RESOLVING THE MOTH AT MILLIMETER WAVELENGTHS

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ABSTRACT

HD 61005, also known as “The Moth,” is one of only a handful of debris disks that exhibit swept-back “wings” thought to be caused by interaction with the ambient interstellar medium (ISM). We present 1.3 mm Submillimeter Array observations of the debris disk around HD 61005 at a spatial resolution of 1.9 that resolve the emission from large grains for the first time. The disk exhibits a double-peaked morphology at millimeter wavelengths, consistent with an optically thin ring viewed close to edge-on. To investigate the disk structure and the properties of the dust grains, we simultaneously model the spatially resolved 1.3 mm visibilities and the unresolved spectral energy distribution (SED). The temperatures indicated by the SED are consistent with expected temperatures for grains close to the blowout size located at radii commensurate with the millimeter and scattered light data. We also perform a visibility-domain analysis of the spatial distribution of millimeter-wavelength flux, incorporating constraints on the disk geometry from scattered light imaging, and find suggestive evidence of wavelength-dependent structure. The millimeter-wavelength emission apparently originates predominantly from the thin ring component rather than tracing the “wings” observed in scattered light. The implied segregation of large dust grains in the ring is consistent with an ISM-driven origin for the scattered light wings.

Key words: circumstellar matter – stars: individual (HD 61005) – submillimeter: planetary systems

Online-only material: color figures

1. INTRODUCTION

Debris disks around main sequence stars provide an indicator that planet formation has proceeded at least to the scale of planetesimals. All three directly imaged planetary systems to date (Fomalhaut, HR 8799, and \(\beta\) Pictoris; Kalas et al. 2008; Marois et al. 2008; Lagrange et al. 2010) also host debris disks, and in two cases disk structure (eccentricity and warping) led to the prediction of at least one perturbing body in the system (e.g., Heap et al. 2000; Burrows et al. 1995). Investigations of debris disk structure are therefore an important facet in our understanding of extrasolar planetary systems. Millimeter-wavelength imaging plays an important role, since it provides access to a population of large dust grains that respond primarily to the gravitational dynamics of the system, rather than the radiation forces that sculpt the small grains that dominate optical and infrared observations (Wyatt 2006). Multiwavelength observations of nearby systems have begun to reveal wavelength-dependent structure including extended haloes of small grains (e.g., Su et al. 2009), often apparently generated by a much more radially confined ring of large parent bodies (Wilner et al. 2011, 2012).

HD 61005 (also known as “The Moth”) is part of an intriguing sample of debris disks with swept-back features believed to result from interactions with the ambient interstellar medium (ISM; the others are HD 32297 and HD 15115; Kalas 2005; Marois et al. 2008, 2009; Rodigas et al. 2012). The disk has been imaged in scattered light both from the ground and in space, revealing a thin ring with a possible position offset from the central star and a symmetric pair of streamers originating from the ring ansae (Hines et al. 2007; Maness et al. 2009; Buenzli et al. 2010). Several mechanisms have been proposed to explain the unusual morphology of these swept-back debris disks, including two distinct ISM-driven mechanisms that result in similar morphology despite the orthogonal directions they assume for stellar motion relative to the ambient medium (Maness et al. 2009; Debes et al. 2009). By contrast, Marzari & Thébault (2011) determine that the effects of the ISM are extremely sensitive to geometrical optical depth (which is directly proportional to the collision rate) and grain size, so that only the morphology of disks with low optical depths imaged at short wavelengths should be noticeably affected by interactions with the ISM. If the morphology persists for high optical depths or large grain sizes, then alternative mechanisms such as dynamical sculpting by an embedded planet should be considered. It is therefore desirable to image debris disks with swept-back structures at millimeter wavelengths, in order to determine the morphology of large grains in the system and thereby investigate the physical origins of the observed structure.

HD 61005 presents an attractive target for millimeter-wavelength imaging. Located in the local bubble (Franco 1990) at a distance of 34.5 pc (Perryman et al. 1997) and exhibiting a ring radius of 61 AU (Hines et al. 2007; Buenzli et al. 2010), it spans spatial scales that are amenable to being resolved with an interferometer. It has the largest 24 \(\mu\)m excess of all main sequence stars observed in the Formation and Evolution of Planetary Systems (FEPS) legacy survey on the Spitzer Space Telescope (Meyer et al. 2008), and a bright 350 \(\mu\)m flux of 95 \(\pm\) 12 mJy (Roccatagliata et al. 2009), which predicts a substantial millimeter-wavelength flux for imaging. As a solar
 analog (spectral type G 3/5 V; Hillenbrand et al. 2008) it is of particular interest for understanding the history of our own solar system at younger ages. Stellar age estimates have varied around 100 Myr, but recent work suggests that it is likely a member of the Argus association (Desidera et al. 2011). Membership in the Argus association would lower its age to 40 Myr, which is more consistent with its large 24 μm excess.

Here we use interferometric millimeter-wavelength imaging with the Submillimeter Array (SMA) to investigate the wavelength-dependent structure of the disk around HD 61005. In Section 2, we present SMA observations at a wavelength of 1.3 mm that resolve the structure of the large grain populations for the first time. We analyze the spectral energy distribution (SED) and interferometric visibilities simultaneously to study the spatial distribution and thermal properties of the grains in Section 4. In Section 5 we discuss the implications of our observations in the context of proposed mechanisms for creating swept-back structures. In Section 6 we summarize the main results of our investigation and emphasize the value of future observations for providing insight into the underlying physical processes shaping the system.

2. OBSERVATIONS

HD 61005 was observed with SMA for four nights between 2008 December and 2012 January. The basic observational parameters are listed in Table 1. The first three nights of observation were carried out in the SMA’s compact configuration, while the final night was conducted in the extended configuration (see table for baseline lengths). Due to the southern declination of the source, the spatial resolution was generally finer in the east–west direction than the north–south direction. The weather was generally very good, with low 225 GHz opacity, indicating high atmospheric transparency to millimeter-wavelength radiation, and stable atmospheric phase. The quasar J0747−331, located only 2.6 away from HD 61005, was used as the gain calibrator for all four tracks to correct for atmospheric and instrumental variations in amplitude and phase; the derived flux for the quasar is listed in the final column of Table 1. Observations of the gain calibrator and source were interleaved with the quasar J0826−225, which was used to test the efficacy of the phase transfer. Bandpass calibration was carried out using a bright quasar (3c84, 3c273, or 3c454.3). The absolute flux scale was set using solar system objects (specified for each track in Table 1); we assume a standard (but conservative) 20% systematic flux uncertainty due to uncertainties in the flux models for these objects. The correlator was configured to maximize continuum sensitivity by utilizing the largest available bandwidth. The total bandwidth in the 2008 track is 2 GHz per sideband, with a sideband separation of ±5 GHz from the local oscillator (LO) frequency listed in the table. The bandwidth was upgraded to 4 GHz per sideband for the three subsequent tracks. Routine calibration tasks were carried out using the MIR software package, and imaging and deconvolution were accomplished with MIRIAD.

3. RESULTS

We detect the disk around HD 61005 independently on all four nights. The combined map and visibilities are displayed in Figure 1. The disk is strongly detected, with a peak signal-to-noise ratio of ~8 in two separate beams. An appropriate shift to the visibilities has been applied to each data set to account for the proper motion of the star (−56 and 75 mas yr⁻¹ in α and δ, respectively; van Leeuwen 2007). The centroid of the millimeter-wavelength emission is consistent to within the uncertainties with the expected J2000 position of the star (α = 7h35m47s, δ = −32°12′14″).

The IR excess from the literature suggests that the disk is optically thin, and the double-peaked structure we observe is consistent with the expected morphology for a highly inclined disk with a central cavity. While the structure is clearly not well described by a Gaussian, we estimate some basic structural parameters by fitting an elliptical Gaussian to the visibilities using the MIRIAD task uvfit. The fit yields a major axis of 4.4 ± 0.6 (150 ± 20 AU) and a minor axis of 0.1 ± 0.1 AU, implying that the disk is spatially resolved along the major axis but not along the minor axis. The position angle is 71° ± 5°, consistent with the value obtained from scattered light imaging, 70°3 ± 1° uncertainty (Buenzli et al. 2010). The integrated flux estimated from the elliptical Gaussian fit is 7.9 ± 0.7 mJy, although a more reliable value will be obtained in the Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) analysis in Section 4.2. Buenzli et al. (2010) also report that the center of the ring is offset from the star along the major axis by 2.7 ± 0.8 AU toward the SW peak. We measure the offset of the center of the Gaussian compared to the star’s position, corrected for proper motion. The centroid of the Gaussian is consistent with the star position to within ±7 AU; the uncertainties are too large to confirm the offset observed in scattered light by Buenzli et al. (2010).

4. ANALYSIS

To determine both the geometric properties of the disk and thermal properties of the constituent dust we simultaneously model the SED and the resolved 1.3 mm visibilities (Section 4.1). The best-fit models are obtained from MCMC fitting (Section 4.2). We begin by fitting a geometrically thin ring, motivated by the observed scattered light morphology. To place the results of MCMC fitting in context, we then investigate the effects of the assumed dust properties (Section 4.2.1).
and ring width (Section 4.2.2). We also conduct a visibility-domain comparison of the millimeter-wavelength emission with the known scattered light morphology to investigate the relative spatial distribution of small and large grains (Section 4.3).

4.1. Disk Model

As shown in Figure 2, we model the SED with three components: (1) a Kurucz–Lejeune model photosphere with surface gravity log g = 4.5, effective temperature $T_{\text{eff}} = 5500$ K, and solar metallicity $Z = 0.01$ (Desidera et al. 2011), (2) a cold, spatially resolved outer debris disk, and (3) a warm inner dust belt modeled as a single-temperature blackbody. The addition of the belt is necessary to increase the flux around 20 μm, where neither the star nor the disk contribute enough flux to account for observations. The short-wavelength excess that we attribute to the presence of an inner belt could equally arise from hot emission from a population of grains smaller than the characteristic grain size in our model; however, the data at this point are insufficient to distinguish between the two scenarios. Accordingly, the properties of the warm belt are not well constrained, since it only produces a substantial contribution to the total flux over very small portion of the observed range of wavelengths, so for simplicity we allow only the mass of the belt to vary, and parameterize it as a narrow ring of 100 K dust (we also demonstrate below that our results are not sensitive to the assumed temperature). The cold disk, which we model as a spatially extended component, contributes essentially all of the flux at 1.3 mm; in our best fit, the warm dust belt contributes only 0.36 mJy to the total flux at this wavelength, a factor of 20 less than that of the extended component. This modeling procedure is similar to that presented in Hughes et al. (2011), with the primary difference being the use of astrosilicate opacities to determine grain temperatures. We briefly describe the salient features of the model below.

Each disk model is determined by six free parameters: the inner radius of the disk ($R_{\text{in}}$), the characteristic grain size ($a$), the disk mass ($M_D$), the grain emissivity parameter ($\beta$), the belt mass ($M_B$), and the width of the disk ($w$). In our initial fitting efforts, we fix the width of the disk $w$ to a small, constant fraction of 5% of $R_{\text{in}}$ to match the scattered light morphology (although this assumption is relaxed in Section 4.2.2 below). $R_{\text{in}}$ is mostly constrained by the visibilities, but it also has an effect on the equilibrium temperature of the dust grains, which directly affects the peak flux and wavelength of the SED. The disk size, $a$, determines the temperature of the grains. In reality the disk most likely has a broad distribution of grain sizes, however assumption of a single characteristic grain size is sufficient to reproduce the observed SED while minimizing computational requirements. $M_D$ is essentially a luminosity scaling factor for the disk SED, just as $M_B$ scales the flux of the belt. Finally, $\beta$...
determines the slope of the Rayleigh–Jeans tail. In accordance with Williams et al. (2004), we assume a dust grain emission efficiency \( Q_{\lambda} = 1 - \exp[-(\lambda/\lambda_0)^{\beta}] \), where \( \lambda_0 = 2\pi a \) is the critical wavelength. This function has the desired asymptotic properties that \( Q_{\lambda} \approx (\lambda/\lambda_0)^{-\beta} \) when \( \lambda \gg \lambda_0 \), and \( Q_{\lambda} \approx 1 \) when \( \lambda \ll \lambda_0 \). This parameterization of \( Q \) does not factor into our calculation of the grains’ temperature, however. It is required to ensure smooth long-wavelength emission in the SED by mimicking the effect of a grain size distribution, since grains at the characteristic grain size are extremely inefficient emitters at \( \lambda \gg a \).

In order to determine the temperature of a grain of a given size and distance from the star, we assume that the dust composition is compact astrosilicates (Draine 2003) and obtain the grains’ opacity, \( \kappa_{\text{tot}}(a, \lambda) \), and albedo, \( \omega(a, \lambda) \), using Mie theory (see, e.g., Bohren & Huffman 1983) as implemented in the radiative transfer code MCFOST (Pinte et al. 2006, 2009). We then derive the appropriate grain temperature from energy balance. As written in Tielens (2005), the energy emitted per unit time from a spherical grain of radius \( r \) at \( \lambda \) is:

\[
\Gamma_{\text{out}}(a, \lambda) = 4\pi a^2 \int_0^{\infty} Q(a, \lambda) B(T, \lambda) d\lambda
\]

where \( Q(a, \lambda) \) represents the fraction of emission at wavelength \( \lambda \), and \( B(T, \lambda) \) is the grains’ Planck function. Similarly, the power absorbed from the star can be written:

\[
\Gamma_{\text{in}} = \pi a^2 \int_0^{\infty} Q(a, \lambda) F_\lambda(r, \lambda) d\lambda
\]

where \( F_\lambda \) is determined from our Kurucz–Lejeune model of the stellar photosphere, \( a \) is the grain size, and \( r \) is the distance from the star to the grain. Rather than using the simplistic parameterization of \( Q \) mentioned above to determine the flux density of the Rayleigh–Jeans tail, we obtain \( Q(a, \lambda) \) from \( \kappa_{\text{tot}}(a, \lambda) \) and \( \omega(a, \lambda) \). Assuming spherical grains, the absorption efficiency is:

\[
Q(a, \lambda) = \frac{4}{3} \kappa_{\text{tot}}(a, \lambda) \rho a (1 - \omega(a, \lambda))
\]

where \( \rho \) is the mass density of a single grain. Setting \( \Gamma_{\text{in}} = \Gamma_{\text{out}} \), we arrive at:

\[
\frac{1}{4\pi} \int_0^{\infty} Q(a, \lambda) F_\lambda(r, \lambda) d\lambda = \int_0^{\infty} Q(a, \lambda) B(T, \lambda) d\lambda.
\]

By numerically evaluating each integral in Equation (4), we obtain the temperature of a given grain. In order to do so, we generate a lookup table of these integrals. The integral on the left is tabulated as a function of \( a \) and evaluated at a radius of 50 AU; to determine the values of this integral at different radii, we scale these values by \( 1/r^2 \). The second integral is tabulated as a function of both \( a \) and \( T \). \( a \) is sampled from 0.1 to 3000 \( \mu \)m with about 3 sizes per decade (in log space), and \( T \) is sampled from 0 to 1000 K with a step size of 1 K. The associated wavelengths in our lists of \( \kappa_{\text{tot}}(a, \lambda) \) and \( \omega(a, \lambda) \) span from \( 10^{-5} \) to \( 3 \times 10^{-7} \) cm, sampled in logarithmic intervals of 0.05.

The surface number density of grains, \( N(r) \), is related to the surface mass density as \( \Sigma(r) = N(r) m_g \), where \( m_g \) is the mass of a grain, which we assume is spherical. We assume a density of 2.7 g cm\(^{-3} \), which is a compromise between typical bulk densities measured for cometary and interplanetary dust particles and terrestrial materials typically assumed to comprise astronomical graphite or silicate grains (see, e.g., Draine & Lee 1984; Brownlee et al. 2006; Blum & Wurm 2008). We then parameterize \( \Sigma(r) = \Sigma_0(r/100 \text{ AU})^{-p} \), where \( p \) is the surface density power law, which we fix at a value of 1 (this value is consistent with both the radial falloff of surface brightness in the region of the AU Mic birth ring postulated as the birth ring in Strube & Chiang 2006, as well as a typical value for bright protoplanetary disks measured by Andrews et al. 2009). There is a well-known degeneracy between \( p \) and the outer radius, and our data are not of sufficiently high quality to distinguish between these variables; see, e.g., discussion in Mundy et al. (1996). We integrate flux contributions between the inner and outer radius, yielding:

\[
F_\lambda = \frac{\pi a^2 Q(\lambda)}{d^2} \int_{R_{\text{in}}}^{R_{\text{out}}} 2\pi r B_r(T_r) N(r) dr.
\]

At the observed wavelength of 1.3 mm, we use the equations above to generate a high-resolution synthetic image of the disk. As is evident in Figure 2, the star and the 100 K dust belt do not contribute significant flux at the wavelength of the SMA observations, and are hence absent from the model image. To generate this image, we assume an inclination angle of 84.3° and a position angle of 70.3° derived from the higher-resolution scattered light images (Buenzli et al. 2010), and project the flux onto the sky plane. We then utilize the MIRIAD task uvmodel in order to sample the model image at the same spatial frequencies as the SMA data and compare the data and model in the visibility domain.

4.2. MCMC Fitting

In order to compare the model with the SED and visibilities, we compute a \( \chi^2 \) value for each and sum the two. As discussed in Andrews et al. (2009), these two values of \( \chi^2 \) are comparably sensitive to changes in the disk parameters (the large numbers of visibilities are balanced by the low fractional uncertainty on the SED points), causing neither to dominate the total \( \chi^2 \) and thus the final fit. We omit the SMA 1300 \( \mu \)m flux from the SED \( \chi^2 \) calculation since it is implicitly included in the visibility \( \chi^2 \).

In order to locate the best fit and determine constraints on each parameter, we utilize the MCMC fitting technique described in Goodman & Weare (2010), an affine-invariant ensemble sampler which performs well when parameters are correlated. The SED includes the observed fluxes listed in Table 2. Only the points with wavelengths beyond 10 \( \mu \)m are affected by the parameters of the model disk, and therefore we include only these values in the computation of \( \chi^2 \).

After experimentation with the initial values of the ensemble, we find that the ensemble consistently converges to the same region in the parameter space independent of the initial parameter values. For all subsequent runs, we fix the initial values of the chain to the values of a reasonably good fit: \( R_{\text{in}} = 68 \) AU, \( \log(a[\mu\text{m}]) = 0.5 \), \( \log(M_D/M_\oplus) = -2.7 \), \( \beta = 0.5 \), \( \log(M_B/M_\oplus) = -6.0 \). Trial states for \( R_{\text{in}} \) and \( \beta \) are generated in linear space, while states for \( a \), \( M_D \), and \( M_B \) are generated in logarithmic space. The widths of the Gaussians determining trial states for each parameter are set to 2 AU for \( R_{\text{in}} \), 0.05 for \( \log(a) \), 0.1 for \( \log(M_D) \), 0.01 for \( \beta \), and 0.05 for \( \log(M_B) \), which we found were the approximate uncertainties in these parameters. We run 100 “walkers” through 800 trials each, and after rejecting the “burn-in” phase (the region in which the
represent the fraction of the models that fall into its respective bin. In the $R$ as the locations of the best-fit parameters, defined as the mode functions (PDFs) generated by the models of the chain, as well Table 3, the uncertainty is determined from the posterior PDF 20% systematic uncertainty). For this value, and the values in shown in Figure 5. There are known degeneracies in this fitting process. Since we parameterized the disk with a single characteristic grain size, for a given value of $M_D$, increasing $a$ decreases the number of blackbody emitters and decreases their temperature, which therefore decreases the total flux. Hence, $M_D$ must increase in accordance with $a$ in order to maintain the observed flux. $\beta$ is less strongly correlated with $a$, but the degeneracy occurs because as $a$ increases, the peak wavelength in the SED also increases as the grain temperature decreases. Since $\beta$ affects the slope of the Rayleigh-Jeans tail of the SED, it must increase along with the position of the peak in order to obtain a steeper slope. If we were fitting for the SED alone, we would also expect $R_{in}$ to exhibit a similarly strong degeneracy, since higher temperatures and therefore fluxes could be obtained both by bringing the grains closer to the star and by shrinking the grains. However, the inner radius is well constrained by our spatially resolved data, so there is only a mild correlation between $R_{in}$ and $a$, as shown in Figure 5.

It is also necessary to check that the underlying assumptions of our model do not bias these results. In Sections 4.2.1 and 4.2.2 we investigate the robustness of the best-fit results to perturbations in our assumptions about belt temperature and ring width. Finally, it is important to consider our results in the context of the scattered light morphology. The ring radius we derive is consistent with the radius reported from scattered light

![Figure 3](image-url)

Figure 3. Probability distributions for the model parameters as derived from the MCMC chain in the case of a narrow ring ($w/R = 5\%$). The height of each bar represents the fraction of the models that fell into its respective bin. In the $R_m$ plot, the cyan vertical lines represent the $\pm 1\sigma$ range in radius derived in Buenzli et al. (2010).

(A color version of this figure is available in the online journal.)

Table 2

| $\lambda$ ($\mu$m) | Flux (Jy) | Source                                    |
|-------------------|----------|-------------------------------------------|
| 0.436             | 1.04 ± 0.02 | Tycho-2 (Høg et al. 2000)                |
| 0.545             | 1.82 ± 0.02 | Tycho-2 (Høg et al. 2000)                |
| 1.220             | 2.77 ± 0.07 | 2MASS (Cutri et al. 2003)               |
| 1.630             | 2.39 ± 0.10 | 2MASS (Cutri et al. 2003)               |
| 2.190             | 1.71 ± 0.04 | 2MASS (Cutri et al. 2003)               |
| 3.6               | 0.75 ± 0.02 | FEPS (Hillenbrand et al. 2008)          |
| 4.5               | 0.47 ± 0.01 | FEPS (Hillenbrand et al. 2008)          |
| 8                 | 0.17 ± 0.004 | FEPS (Hillenbrand et al. 2008)          |
| 13                | 0.062 ± 0.004 | FEPS (Hillenbrand et al. 2008)          |
| 16                | 0.049 ± 0.003 | Spitzer/IRS Archive                    |
| 22                | 0.045 ± 0.004 | Spitzer/IRS Archive                    |
| 24                | 0.041 ± 0.002 | FEPS (Hillenbrand et al. 2008)          |
| 33                | 0.11 ± 0.007 | FEPS (Hillenbrand et al. 2008)          |
| 70                | 0.65 ± 0.05 | FEPS (Hillenbrand et al. 2008)          |
| 160               | 0.50 ± 0.16 | FEPS (Hillenbrand et al. 2008)          |
| 350               | 0.095 ± 0.012 | CSO (Roccatagliata et al. 2009)         |

Table 3

| Parameter | Best-fit Model | For $T_B = 80$ K | For $w = 65$ AU |
|-----------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| $R_{in}$ (AU) | 67 ± 2          | 67 ± 2          | 71 ± 3          |
| $\log(a [\mu m])$ | 0.38 ± 0.07     | 0.44 ± 0.09     | 0.33 ± 0.09     |
| $\log(M_D [M_\odot])$ | $-2.92 ± 0.13$ | $-2.92 ± 0.17$ | $-2.91 ± 0.16$ |
| $\log(M_B [M_\odot])$ | 0.43 ± 0.05     | 0.40 ± 0.06     | 0.41 ± 0.06     |
| Total $\chi^2$ | 456103.228      | 456107.180      | 456107.413      |

Note. $^*$ This is the radius which encloses half of the total flux.

average $\chi^2$ decreases with time before settling) which constitutes the first ~200 trials, we then determine the best-fit model and generate probability distributions for each of the parameters.

Best-fit parameters for the five free parameters are listed in the left column of Table 3. Figure 3 displays probability density functions (PDFs) generated by the models of the chain, as well as the locations of the best-fit parameters, defined as the mode of the probability distributions. Figure 4 displays the best-fit model image, as well as its residuals. For this best fit, we obtain a total flux of 7.2 ± 0.3 mJy (with an additional estimated 20% systematic uncertainty). For this value, and the values in Table 3, the uncertainty is determined from the posterior PDF of the ensemble as the width in parameter space which encloses 68.2% ($1\sigma$) of the models, which we found to be symmetric about the best fit. For each of these models, the reduced $\chi^2$ is equal to 1.85.
Figure 4. Best-fit observed model image and corresponding residual map. For comparison with Figure 1, [3, 5, 7] × 0.34 mJy contours are drawn in the observed model image. In the residual map, the +2σ contours are drawn with solid lines, while the −2σ contours are drawn with dashed lines. The residual emission does not exceed the 3σ level.

(A color version of this figure is available in the online journal.)

Figure 5. Probability distribution of an MCMC chain in the log(a)–log(MD), log(a)–β, and the log(a)–R_in planes. Contours enclose 68.2% (1σ), 95.4% (2σ), and 99.6% (3σ) of the models, and the white circle marks the position of the global minimum χ². Here, the degeneracy between a, MD, and β is readily apparent; we also note that the degeneracy with R_in is broken with the use of the spatially resolved visibilities. The gray rectangle in this final plot depicts the value of R_in determined from scattered light in Buenzli et al. (2010). The best-fit radius using the millimeter data is consistent with the scattered light radius to within the uncertainties.

(A color version of this figure is available in the online journal.)

4.2.1. Effect of Assumed Belt Temperature

As discussed above, a simple single grain size fit to the data is incapable of reproducing the short-wavelength flux in the IRS spectrum. This additional flux necessitates either a population of hot grains substantially smaller than the characteristic grain size (and therefore substantially smaller than the blowout size for this system), or the addition of an inner warm dust belt. While there are very few data to constrain belt properties, we conducted a brief exploration of the effect of our assumed 100 K belt temperature on the derived disk parameters by running a separate MCMC chain with the temperature of the inner belt set to 80 K rather than 100 K. The center column of Table 3 displays the results of the best fit.

The only noticeable change occurs in MB, which increases to compensate for the decreased temperature. The visibilities fix R_in, the SED peak fixes a and MD, and the slope of the Wien tail fixes β. This model fit deviates in quality of fit from the 100 K model only by 0.6σ. The available data are therefore evidently not sufficient to strongly constrain the temperature of the warm belt, but this confirms the robustness of our analysis of the outer, cold debris disk, independent of the assumed belt temperature.

4.2.2. Effect of Disk Width

While the data are consistent with a narrow ring centered at the radius of the scattered light ring, we also investigate a scenario in which the width is fixed to 65 AU to determine whether the millimeter data can constrain the width of the ring. This value was chosen so that w/R ∼ 1. The right column of Table 3 displays the results.

observations (61.25 ± 0.85 AU; Buenzli et al. 2010), differing by 2.6σ. This result hints at wavelength-dependent structure, in the sense that if the millimeter emission traced the scattered light precisely, the ring radius should be noticeably larger to reflect the contribution from the scattered light wings. To quantify the spatial distribution of the millimeter-wavelength emission, we perform a visibility-domain analysis of the millimeter morphology in Section 4.3, using a toy model that incorporates constraints from the scattered light emission to decompose the emission into ring and streamer components.
The best-fit broad belt has a central radius of 71 ± 3 AU from the star (although due to the falloff of surface density with radius, more of the emission is concentrated closer to the star), which is consistent with the radius of the narrow ring fit within 2σ. This model differs in quality of fit from the best-fit narrow ring model only by 0.6σ. Our spatial resolution—nominally ~80 AU with natural weighting, but including shorter baselines that provide information on smaller spatial scales—is therefore evidently not sufficient to distinguish between a wide and a narrow millimeter belt, although it is notable that in both the wide and narrow disk fit, the disk is centered on the location of the scattered light ring to within the uncertainties.

4.3. Are There Large Grains in the Streamers?

The swept-back “wings” are the most remarkable features of the debris disk around HD 61005. Particularly prominent in scattered light, they contribute slightly more than half the flux at short wavelengths. While most theoretical interpretations of the streamers focus on dynamics of small grains, large grains that dominate millimeter maps are far better tracers of gravitational dynamics and are therefore useful in distinguishing between mechanisms that might sculpt this striking morphology. The relative contribution of the flux at infrared and millimeter wavelengths provides insight into the grain size distribution in the wings and the streamers.

Since this is a purely geometric problem and we cannot reliably distinguish between SED contributions from the disk and the streamers, we perform the analysis on the visibilities only. We therefore depart from the analysis strategy of Section 4.1 and instead use a toy model that incorporates constraints on the disk structure from the observed scattered light morphology. Unlike the MCMC analysis in Section 4.2 above, we fix as many parameters as possible to match the scattered light. To maintain consistency with Buenzli et al. (2010), we fix the inner radius of the disk to 61.25 AU and the width to the original narrow value. We set the angle that the streamers make with the plane of the disk to 23°, and set the flux density power law to that observed in scattered light: \( F \propto r^{-4.4} \) (Buenzli et al. 2010).

We compute a grid that varies the total flux in the image and the streamer contribution. For each value of the streamer contribution between zero and one, we search for the value of the total flux between 5 and 9 mJy that minimizes the \( \chi^2 \) value between the data and model. Each of these ranges of parameters was divided into 50 steps, such that the streamer contribution was explored with a step size of 2%, while the total flux was explored with a step size of 0.08 mJy. We then calculate the statistical deviation of each model from the global minimum. Figure 6 displays the results. The deviation from the global minimum \( \chi^2 \) value, expressed as the number of standard deviations corresponding to the probability with which the model is a worse fit than the global best-fit value, is plotted against the percentage of the total flux in the image that originates in the streamers (with the remainder of the flux originating from the ring). The observed streamer contribution from the scattered light data is indicated by a vertical red line. The results demonstrate that a scenario in which the millimeter emission traces the morphology of the scattered light, including the swept-back wings, is ruled out at the 4σ level. The data are of insufficient quality to draw fine distinctions about whether some smaller fraction of the millimeter flux might originate from the streamers, but they are certainly consistent with a scenario in which the large grains responsible for the 1.3 mm emission are confined exclusively to the scattered light ring. The implications of this result will be discussed in more detail in Section 5.2 below.

5. DISCUSSION

5.1. Dust Grain Properties

The best-fit grain size in the fiducial model is \( a = 2.4 \mu m \). This value is somewhat smaller than for other debris disks analyzed using similar methods (see, e.g., Williams et al. 2004; Hughes et al. 2011); the relatively small grain size reflects the high temperatures indicated by the peak wavelength of the SED, which is inconsistent with blackbody equilibrium temperature at the radii indicated by the millimeter and scattered light images. The blow-out grain size for HD 61005 due to radiation pressure is roughly 1 \( \mu m \), estimated using the relationship \( a_{\text{blowout}} = 3L_*/16\pi GM_\odot c^2 \), where \( L_\odot \) is the stellar luminosity, \( M_\odot \) is the mass of the star, \( c \) is the speed of light, and \( \rho \) is the density of a dust grain. This relationship results from balancing the radiation pressure force against the gravitational force for a particle on a circular orbit (which is a factor of two easier to remove from the potential well than a stationary dust grain), including a factor of 0.5 to estimate the effects of a realistic albedo and radiative efficiency of a silicate dust grain (Backman & Paresce 1993).

It is clear from the ensemble of models in our fitting process that the small grain size primarily reflects the need for the grains to attain a temperature high enough to match the peak wavelength of emission while being located in a ring roughly 60–70 AU from the central star. A simple estimate of dust temperature using Wien’s Law and the approximate peak wavelength of the blackbody predicts a dust temperature of about 43 K, while the temperature predicted by Equation (4) is 50 K for grains with the best-fit size and emission efficiency. As a sanity check, we performed a “chi-by-eye” fit to the SED using a complete radiative transfer code with a realistic grain size distribution (MCFOST; Pinte et al. 2006, 2009). We obtained a reasonable fit with a minimum grain size of 2.5 \( \mu m \). The ring is assumed to extend from 60 to 63 AU, with a surface
density power law index $p = 0.5$ and a total mass in dust of $3.3 \times 10^{-4} M_{\oplus}$. The assumed dust composition is compact astrophysical silicates (Draine 2003), with a distribution spanning the 2.5 $\mu$m–1 cm range and a $-3.5$ power-law index appropriate for a collisional cascade. However, we did not pursue MCMC minimization with this code due to the computational intensity of the task. We mention it here only to indicate that it is possible to reproduce the SED (although not the near-IR excess that we attribute to the warm belt) with a realistic grain size distribution that includes only grains larger than the blowout size.

It is also worth noting that SED modeling has been notoriously difficult due to the complexity of the system. Previous SED models using single-blackbody fits have resulted in disk radius estimates between 16 (Hines et al. 2007) and 96 AU (Roccatagliata et al. 2009), depending on the method and assumed grain properties, while a slightly more complex extended disk model by Hillenbrand et al. (2008) predicted a disk that stretches between radii of 8.6 and 41 AU. To some extent the small radii indicate the presence of hot dust close to the star, which we model as an unresolved 100 K blackbody. It would be difficult to reproduce this short-wavelength excess emission using only small dust grains, since the maximum temperature of astrosilicate grains at the radius of the scattered light ring is 70 K, and furthermore very small grains are ruled out by the lack of solid state features in the Spitzer/IRS spectrum. However, the resolved observations confirm that even the outer belt is significantly hotter than its blackbody equilibrium temperature. As discussed by Booth et al. (2013), this mismatch in sizes is typical of the effort to deduce debris disk sizes from SED fitting; in the particular case of HD 61005, increasing the porosity of the grains could help account for the high temperatures indicated by the SED. It is also interesting to note that some polarimetric observations of debris disks seem to require high grain porosity to explain the observed properties of the scattered light (e.g., Graham et al. 2007).

5.2. Comparison of Millimeter and Scattered Light Morphology

When considering the morphology of the millimeter-wavelength emission, the most salient question is how it compares with the structure observed in scattered light. Based on the ISM-driven mechanism for creating the swept-back wings of the Moth (Maness et al. 2009; Debes et al. 2009) and the size-dependent response of dust grains to such a mechanism (Marzari & Thébault 2011), we expect that the millimeter grains would be confined to the thin parent-body ring at 61 AU radius and absent from the swept-back features. Indeed, the analysis in Section 4.3 demonstrates that a scenario in which the millimeter emission traces the morphology of the scattered light wings is ruled out at the 4$\sigma$ level. While this analysis is rudimentary, it is certainly suggestive that we are observing wavelength-dependent structure. The small grains responsible for scattered light appear to form the bulk of the material in the streamers, while the larger grains that dominate the 1.3 mm emission are confined primarily to the narrow ring observed in scattered light.

Due to the relatively low signal-to-noise of the SMA observations we are as yet unable to decisively rule out an alternative scenario, in which millimeter grains at least to some extent trace the spectacular scattered light wings. If some of the emission from large grains does in fact originate from the wings, it would provide an indication that large grains are perturbed (to a lesser extent) by the same mechanism that is responsible for the swept-back structure observed in scattered light. Given the theoretical work by Marzari & Thébault (2011) indicating that large grains should remain unperturbed by ISM interactions, this would suggest that an alternative mechanism is responsible for the wings of the Moth. An eccentric perturber—for example, an unseen planet embedded in the disk—may also be capable of breaking the symmetry of the disk and causing the bowl-shaped appearance of the scattered light (M. Fitzgerald, in preparation). Secular interactions can cause grains to acquire both a forced eccentricity (Wyatt et al. 1999) and inclination, the magnitude of which is dependent on the ratio $\beta$ of radiation pressure to gravity. Larger grains should therefore exhibit less extreme swept-back structure, although the offset of the disk center from the star position should persist at millimeter wavelengths. Higher-resolution observations of the millimeter emission would therefore be advantageous in order to further disambiguate the physical processes shaping the disk.

The somewhat ambiguous morphology of the millimeter-wavelength emission should be considered in the context of hints that the HD 61005 system may host at least one planet. The system has been considered from several different planet-related perspectives. Setiawan et al. (2008) include HD 61005 in an RV search for planetary companions around nearby young star, but report that the observed variability is consistent with stellar activity rather than planets; however, the length of the survey does not appear to be sufficient to detect planets orbiting at tens of AU from the central star. Watson et al. (2011) include HD 61005 in a sample of debris disks with known viewing geometries, for which they estimate the inclination of the stellar rotation to the line of sight and search for evidence of misalignment. They find that debris disks, including HD 61005, are generally well aligned with the rotation axes of their host stars. The Buenzli et al.’s (2010) scattered light study indicates that the ring is offset from the star position by at least 2.75 ± 0.85 AU (in projection onto the sky plane, along the major axis only), indicative of eccentricity. They also note a pronounced brightness asymmetry between the NE and SW components of the ring that is almost certainly due to density enhancements. The upper limit on companion mass in the LOCI image is below the deuterium-burning limit, varying between roughly 3 and 6 $M_{\text{Jup}}$ between the inner working angle and the ring radius. It is not yet clear whether the position offset and density enhancements could be caused by a planet, or whether they could be caused by the same ISM interaction that might be producing the streamers. However, the 1.6 $\mu$m wavelength of the Very Large Telescope observations presented in Buenzli et al. (2010) approaches the grain population discussed in Marzari & Thébault (2011), which is too large to be effectively sculpted by the ISM. The near-IR eccentricity and asymmetric density distributions are suggestive that a mechanism other than the ISM, possibly including planets, may be needed to explain all the observed features of the system. However, it should be emphasized that the millimeter emission alone is so far fully consistent with an ISM-sculpted disk morphology.

6. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

We have spatially resolved the dust continuum emission from the debris disk around HD 61005 at a wavelength of 1.3 mm. We observe a double-peaked structure consistent with an optically thin disk viewed close to edge-on. A simultaneous analysis of the SED and millimeter-wavelength visibilities demonstrates that the dust is hotter than the expected blackbody equilibrium temperature given the relatively large radial extent of the ring resolved in scattered light and millimeter continuum emission.
This is indicative of the presence of a substantial quantity of small grains, some of which are likely close to the blow-out size.

We also investigate the morphology of the millimeter-wavelength emission, particularly in comparison with the scattered light observations. Our MCMC analysis suggests that the millimeter emission arises from roughly the same stellocentric distance as the thin ring observed in scattered light. This is confirmed by a visibility-domain analysis of the millimeter emission compared with a toy model based on the observed features of the scattered light emission. In the context of our toy model, a scenario in which the millimeter morphology traces the scattered light wings. Such grain size segregation are preferentially affected by the perturbation responsible for sculpting the scattered light wings. Such grain size segregation is suggestive of wavelength-dependent structure, in which the large grains remain in the parent body ring, while small grains are preferentially affected by the perturbation responsible for sculpting the scattered light wings. Such grain size segregation is consistent with theoretical expectations for an ISM-sculpted disk. The sensitivity and resolution of current observations is sufficient to provide a firm conclusion on the detailed morphology of the scattered light observations. Our MCMC analysis suggests that the thin ring observed in scattered light. This is indicative of the presence of a substantial quantity of small grains, some of which are likely close to the blow-out size.

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