Dust in Debris Disks: Imprints of Extrasolar Planetary Systems

Kate Y. L. Su¹

¹Steward Observatory, University of Arizona, USA,

Debris disks are tenuous dusty disks generated through collisions among the leftover planetesimals and evaporating comet-like bodies. They provide us with a long-lived record of planet formation in extrasolar planetary systems. The large surface area of debris makes these disks detectable through infrared thermal emission or optical scattered light, providing insights into the nature of unseen planetesimal populations. In my talk, I will review recent studies of debris disks focusing on the following topics: (1) signposts for multiple low-mass planets revealed from multi-wavelength debris disk structures and (2) systems that are the sites of recent large collisions or episodes of a high level of dynamical activity in the terrestrial planet building zone.