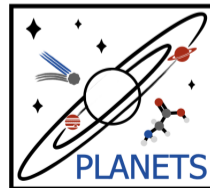
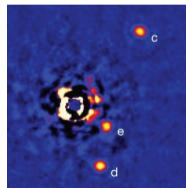
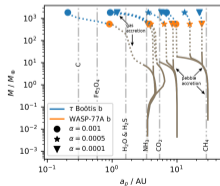
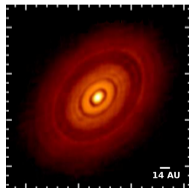
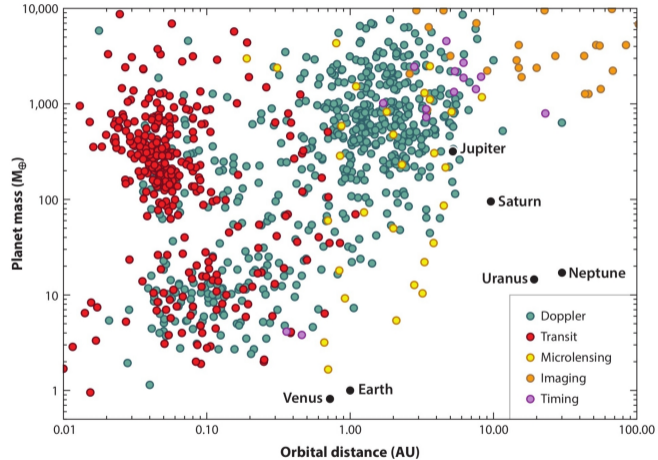


The big and the small: how giant planets shape their smaller neighbours

Bertram Bitsch

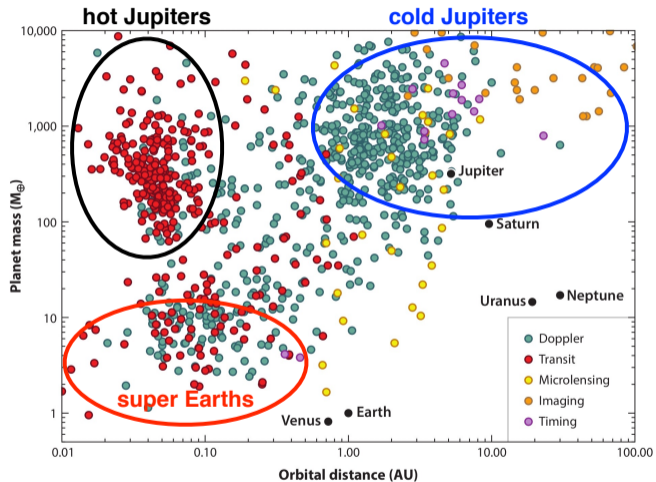


Observations of planets



(Winn & Fabrycky 2015)

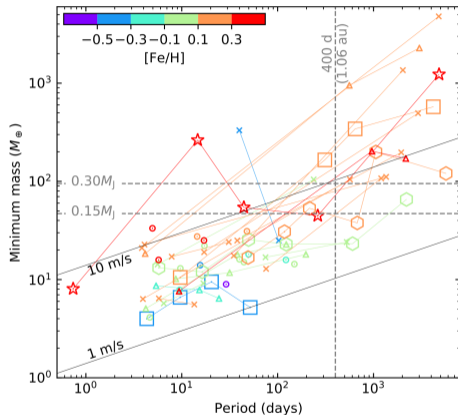
Observations of planets



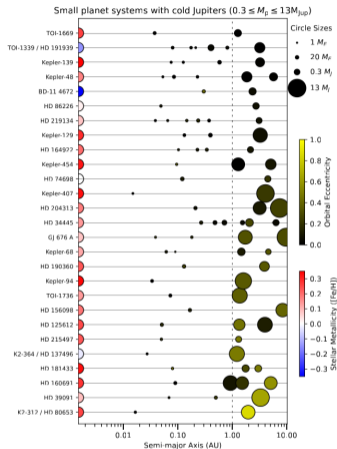
(Winn & Fabrycky 2015)

⇒ What is the connection between super-Earths and outer giants?

Inner super-Earths and outer gas giants?



(Zhu & Wu 2018)



(Bonomo et al. 2025)

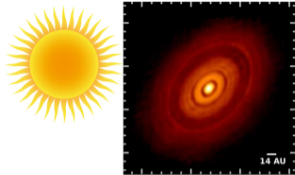
- ⇒ Observations indicate a correlation between inner super-Earths and outer giant planets
- ⇒ Exact correlation is still subject to debate and depends on the observational (?) biases

(e.g. Barbato et al. 2018, Bryan et al. 2019, Weiss et al. 2024, Bryan & Lee 2024, Bonomo et al. 2025, Li & Zhu 2026)

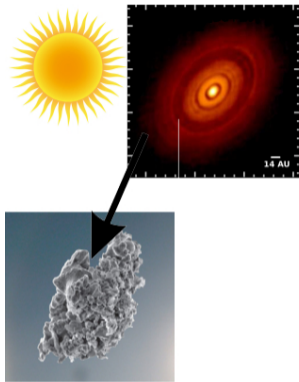
Planet formation: Core accretion



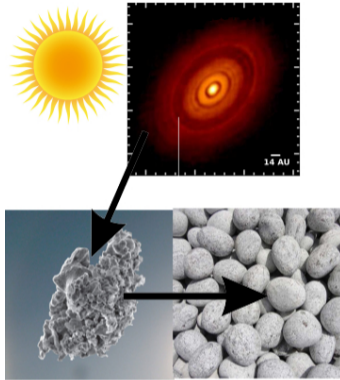
Planet formation: Core accretion



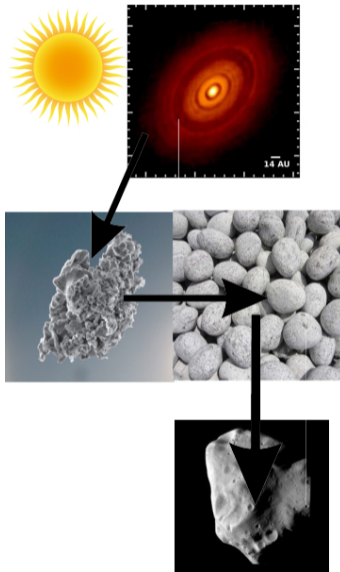
Planet formation: Core accretion



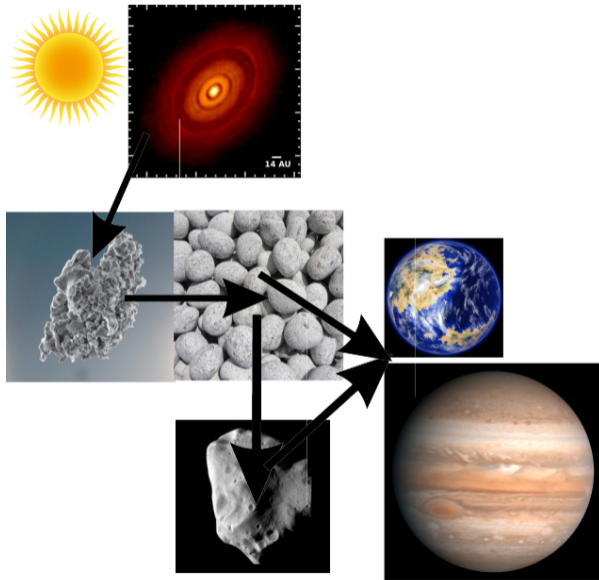
Planet formation: Core accretion



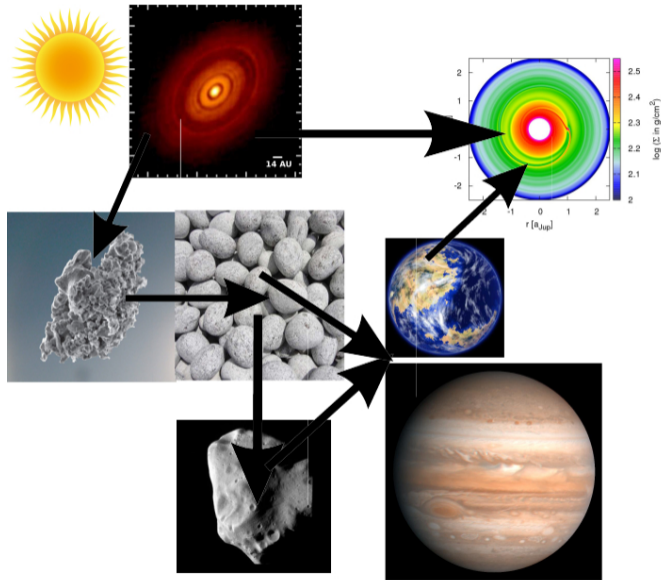
Planet formation: Core accretion



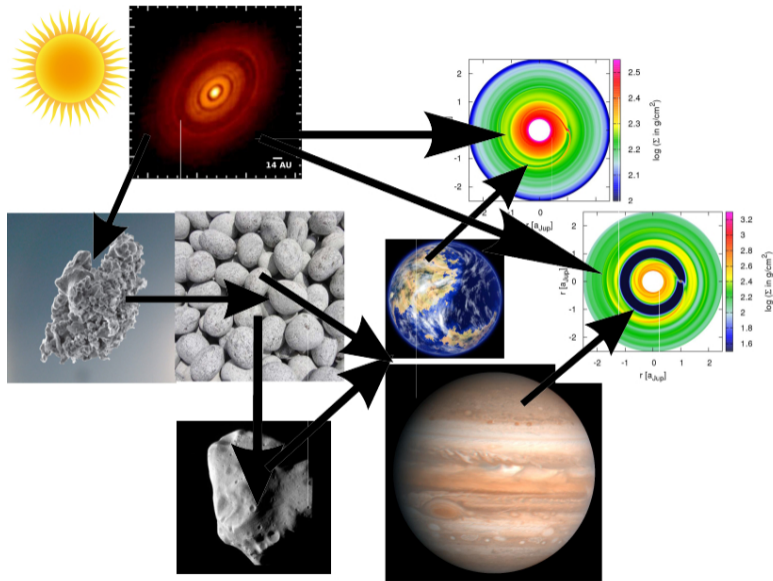
Planet formation: Core accretion



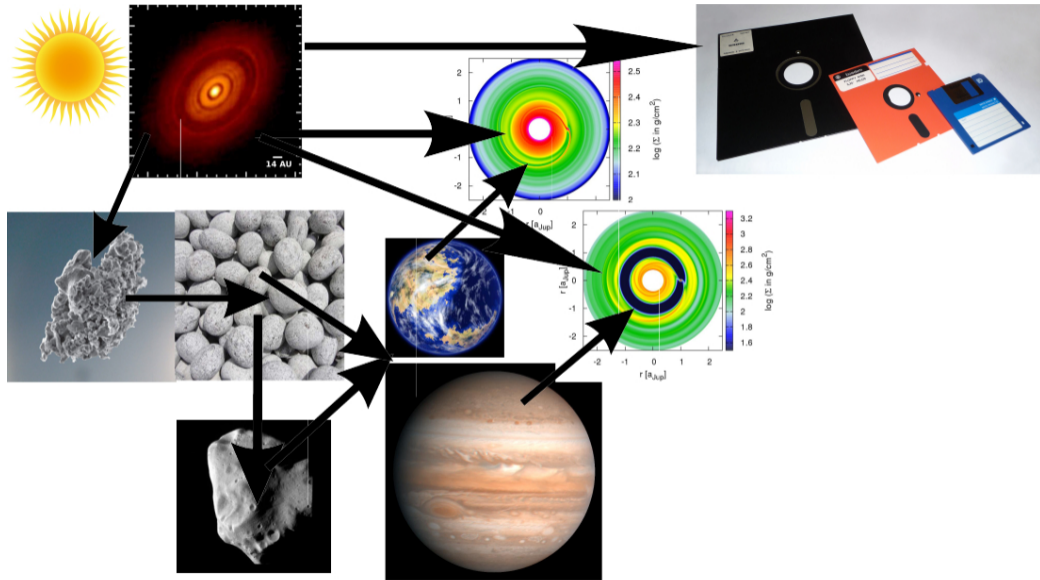
Planet formation: Core accretion



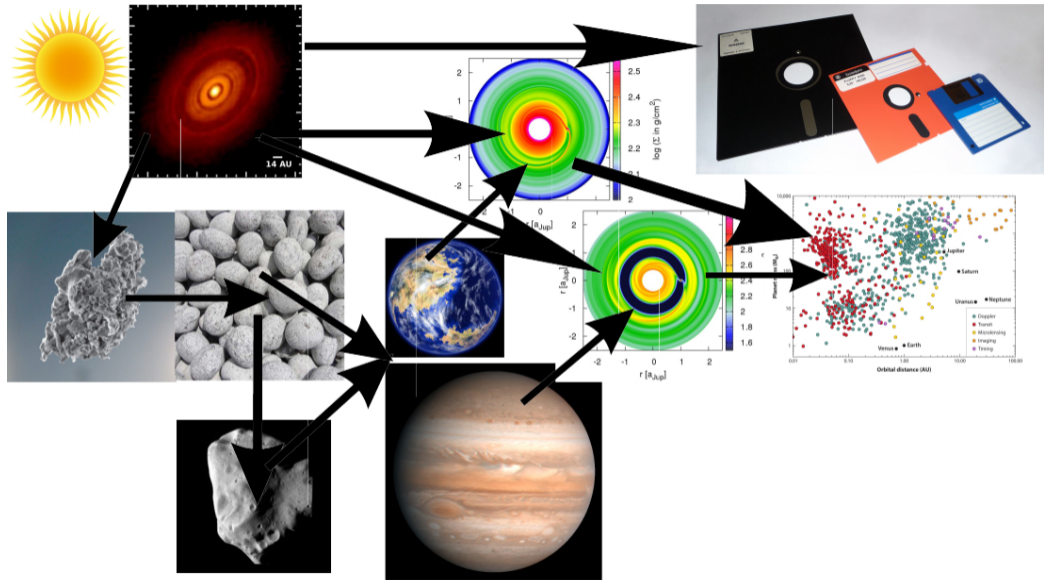
Planet formation: Core accretion



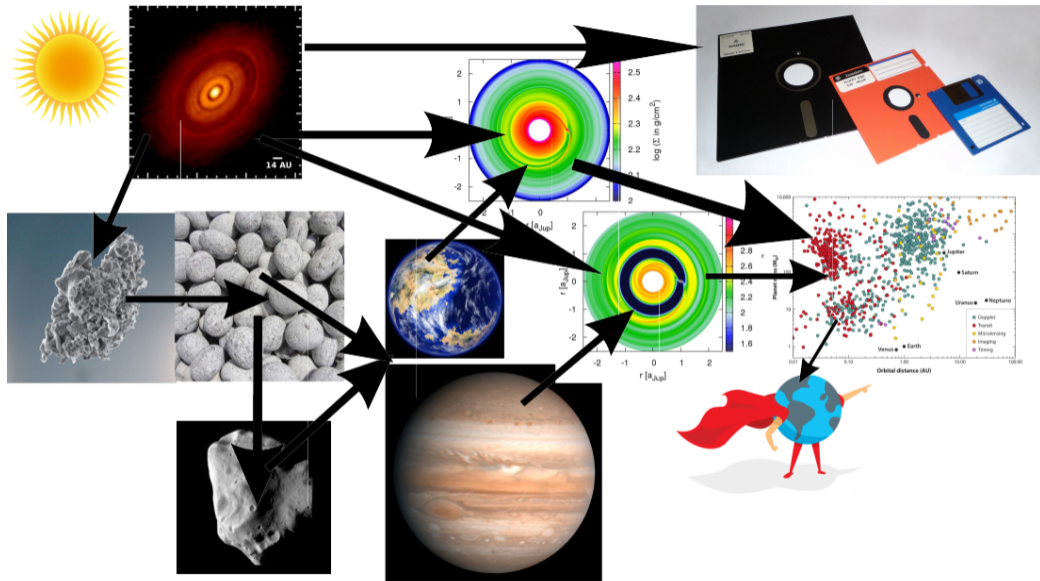
Planet formation: Core accretion



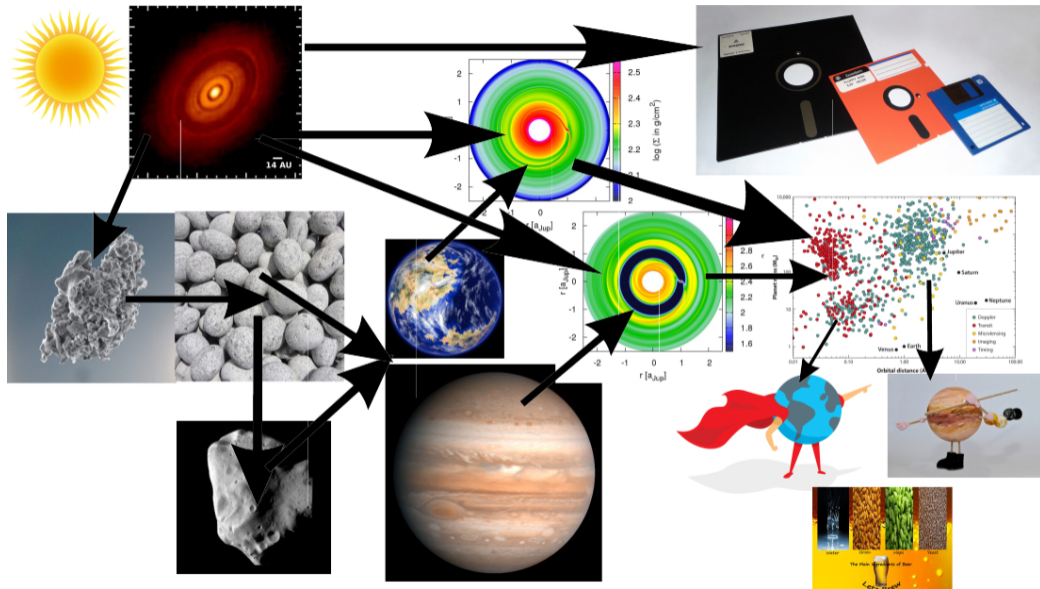
Planet formation: Core accretion



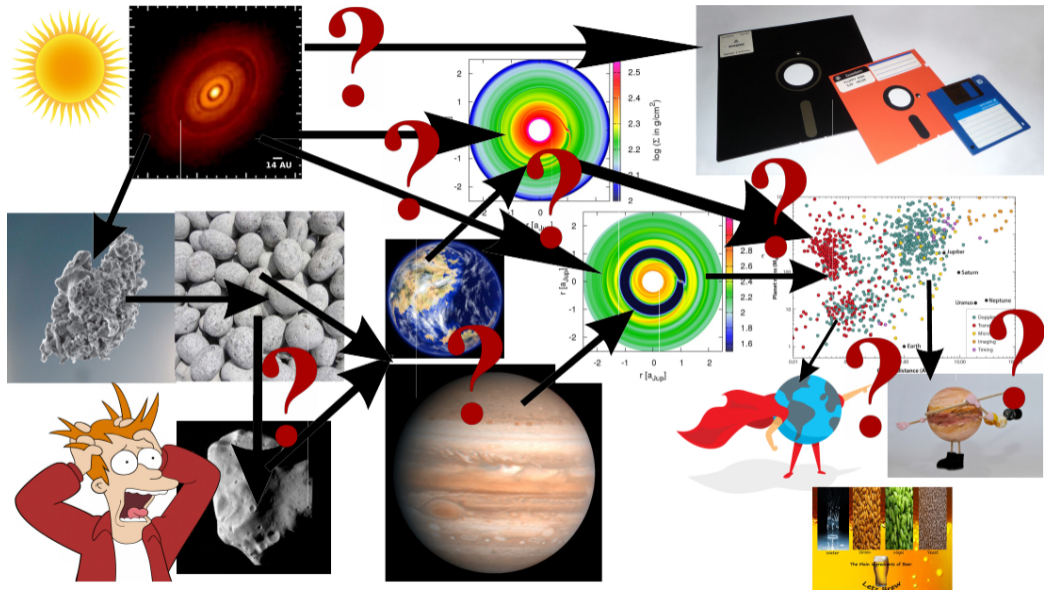
Planet formation: Core accretion



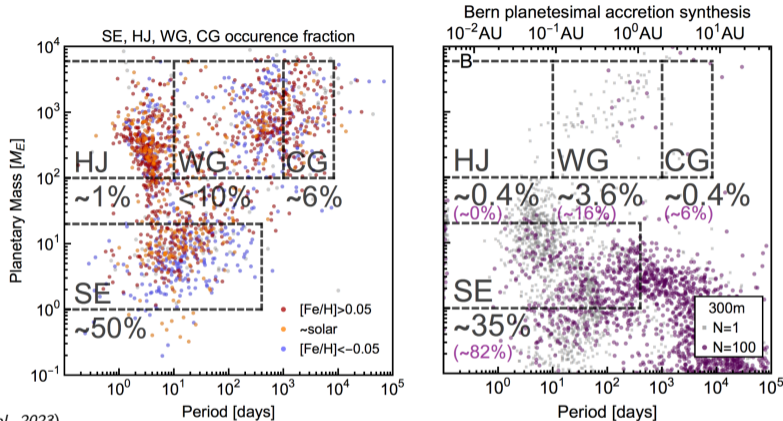
Planet formation: Core accretion



Planet formation: Core accretion



Planetesimal accretion



(Drażkowska, Bitsch, et al. 2023)

⇒ Planetesimal accretion could explain the formation of inner super-Earths in various models, **but** planetesimal sizes too small!

(e.g. Emsenhuber et al. 2021, Batygin & Morbidelli 2023, Ogihara et al. 2024)

⇒ Planetesimal accretion has problems to explain the outer giant planet populations!

(e.g. Levison et al. 2010, Johansen & Bitsch 2019)

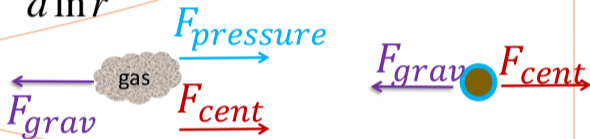
Dust motion

GAS

Supported by gas pressure



$$v_{\phi}^2 = v_{Kepler}^2 + c_s^2 \frac{d \ln P}{d \ln r}$$



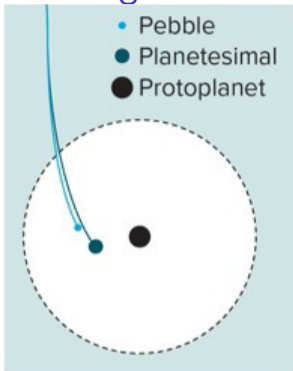
Dust Particles

Move with Keplerian velocity and feel a constant head-wind

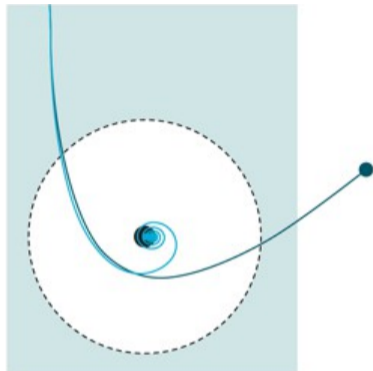
(figure by P. Pinilla)

- ⇒ Dust orbits on the Keplerian velocity, while the gas orbits sub-Keplerian
- ⇒ **Dust moves inwards much faster than the gas!**

Planet growth: Pebble accretion



(e.g. Johansen & Lambrechts 2017)



⇒ Planetesimal accretion inefficient, especially in the outer disc
(e.g. Johansen & Bitsch 2019)

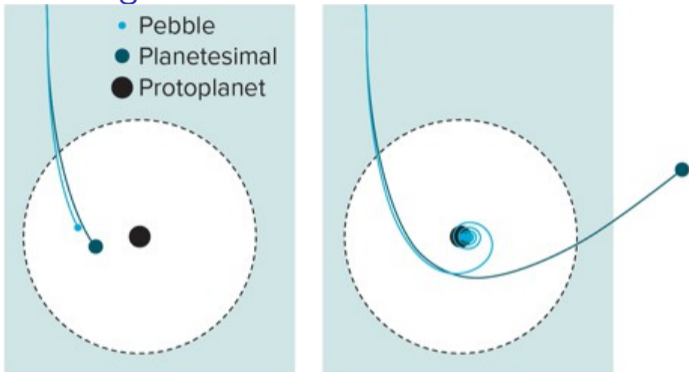
• Pebbles spiral on to the planet due to gas friction

⇒ Pebbles are accreted efficiently

• Accretion rate \dot{M}_c by pebble accretion:

$$\dot{M}_c = 2 \left(\frac{\tau_f}{0.1} \right)^{2/3} r_H^2 \Omega_K \Sigma_{\text{Peb}}$$

Planet growth: Pebble accretion



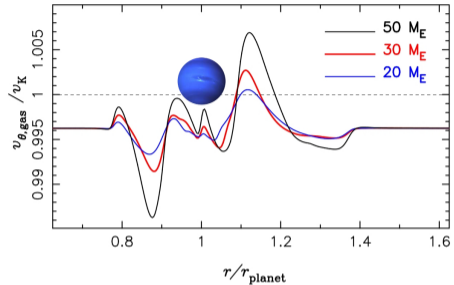
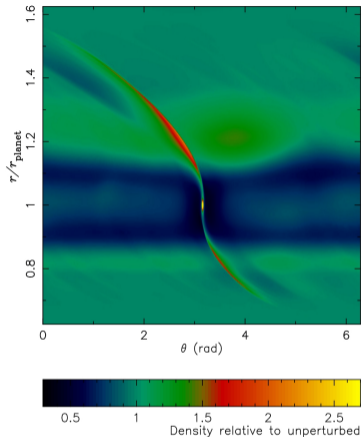
(e.g. Johansen & Lambrechts 2017)

- ⇒ Planetesimal accretion inefficient, especially in the outer disc
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- Pebbles spiral on to the planet due to gas friction
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$$\dot{M}_c = 2 \left(\frac{\tau_f}{0.1} \right)^{2/3} r_H^2 \Omega_K \Sigma_{\text{Peb}}$$

- ⇒ Pebble accretion becomes efficient once the embryo is $\approx 0.01 M_E$
- ⇒ Initial collisions might be needed, before pebble accretion finishes the job!
(but see Lorek & Johansen 2022, Lyra et al. 2023)
- ⇒ Pebble accretion is efficient, because a single planet could have access to the full mass reservoir of the disc!

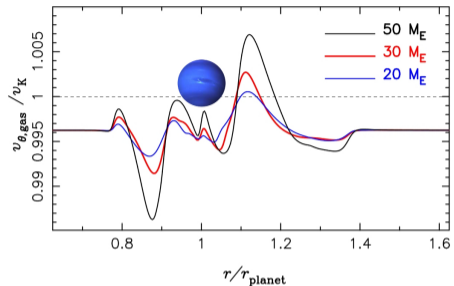
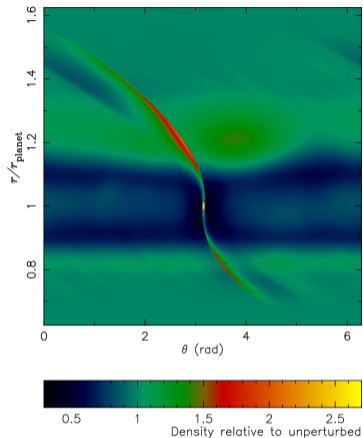
Gaps in discs: Pebble isolation mass



⇒ Pebble accretion self-terminates: no accretion of solids any more!

(Lambrechts et al., 2014; Bitsch et al., 2018a, Ataiee et al. 2018)

Gaps in discs: Pebble isolation mass



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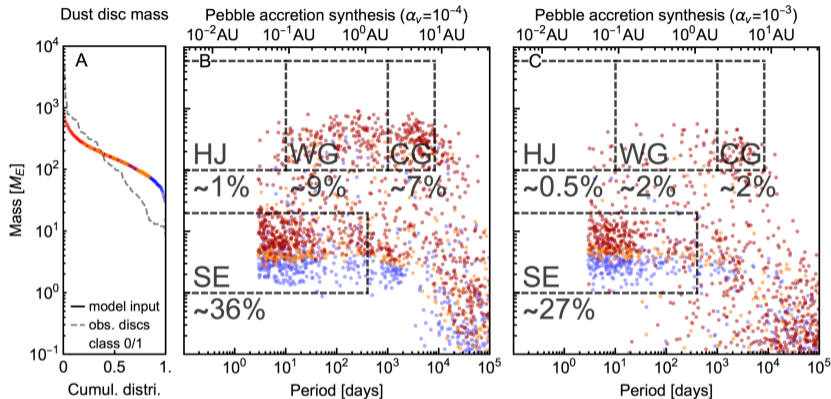
(Lambrechts et al., 2014; Bitsch et al., 2018a, Ataiee et al. 2018)

⇒ The pebble isolation mass depends strongly on the disc properties (e.g. H/r , ν , α) and the particle size as well as on the stellar mass!

⇒ Still in discussion how “leaky” these gaps are

(e.g. Weber et al. 2018, Stammler et al. 2023)

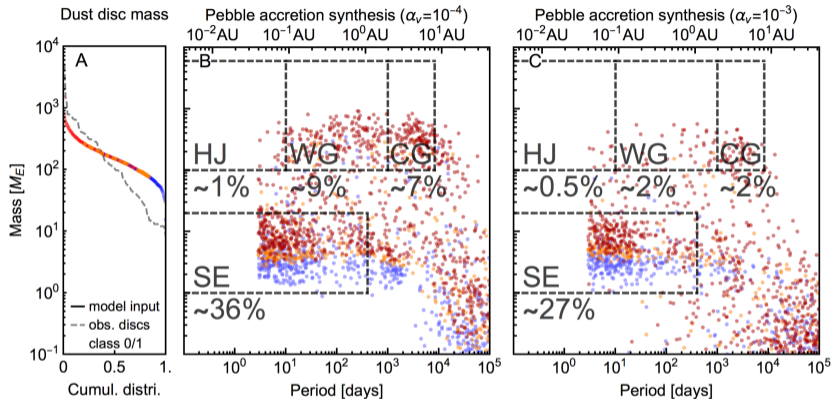
Pebble accretion population synthesis



(Drążkowska, Bitsch, et al. 2023)

- ⇒ Wide orbit giants can be formed at high metallicity!
- ⇒ Vertical stirring can have important consequences for pebble accretion!

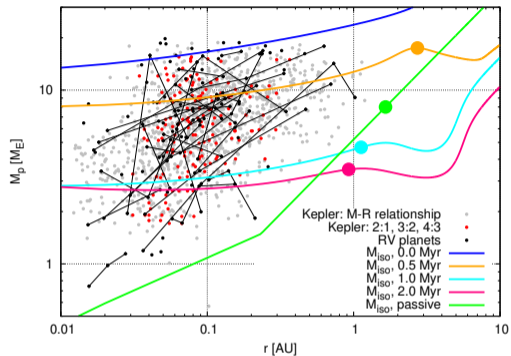
Pebble accretion population synthesis



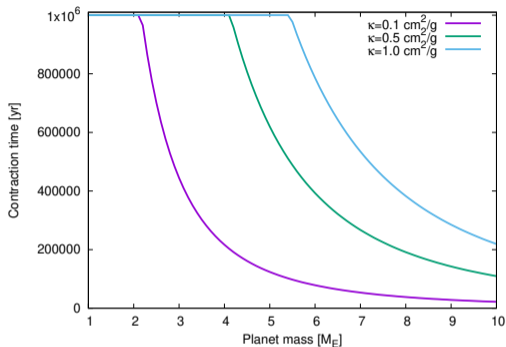
(Drążkowska, Bitsch, et al. 2023)

- ⇒ Wide orbit giants can be formed at high metallicity!
- ⇒ Vertical stirring can have important consequences for pebble accretion!
- ⇒ **What sets the formation of different planetary types for pebble accretion?**

What parameters influence the growth of planets?



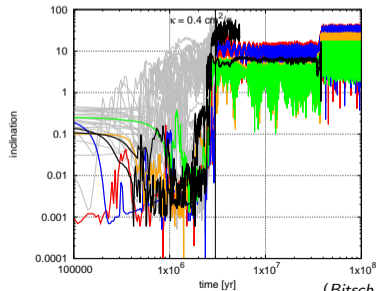
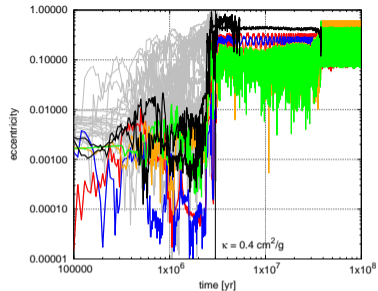
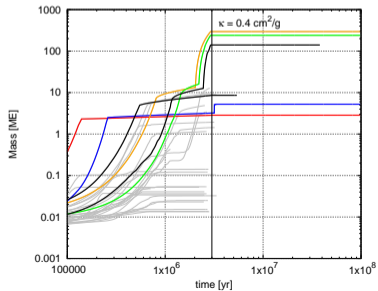
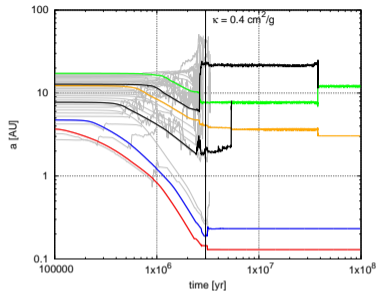
(Bitsch 2019)



(Bitsch et al. 2019, Bitsch & Izidoro 2023)

- ⇒ Pebble isolation mass can explain the masses of inner super-Earths!
- ⇒ Pebble flux determines when envelope contraction can start!
- ⇒ Pebble isolation mass and envelope opacity determine the envelope contraction time!
- ⇒ **Planets growing in the inner disc region are too small to reach runaway gas accretion!**

System evolution

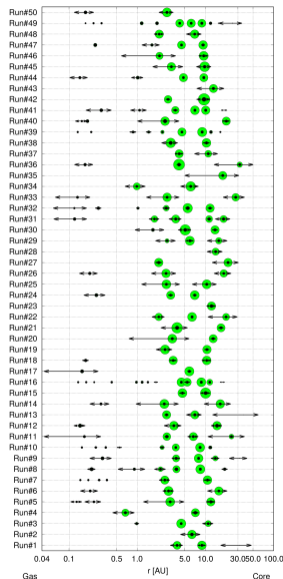


(Bitsch & Izidoro 2023)

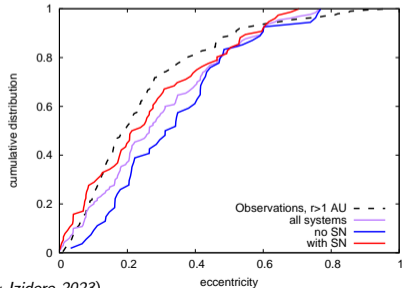
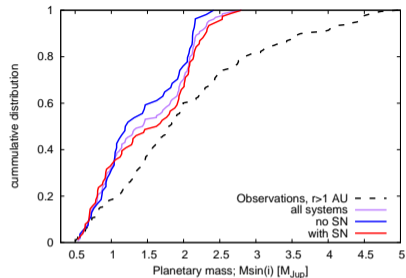
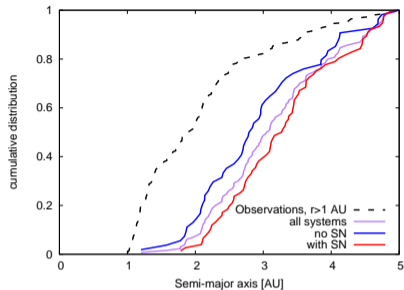
Planet statistics

κ [cm ² /g]	SN, stable	SN, unstable	SN with Giants
0.05	0%	6%	6%
0.1	0%	14%	14%
0.2	6%	10%	16%
0.3	8%	14%	22%
0.4	12%	38%	50%
0.4, $S_{\text{peb}}=10.0$	25%	19%	44%

- Inner planet formation possible: if pebble flux is large enough to make giants, it is large enough to make super-Earths!
- ⇒ Lower κ : larger planet masses: more extreme instabilities: less surviving inner super-Earths
- ⇒ No anti-correlation between inner super-Earths and outer giants!
- ⇒ **What does that imply for the properties of the giant planets?**



Distribution of giant planets

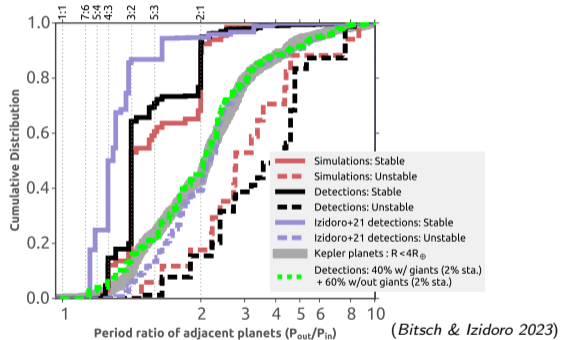
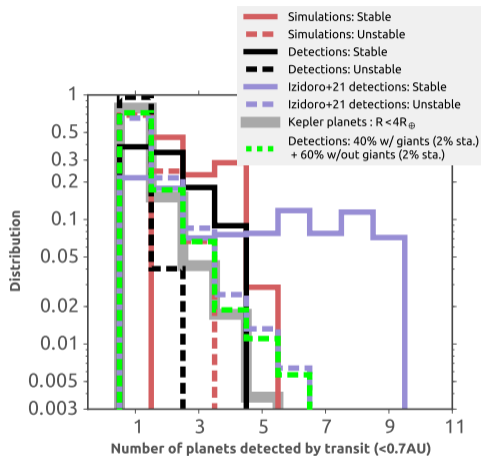


• Giants with inner super-Earths have:

- ▶ slightly larger distances
- ▶ slightly lower eccentricities
- ▶ no difference in mass

⇒ Results depend on the number of outer embryos that grow to become giants!

Breaking the inner chains with giants

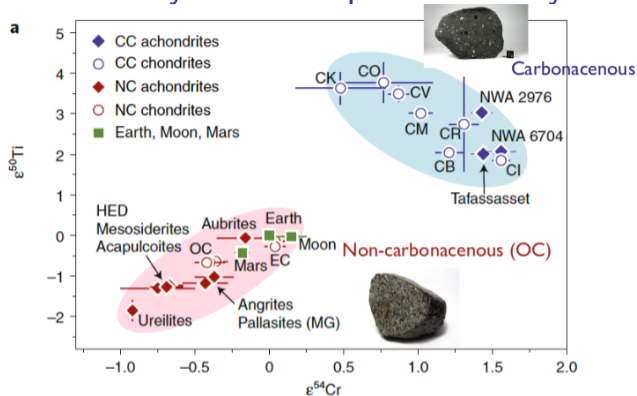


- Multiple outer giant planets cause instabilities in inner systems

(e.g. Mustill et al. 2015, Bitsch & Izidoro 2023, 2024)

⇒ The breaking the chains scenario remains valid also with outer giant planets

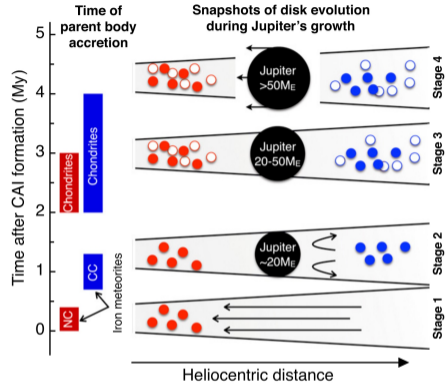
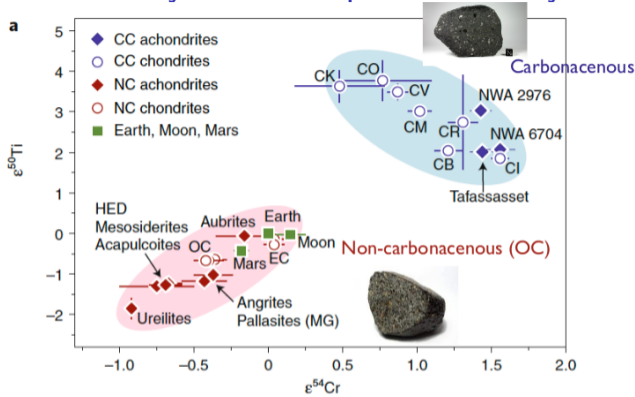
The solar system isotopic dichotomy



(Warren et al. 2011, Brasser et al. 2017, Kruijer et al. 2017;2020)

⇒ Clear isotopic dichotomy between inner and outer solar system material!

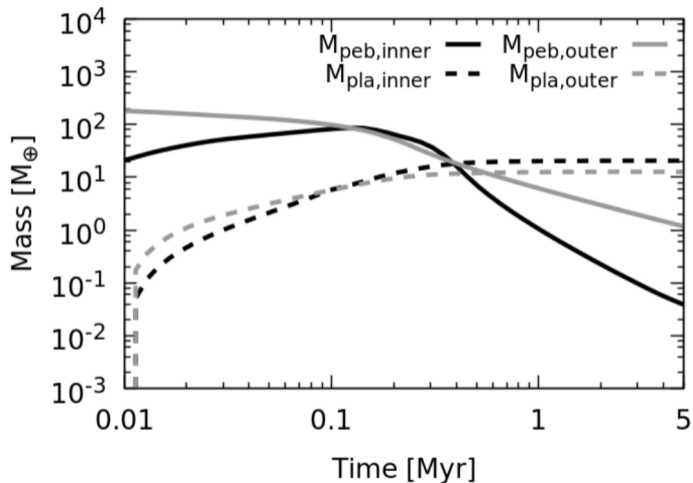
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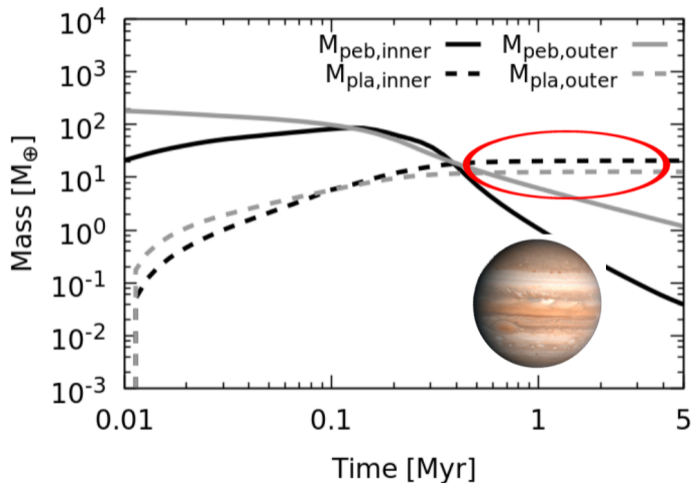
- ⇒ Clear isotopic dichotomy between inner and outer solar system material!
- ⇒ Jupiter's formation could help to separate the reservoirs by blocking the inward flowing pebbles (?)

Influence of pebble drift and planetesimal formation



(Izidoro, Bitsch, et al. 2021b)

Influence of pebble drift and planetesimal formation



(Izidoro, Bitsch, et al. 2021b)

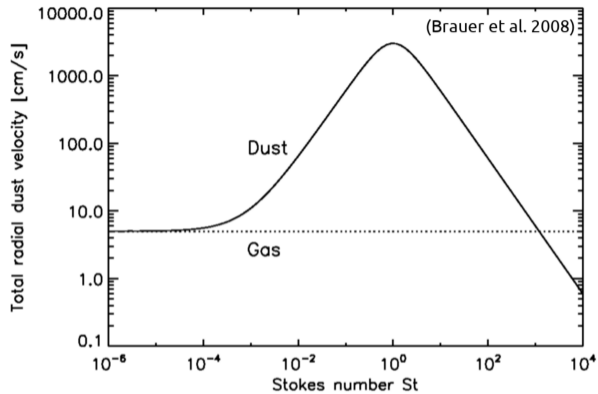
⇒ Too many planetesimals to make the terrestrial planets have been formed if the pebble flux is just cut at 1 Myr of disc evolution!

⇒ Probably some original pressure perturbations needed to explain the solar system formation!

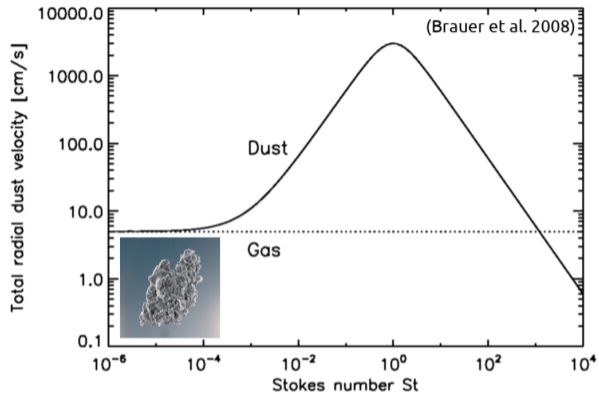
(Izidoro et al. 2022, Morbidelli et al. 2022)

⇒ What does that imply for the formation of super-Earth systems?

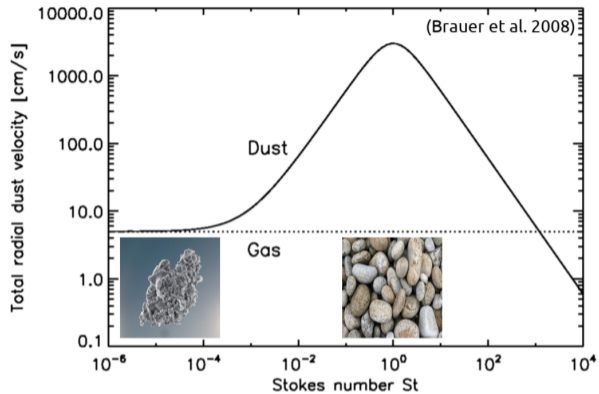
Effects of pebble drift and evolution



Effects of pebble drift and evolution

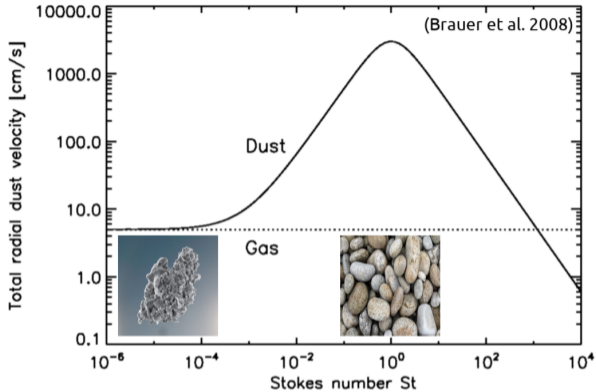


Effects of pebble drift and evolution



- Pebbles drift inwards faster than the gas moves!

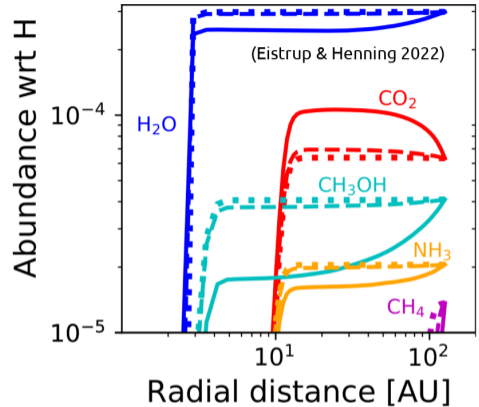
Effects of pebble drift and evolution



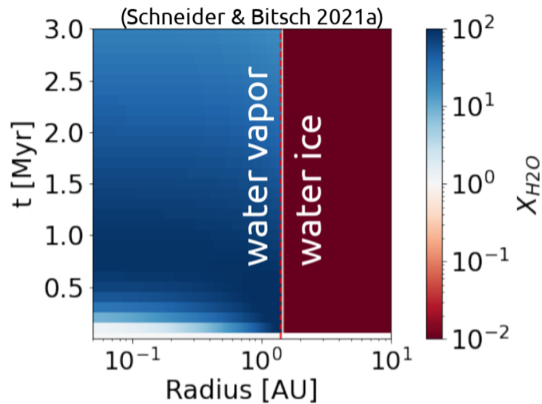
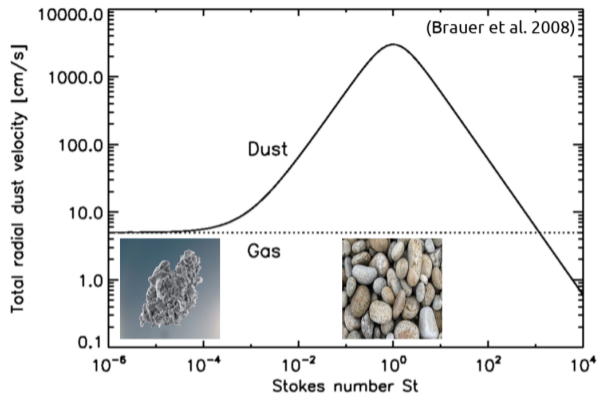
- Pebbles drift inwards faster than the gas moves!

⇒ Pebble composition is probably unaltered during drift

(e.g. Booth & Ilee 2019, Eistrup & Henning 2022)

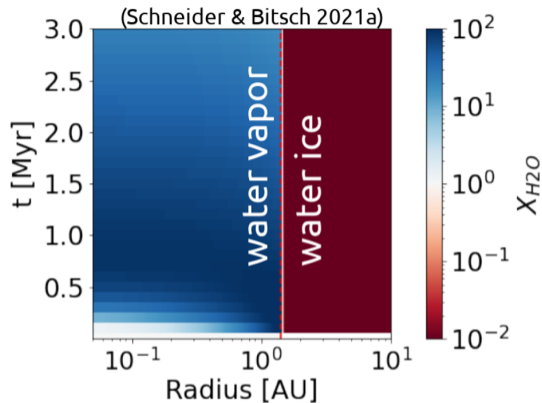
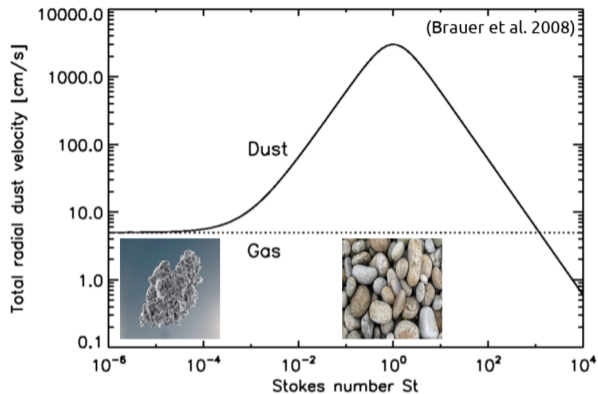


Effects of pebble drift and evolution



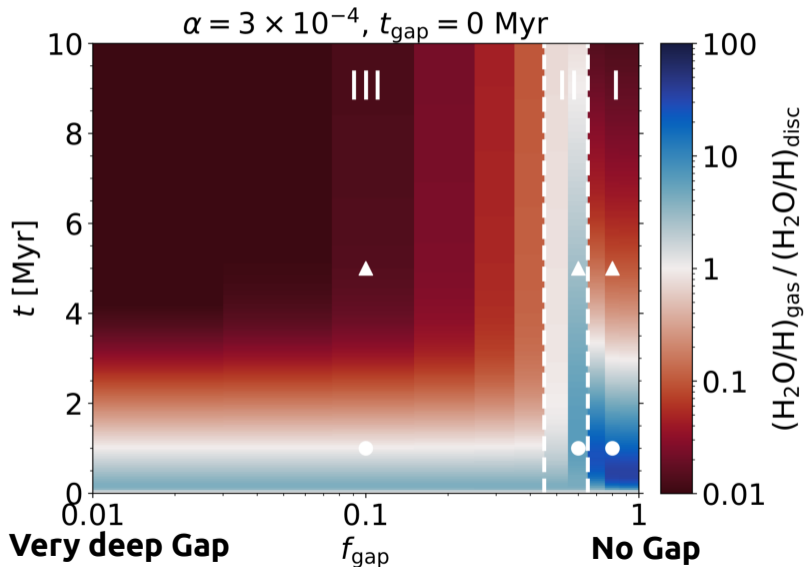
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(e.g. Booth & Ilee 2019, Eistrup & Henning 2022)
- ⇒ Pebble drift and evaporation can lead to a pile-up of volatile vapor!
(e.g. Booth et al. 2017, Aguichine et al. 2020, Schneider & Bitsch 2021a,b, Kalyaan et al. 2023, Mah et al. 2023, 2024)

Effects of pebble drift and evolution



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(e.g. Booth et al. 2017, Aguichine et al. 2020, Schneider & Bitsch 2021a,b, Kalyaan et al. 2023, Mah et al. 2023, 2024)
- ⇒ **Disc composition evolves with time!**

Water evolution in discs



(Mah et al. 2024)

The 3 regimes of disc structures and their implications

No bumps:



- Pebbles drift inward fast
 - Initial water content increases in inner disc
 - Pebble flux \dot{M}_{peb} ceases
- ⇒ Water content becomes sub-solar after 2-3 Myr

The 3 regimes of disc structures and their implications

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Bumps:



- Pebbles drift delayed
 - Initial water content increases in inner disc
 - \dot{M}_{peb} can be maintained
- ⇒ Super-solar water content can be maintained

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Bumps:



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- ⇒ Super-solar water content can be maintained

Gaps:



- Inward drift stopped!
 - Initial water content determined by r_{gap}
 - Water content diminishes
- ⇒ Sub-solar water content after 1 Myr

The 3 regimes of disc structures and their implications

No bumps:



- Pebbles drift inward fast
 - Initial water content increases in inner disc
 - Pebble flux \dot{M}_{peb} ceases
- ⇒ Water content becomes sub-solar after 2-3 Myr
- ⇒ Viscosity regulates at which gap depth the transitions occurs!
- ⇒ Time of gap opening determines (initial) water content of inner disc!

(Mah, Savvidou & Bitsch 2024, see also Kalyaan et al.2023, Houge et al. 2025)

Bumps:



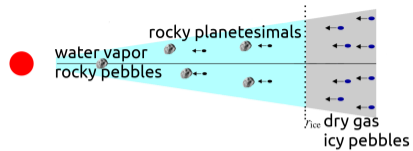
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- ⇒ Super-solar water content can be maintained

Gaps:



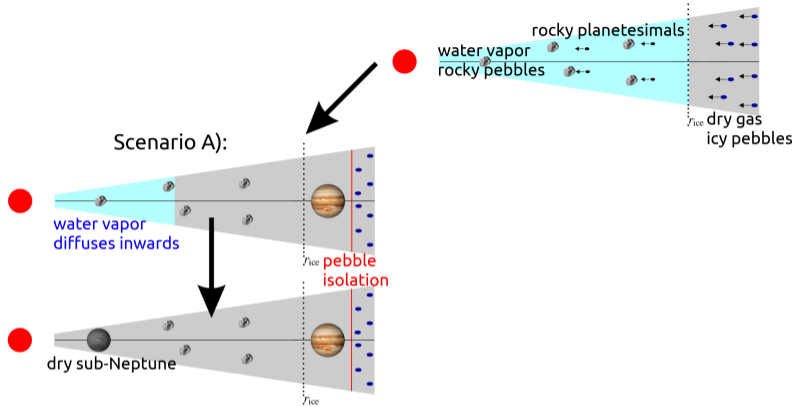
- Inward drift stopped!
 - Initial water content determined by r_{gap}
 - Water content diminishes
- ⇒ Sub-solar water content after 1 Myr

Implication for exoplanets: sub-Neptune formation



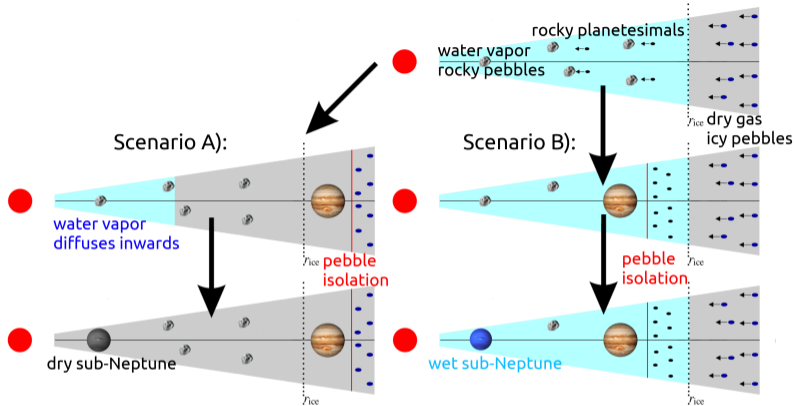
(Bitsch et al., 2021)

Implication for exoplanets: sub-Neptune formation



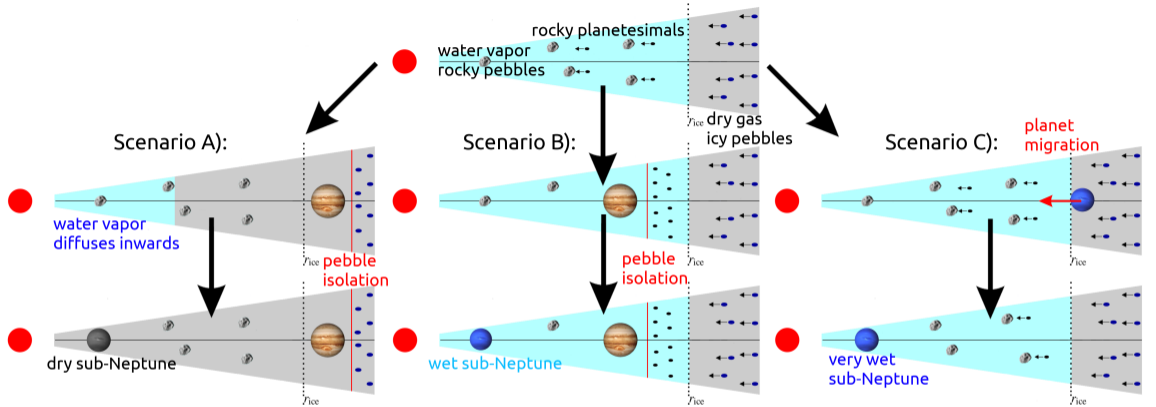
(Bitsch et al., 2021)

Implication for exoplanets: sub-Neptune formation



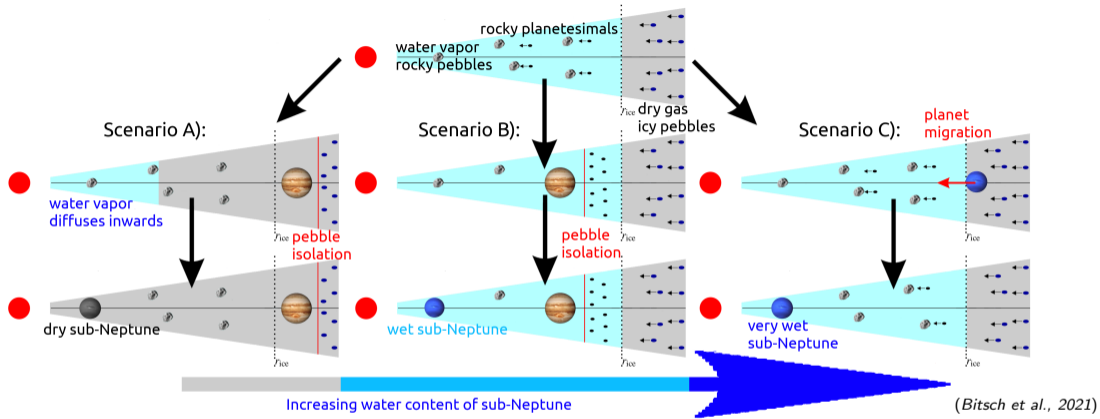
(Bitsch et al., 2021)

Implication for exoplanets: sub-Neptune formation

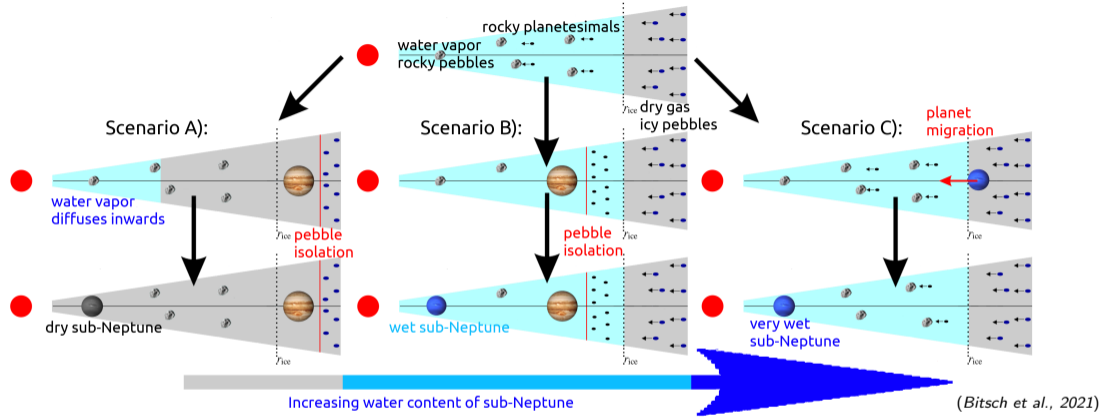


(Bitsch et al., 2021)

Implication for exoplanets: sub-Neptune formation

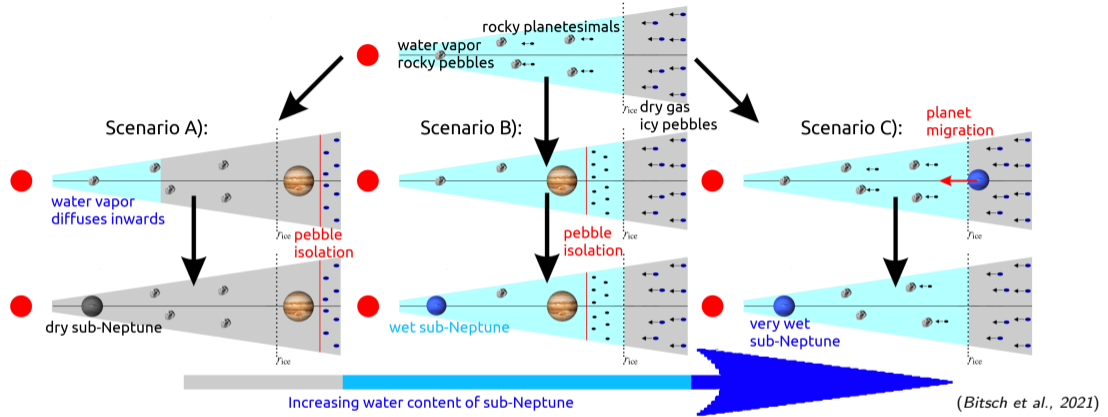


Implication for exoplanets: sub-Neptune formation



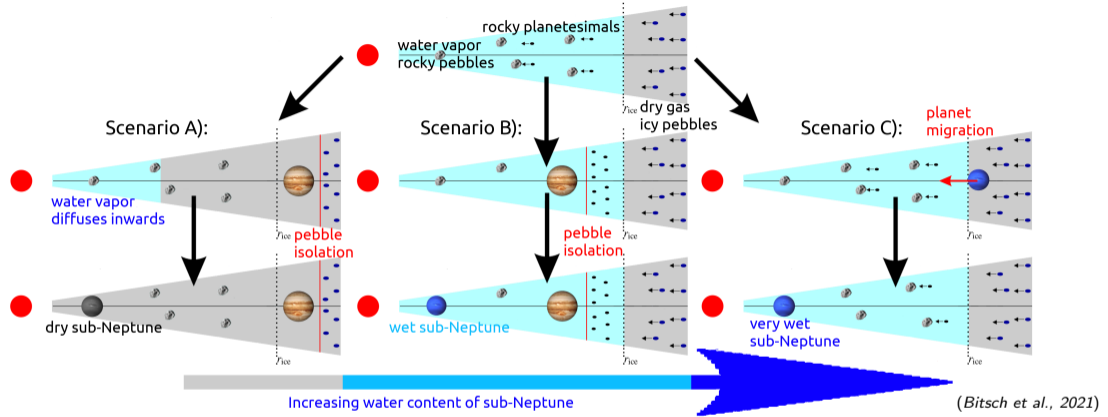
⇒ Giant planet formation time and position relative to the ice line is key!

Implication for exoplanets: sub-Neptune formation



- ⇒ Giant planet formation time and position relative to the ice line is key!
- ⇒ Water content of sub-Neptunes could help to constrain if Jupiter formed early?

Implication for exoplanets: sub-Neptune formation

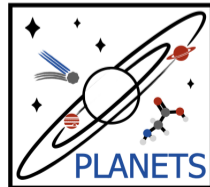
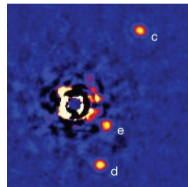
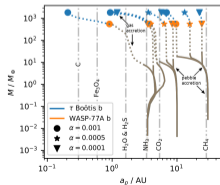
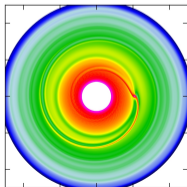


- ⇒ Giant planet formation time and position relative to the ice line is key!
- ⇒ Water content of sub-Neptunes could help to constrain if Jupiter formed early?
- ⇒ **Hat-P-11b's sub-solar water content implies an early formation of its outer Jovian companion!**

(Chatziastros et al. 2024)

Summary

- ⇒ Everything in the disc moves (gas, dust, pebbles, planets)
(e.g. Brauer et al. 2008, Lambrechts & Johansen 2014, Paardekooper et al. 2022)
- Inward drifting pebbles evaporate and enrich the disc and atmospheres of growing planets
(e.g. Booth et al. 2017, Banzatti et al. 2020, Aguichine et al. 2020, Schneider & Bitsch 2021a,b, Bitsch et al. 2022)
- Pressure traps (e.g. caused by giant planets) influence the composition of inner discs
(e.g. Schneider & Bitsch 2021a, Bitsch et al. 2021, Kalyaan et al. 2023, Banzatti et al. 2023, Mah et al. 2024)
- Planetsimal accretion can not explain the cold Jupiter population
(e.g. Levison et al. 2010, Johansen & Bitsch 2019, Emsenhuber et al. 2021)
- Pebble accretion can allow the formation of wide orbit planets
(e.g. Lambrechts & Johansen 2014, Bitsch et al. 2015, Savvidou & Bitsch 2023)
- ⇒ There is no anti-correlation (from a formation perspective) between inner super-Earths and outer giant planets!
(e.g. Bitsch et al. 2019, 2020, Schlecker et al. 2021, Bitsch & Izidoro 2023)
- ⇒ Constraints of atmospheric abundances could help to solve the puzzle!



Acknowledgements



Acknowledgements

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