





PEPSci

Planetary and Exoplanetary Science Transit depth and wavelength dependence of disintegrating exoplanets

A. R. Ridden-Harper, C. U. Keller, M. Min, R. van Lieshout, I.A.G. Snellen

Disintegrating rocky exoplanets



Credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech

dust probe surface/interior exoplanet material

Characteristic transit light curve: Kepler-1520 b *

* Formerly known as KIC 12557548 b



Variable transit depths: Kepler-1520 b *

* Formerly known as KIC 12557548 b



EWASS 2017, Prague

van Werkhoven et al. (2014)

Particle dynamics model (3D)



Ridden-Harper et al. in prep.

Simulated optically thin tail



Example of a simulated tail



Ridden-Harper et al. in prep.

Ray tracing with Michiel Min's MCMax3D



Ridden-Harper et al. in prep.

Light curve from MCMax3D (many viewing angles)



Ridden-Harper et al. in prep.

EWASS 2017, Prague

Wavelength dependence as a function of tail mass



Ridden-Harper et al. in prep.

Derive minimum tail height from transit depth



Ridden-Harper et al. in prep.

transit depth \rightarrow minimum ejection velocity out of plane



Optical depth in particle dynamics (preliminary)







Ridden-Harper et al. in prep.

Conclusions

- From transit depth
 - Minimum particle ejection velocity perpendicular to plane
 - Constrain ejection mechanism
- Large wavelength dependence in transit depth – Look in the K-band (2.0 – 2.4 μ m)
- Optically thick
 - Transit depth not indicative of mass
- Large mass loss rates \rightarrow very high shielding
 - Investigating effect on tail particle dynamics

Ridden-Harper et al. in prep.

Particle dynamics model (3D)



$$\frac{F_{\text{radiation presure}}}{F_{\text{star gravity}}} = \beta \text{(particle radius)}$$

β values



van Lieshout et al. (2014)

Insignificant forces that were neglected

- Poynting-Robertson drag
 - Small so only relevant over many orbits
- Stellar wind pressure
 - Order of magnitude smaller than radiation pressure (Rappaport+ 2014)
- Gas drag from the planetary outflow
 Assumed to diminish rapidly

Known cases: asymmetric light curves from tail



Kepler-1520 b: Transit wavelength dependence?

- No wavelength dependence
 - Croll el al. (2014)
 - Schlawin et al. (2016)
 - Felipe, PhD thesis, (2013)



Likely optically thick close to planet



van Lieshout et al. 2016

Constraints on composition:



van Lieshout et al. 2016

Mass loss rate can constrain mass (optically thin)



Perez-Becker & Chiang 2013-

No wavelength dependence of KIC1255b (0.5 μ m particles)

Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope/Wide-field InfraRed Camera (CFHT/WIRCam) at 2.15 μ m and the Kepler space telescope at 0.6 μ m



No wavelength dependence of KIC1255b

• (slightly higher red likely instrumental)



Murgas, PhD thesis, 2013

No wavelength dependence of KIC1255b: (0.5 – 1 μ m particles)



Schlawin+ 2016

Wavelength dependence of KIC1255b (0.25 – 1 μ m particles)



Bochinski+ 2015

Could geophysical processes result in these velocities?

Solar System body	Typical volc	anic eruption velocity (m/s)
Earth	300	(Wilson & Head, 1983)
Mars	500	(Wilson & Head, 1983)
Venus	100	(Wilson & Head, 1983)
lo	500 - 1000	(McEwen & Soderblom, 1983)

Hydrodynamic models with particles being dragged from the planet by escaping gas give velocities of ~1 km/s (Perez-Becker & Chiang, 2013)

Any other ideas from geophysicists? e.g. bursting bubbles on a boiling magma ocean?

600x more tail mass (1 μ m particles) makes it "optically thick"



- Tail is opaque
- Adding more mass does not increase absorption
- Transit depth is determined by tail cross-section
- Reduced crosssection at waist gives "double dip" shape



rticles) makes it "optically thick"

- Tail is opaque
- Adding more mass does not increase absorption
- Transit depth is determined by tail cross-section
- Reduced crosssection at waist gives "double dip" shape

Density plots for long optically thin tail



Simulated tail: initial particle size $50\mu m$ (20x shorter)



- Particles in front of the planet
- Very shot tails is starting to form from sublimated particles

Transit light curve for large particles (scaled by 14x)



- Very short tail
- Symmetric shape
- Shallow transit (scaled by 14x)
- No wavelength dependence
- Particles must be ~1μm

Absorption from an optically thick tail

- Transit depth depends on
 - Tail length, *l*
 - Tail height, h
 - Tail transmission, T = (1 f)
 - with 0 < f < 1 where f = 1 for an optically thick tail and f < 1 for an optically thin tail
- For optically thick and long tail
 - Decreasing tail height at waist decreases absorption

Tail heights with a larger velocity and planet mass range



Particle distributions for optically thick tail



Ray tracing top-down



- Self limiting cycle
 - Simulated with 1D hydrodynamic modes by Perez-Becker & Chiang (2013)
- Needs to be punctuated with unpredictable outbursts
 - Consecutive transit depths are uncorrelated

Dust ejection mechanism: limiting cycle

High flux on surface of planet



Has been simulated with 1D hydrodynamic modes by Perez-Becker & Chiang (2013)

Vaporises surface and drives an escaping thermal wind





Vaporises surface and drives an escaping thermal wind



Dust grains condenses shielding surface



Thermally driven outflow dies down from lower flux



Dust particles sublimate or are pushed away by radiation pressure





Allowing the cycle to star again



However, this would lead to a regular transit depth variation

Unpredictable outbursts required



Possibly of geological or volcanic origin. Suggestions are welcome!