. 2016 see Fransson et al. 2015 for optical lines

Correlated with Ha from unshocked gas



Infrared [Fe II] & [Si II] line emission (Spitzer IRS)



High velocities Suggesting shocked material Sputtered from dust? Ionization disequilibrium?

$\Delta \lambda = [-15,000,+15,000] \text{ km s}^{-1}$



High velocity wings (not present for Fe)

Line diagnostic of the gas



 $n_e < 10^3 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ $T_{gas} \le 2500 \text{ K}$

Low compared to e.g. Pun et al. 2002





