

# **Infrared Companions to T Tauri Stars:**

## **Clues to the Formation and Evolution of Low-Mass Binaries**

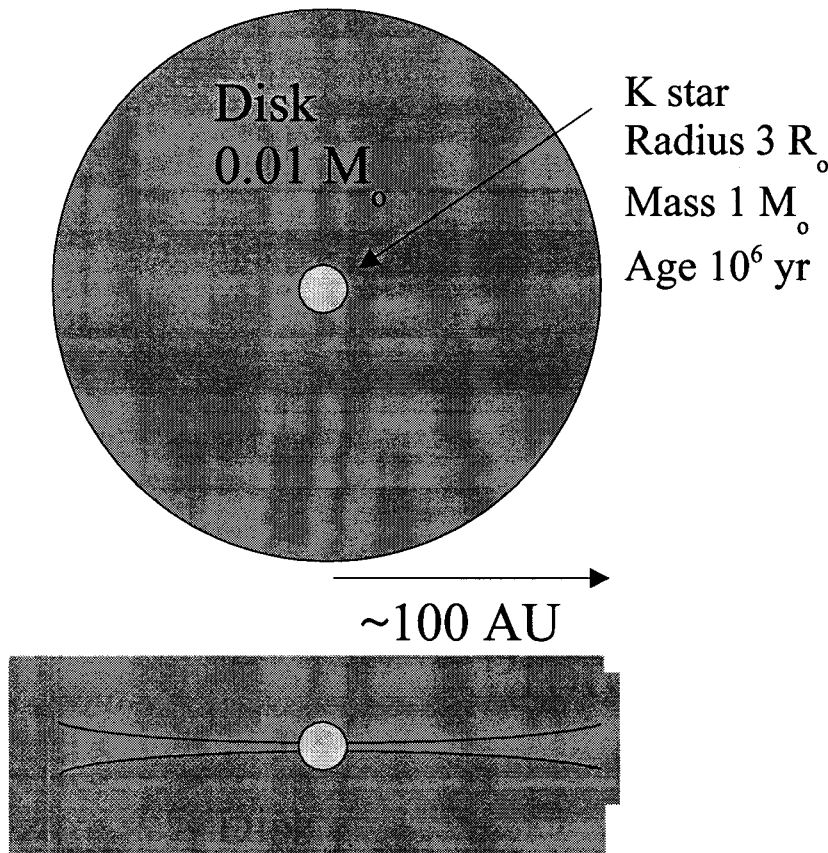
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# T Tauri Stars: Young Sun-Like Stars with Protoplanetary Disks



Formed in cloud cores

Disks are sites of planet formation

Excess of Binaries (compared to main-sequence counterparts)

"Classical":

Strong H<sub>α</sub> emission

IR and UV Excesses

Submillimeter Excess

# Properties of the Infrared Companions

Companions to "normal" TTS

Separation  $\sim$  Disk Radius

Large IR excess

Evidence for strong dust extinction

Moderate dust masses

(from submillimeter fluxes)

Faint in visible light

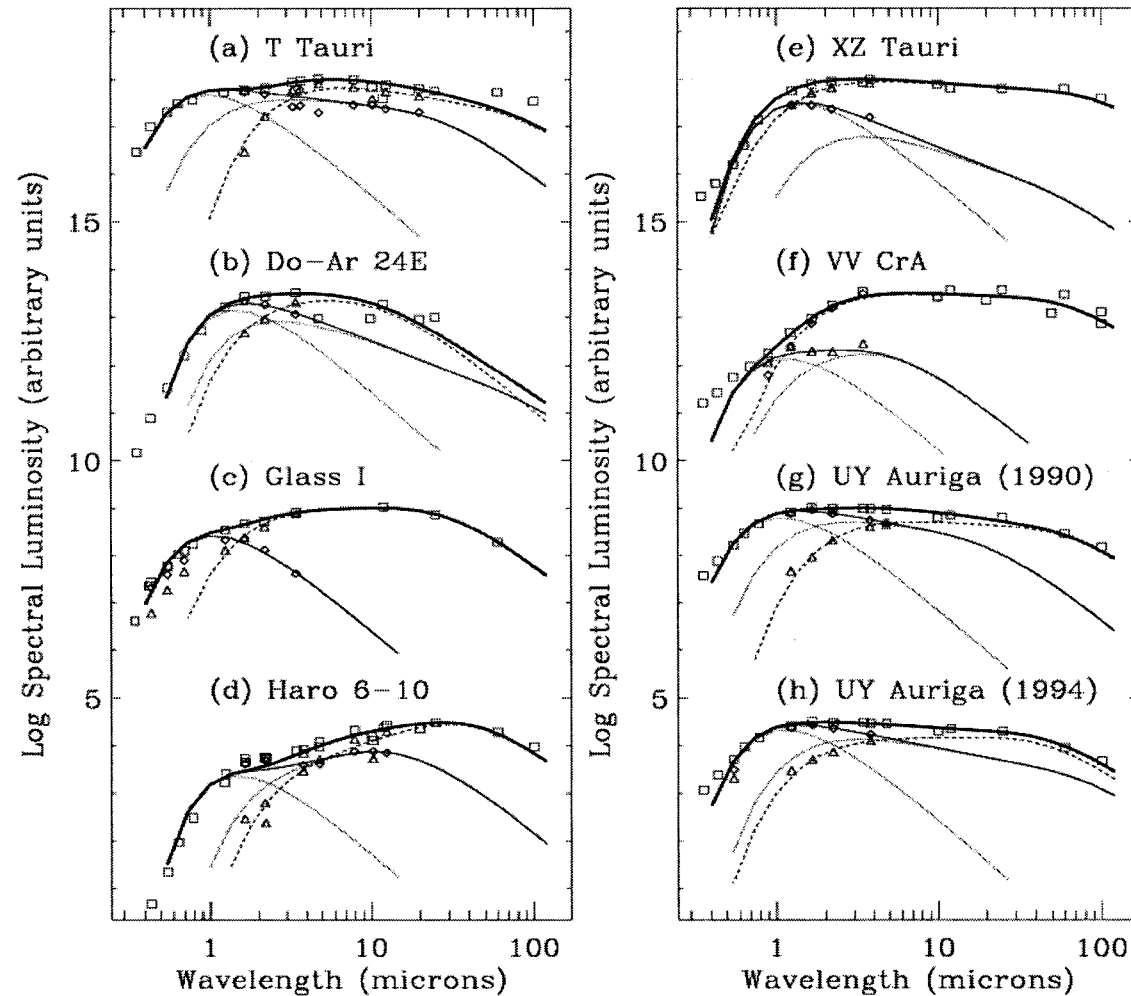
Large luminosity

Large variability

Magnetic accretion?

H<sub>2</sub> emission

Nonthermal Radio

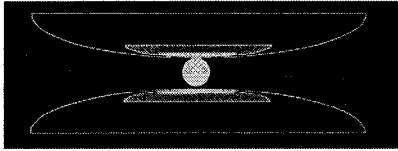


# Infrared Companions: A Brief History

## IRC Discoveries

UY Aur	1944 ( <i>Joy &amp; van Biesbroek</i> )	<i>Visible Image</i>
T Tauri	1982 ( <i>Dyck, Simon, &amp; Zuckerman</i> )	<i>IR speckle</i>
VV CrA	1985 ( <i>Frogel</i> )	<i>IR offset</i>
DoAr 24e	1988 ( <i>Chelli et al.</i> )	<i>IR speckle</i>
Glass I	1988 ( <i>Chelli et al.</i> )	<i>IR speckle</i>
Haro 6–10	1989 ( <i>Leinert &amp; Haas</i> )	<i>IR speckle</i>
XZ Tauri	1990 ( <i>Haas, Leinert, &amp; Zinnecker</i> )	<i>IR speckle</i>
WSB 4	1993 ( <i>Reipurth &amp; Zinnecker</i> )	<i>IR Image</i>

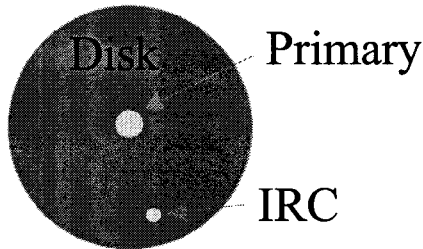
# Models for the IRCs



## **IRC has an Edge-On Disk**

Variability due to changing extinction?

Testable via high-resolution imaging



## **IRC is a TTS hidden by primary's disk**

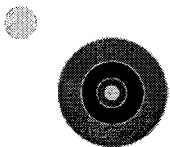


## **IRC accretes from circumbinary disk**

Variability due to changing extinction and/or accretion rate

Accretion streams preferentially onto IRC because of eccentricity and mass ratio

IRC characteristics episodic and tied to binary orbit



## **IRC is active accretion disk ("mini-FUor")**

Luminosity powered by disk accretion

Variability due to changing accretion rate

# Models for the IRCs (continued)

## **IRC is Younger than the Primary (Protostar!?)**

Formation or evolution delayed wrt Primary

Formed from disk around Primary?

Accretion a "Fountain of Youth"?

Explains low color temperature and infrared excess

# Spatially Resolving IRCs with Speckle Holography

Diffraction-limited  
imaging technique

0 m Keck I telescope

PSF Self-Calibration

Azimuthally Averaged  
Visibility Amplitude

Constant  $\Rightarrow$  Unresolved

WSB 4

DoAr 24e

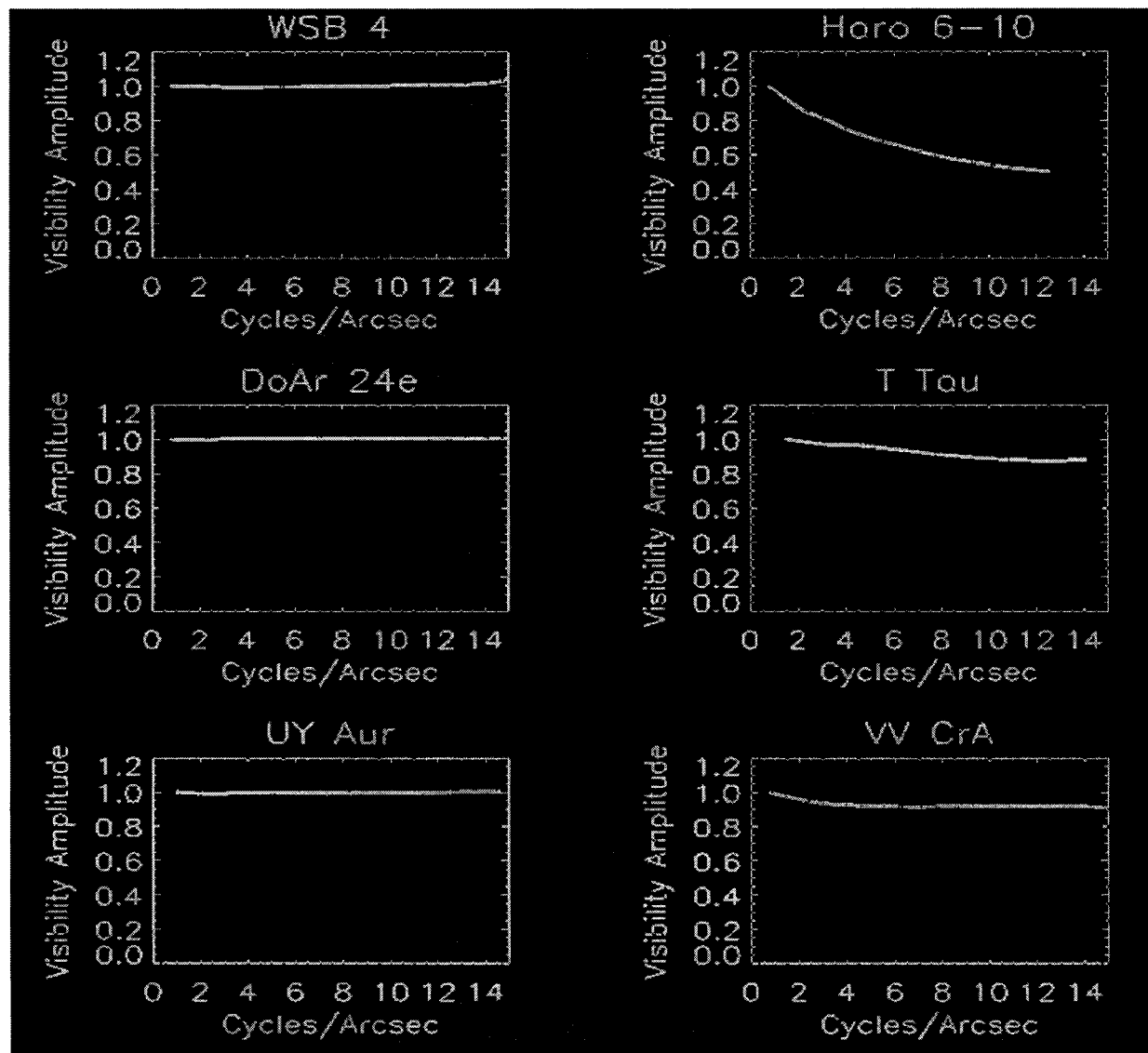
UY Aur

Falling  $\Rightarrow$  Resolved

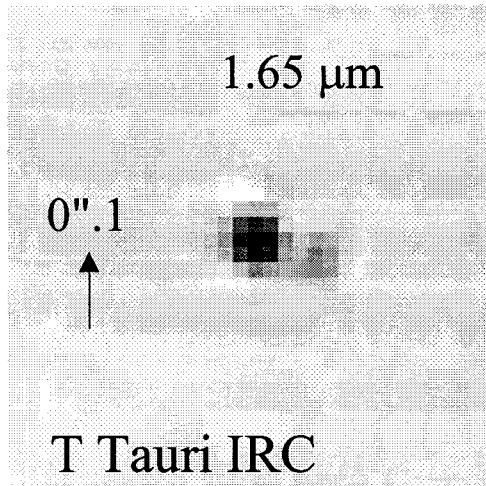
Haro 6-10

T Tauri

VV CrA



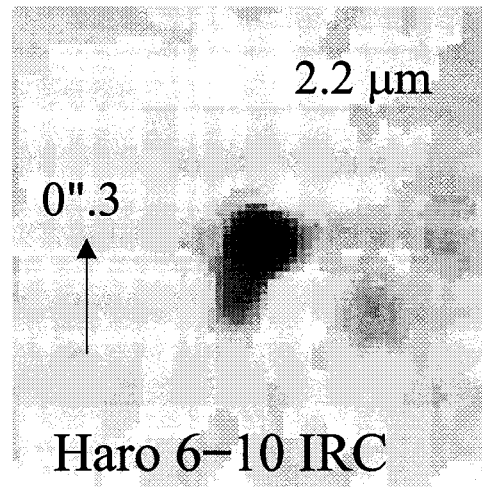
# Near-Infrared Images of the Three Resolved IRCs



T Tauri is a triple!

Both objects are highly reddened

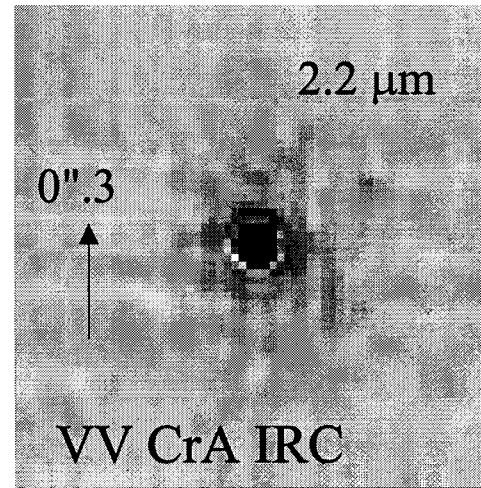
Orbital motion seen in IRC pair



Nebular "tail"

Fainter structures

Heavily embedded



Faint nebulosity (core+halo source)

No clear sign of deviation from circular symmetry



# UY Aur B: An IRC that Wasn't

1944: The UY Aur IRC was discovered. It was a bright visible object! ( $\Delta$  mag 0.4–0.5)

1995:  $\Delta$  mag  $> 5$  (Herbst, Koresko, & Leinert 1995)

## FIVE NEW DOUBLE STARS AMONG VARIABLES OF THE T TAURI CLASS

A. H. JOY AND G. VAN BIESBROECK

Five of the eleven known T Tauri variable stars were found to be double by Joy while observing them with the spectrograph at the 100-inch telescope on Mount Wilson.

Micrometer measures by van Biesbroeck at the McDonald Observatory for four of the pairs give the position angles and distances in Table I. The measures were made at unfavorable hour angles where the maximum accuracy would not be expected. The estimated magnitude differences are in the last column.

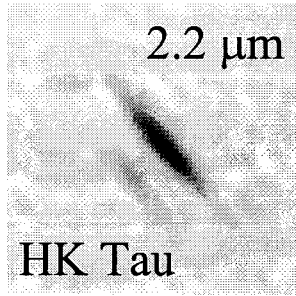
TABLE I  
MICROMETER MEASURES OF T TAURI STARS

Star	Date	$P$	$d$	$\Delta$ mag
RW Aur .....	1944.246	253.8	1.17	1.5
	.248	254.9	1.28	...
	(Mean) .25	254.3	1.22	...
UY Aur .....	1944.246	212.6	0.72	0.5
	.248	211.8	0.92	0.4
	(Mean) .25	212.2	0.82	...
UX Tau .....	1944.246	269.8	5.66	...
	.248	270.2	5.66	...
	.251	270.2	5.89	...
	(Mean) .25	270.1	5.74	...
UZ Tau .....	1944.237	271.4	3.70	0.4
	.246	272.4	3.72	0.3
	.248	270.9	3.60	0.2
	.251	91.3	3.68	0.2
	(Mean) .25	271.5	3.68	...

# Variability of the Haro 6–10 IRC

Christoph Leinert's section goes here...

# Discussion



IRCs don't look like edge-on disk systems  
(such as HK Tauri B)

No consistent morphology

Are the IRCs really a consistent class?

Existence of IRCs indicates that significant  
*non-disk* circumstellar material can exist in  
a binary system

# Conclusions

Companions to Young (Pre–Main Sequence) Solar–Mass stars

Infrared excess, silicate absorption, and nebulosity indicate diffuse dusty circumstellar material

Diverse Morphology (pointlike, binary, core+halo, and "tail")

⇒ Probably not just special viewing geometry