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Spatially resolved images of dust belt(s) around the planet-hosting subgiant κ CrB

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ABSTRACT

We present *Herschel* spatially resolved images of the debris disc orbiting the subgiant κ Coronae Borealis (κ CrB). Not only are these the first resolved images of a debris disc orbiting a subgiant, but κ CrB is a rare example of an intermediate mass star where a detailed study of the structure of the planetary system can be made, including both planets and planetesimal belt(s). The only way to discover planets using the radial velocity technique around such stars is to observe ‘retired’ A stars, which are cooler and slower rotators compared to their main-sequence counterparts. A planetary companion has already been detected orbiting the subgiant κ CrB, with revised parameters of $m \sin i = 2.1 M_J$ and $a_{pl} = 2.8$ au (Johnson et al. 2008). We present additional Keck I HIRES (High Resolution Echelle Spectrometer) radial velocity measurements that provide evidence for a second planetary companion, alongside Keck II adaptive optics imaging that places an upper limit on the mass of this companion. Modelling of our *Herschel* images shows that the dust is broadly distributed, but cannot distinguish between a single wide belt (from 20 to 220 au) or two narrow dust belts (at around 40 and 165 au). Given the existence of a second planetary companion beyond ~ 3 au it is possible that the absence of dust within ~ 20 au is caused by dynamical depletion, although the observations are not inconsistent with depletion of these regions by collisional erosion, which occurs at higher rates closer to the star.

Key words: techniques: high angular resolution – techniques: radial velocities – planets and satellites: detection – planets and satellites: individual: κ CrB – planet–disc interactions – infrared: planetary systems.

1 INTRODUCTION

Our knowledge¹ and understanding of exoplanetary systems is growing rapidly. Since the first detection of a Kuiper-like, planetesimal belt in 1984 (Vega, Aumann et al. 1984), the first planet detection around a pulsar in 1992 (Wolszczan & Frail 1992) and a close-in Jupiter mass planet around a main-sequence star in 1995 (Mayor & Queloz 1995), the field has exploded. There are now hundreds of systems with planet or debris disc detections. There is a great deal to be learnt from the growing number of stars where both planets and debris discs have been detected.

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¹*Herschel* is a European Space Agency space observatory with science instruments provided by European-led Principal Investigator consortia and with important participation by NASA.

Current planet detection techniques are limited to specific regions of the parameter space. For example, radial velocity (RV) observations are limited to the inner regions of planetary systems, whilst direct imaging is limited to the outer regions. This means that in order to fully characterize a planetary system, it is beneficial to have simultaneous access to data from different detection techniques. RV observations of A stars on the main sequence are prohibited due to high jitter levels and rotationally broadened absorption lines (Galland et al. 2005; Lagrange et al. 2009); however, there are now a growing number of detections of planets around ‘retired’ A stars, now on the subgiant or giant branch (e.g. Johnson et al. 2006, 2007; Bowler et al. 2010; Sato et al. 2010). These provide some key insights into the potential differences between the planetary population around intermediate mass stars, that otherwise can only be probed by direct imaging of planets around main-sequence A stars (e.g. Kalas et al. 2008; Marois et al. 2008). For example, Bowler

et al. (2010) and Johnson et al. (2010) found an increased incidence of giant planets around stars of higher stellar mass, as predicted by planet formation models (Kennedy & Kenyon 2008).

There are a growing number of sun-like stars with both planet and debris disc detections (e.g. Liseau et al. 2010; Lestrade et al. 2012; Wyatt et al. 2012). Such systems provide key insights into the structure of exoplanetary systems and the interactions between planetesimal belts and planets. Resolved debris discs often display a variety of features that can be associated with the presence of planets, amongst others, warps, spirals, brightness asymmetries, clumps and offsets (e.g. Augereau et al. 2001; Wyatt et al. 1999; Moerchen et al. 2011). Gaps between multiple planetesimal belts could potentially be cleared by unseen planetary companions, whilst planets may commonly sculpt the inner or outer edges of planetesimal belts (e.g. Chiang et al. 2009; Su et al. 2009; Churcher, Wyatt & Smith 2011; Lagrange et al. 2012). Despite the ubiquity of debris discs around main-sequence A stars (Wyatt et al. 2007b; Booth et al. 2013) and direct imaging of a handful of distant planets (Marois et al. 2008; Lagrange et al. 2010), the inner planetary systems remain poorly constrained due to aforementioned problems with RV measurements. The best way to learn about the inner planetary systems of intermediate mass stars is therefore to observe ‘retired’ A stars. Very little, however, is known about debris discs around such ‘retired’ A stars. Such knowledge could act as a further window on to the structure of planetary systems around intermediate mass stars, critical to furthering our understanding of planetary systems in general.

In this work, we present *Herschel* images of a debris disc around the subgiant κ Coronae Borealis (κ CrB, HD 142091, HR 5901, HIP 77655) and resolve excess emission in the far-infrared (far-IR). κ CrB is a K-type subgiant near the base of the giant branch with a mass of $1.8 M_{\odot}$ at a distance of 31.1 pc (Johnson et al. 2008).² κ CrB is significantly cooler than the average main-sequence A star, but not significantly more luminous, with a luminosity of $12.3 L_{\odot}$ and age of 2.5 Gyr (Johnson et al. 2008). RV monitoring of κ CrB using the Lick observatories (Johnson et al. 2008) found evidence for a planetary companion. The best fit to the RV variations find a $m \sin i = 2.1 M_J$ planet at 2.8 ± 0.1 au, with an eccentricity of 0.125 ± 0.049 .³ We present far-IR *Herschel* observations of this source that find and resolve excess emission, alongside follow-up RV measurements that suggest the presence of a second companion and direct imaging attempts with Keck that constrain the potential orbital parameters of this companion.

We start by presenting the observations in Section 2, followed by the basic results determined from these observations in Section 3. Detailed modelling of the *Herschel* images is presented in Section 4, followed by a discussion of the structure of the κ CrB planetary system in Section 5 and our conclusions are made in Section 6.

2 OBSERVATIONS

2.1 Keck radial velocity monitoring

We monitored κ CrB at Lick observatory from 2004 to 2009, and at Keck observatory from 2010 until present, to search for companions to stars more massive than the Sun. This monitoring found the $m \sin i = 1.8 M_J$ companion at 2.7 au (Johnson et al. 2008) in 2008. Since then, continued monitoring of this star, over a total of 8.09 yr,

² Calculated using the stellar models of Girardi et al. (2002).

³ Updated from the $m \sin i = 1.8 M_J$, 2.7 au and $e = 0.146 \pm 0.08$ values quoted in Johnson et al. (2008).

Table 1. The new best-fitting orbital parameters for κ CrB b derived from the continued RV monitoring at the Lick and Keck observatories. This fit had a reduced χ^2 value of 1.8 and 7 free parameters, namely, period, eccentricity, longitude of periastron, time of periastron passage, global RV off-set, semi-amplitude and acceleration. These are derived using the same bootstrap Monte Carlo method, as described in further detail in Johnson et al. (2008).

Period	P	1300 ± 15 d
Time of pericentre passage	T_p	13899 ± 160 JD
Eccentricity	e	0.125 ± 0.049
Argument of pericentre	ω	$83.1^\circ \pm 29^\circ$
Velocity semi-amplitude	K	27.3 ± 1.3 ms ⁻¹
Acceleration	$\frac{dv}{dt}$	1.51 ± 0.52 ms ⁻¹ yr ⁻¹

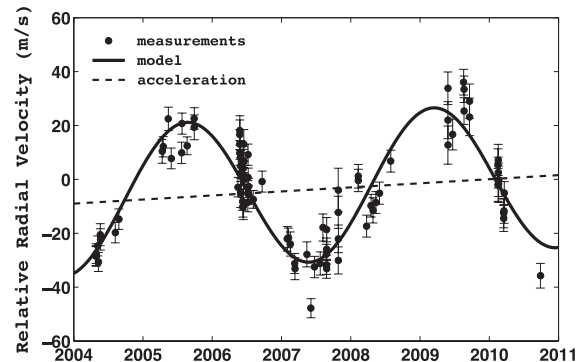


Figure 1. Radial velocity monitoring of κ CrB over 8.09 yr, showing the new orbital fit for κ CrB b and a Doppler acceleration, that provides evidence for a second companion.

has updated the orbital parameters for κ CrB b (shown in Table 1) and found $m \sin i = 2.1 M_J$, a semimajor axis of 2.8 ± 0.1 au, as well as a Doppler acceleration of 1.51 ± 0.52 ms⁻¹ yr⁻¹. Such a trend provides good evidence for the presence of a second companion; however, further monitoring is required before the orbit of this companion can be constrained. The RV curve for this target is shown in Fig. 1.

2.2 Adaptive optics observations

Given evidence for the existence of an additional companion in the system with a period at least as long as the observational baseline (8.09 yr), κ CrB was observed as part of the TRENDS (TaRgetting bENchmark-objects with Doppler Spectroscopy) imaging programme – a survey dedicated to follow-up high-contrast observations of stars showing long-term Doppler accelerations (Crepp et al. 2012). Using NIRC2 (PI Keith Matthews) and the Keck II adaptive optics (AO) system (Wizinowich et al. 2000), angular differential imaging observations were acquired on 2010 May 26 in an attempt to directly image the outer body responsible for accelerating the star.

A total of 90 frames were recorded using the narrow camera setting. Each frame consisted of a 30 s integration time (60 co-adds with 0.5 s per co-add), resulting in a total on-source integration time of 2700 s. The field of view (10 arcsec \times 10 arcsec, modulo a bad detector quadrant) was allowed to rotate to help discriminate between residual scattered starlight (quasi-static speckles) and faint candidate companions (Marois et al. 2006). The parallactic angle changed by 49.5° during the course of the observations, allowing us to achieve a close (150 mas) inner-working angle. The airmass ranged from 1.04 to 1.08.

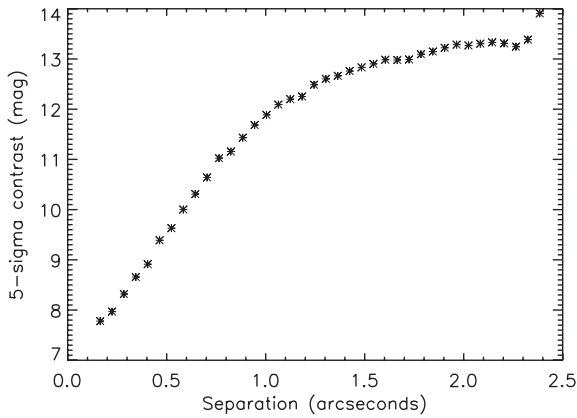


Figure 2. The upper limits on emission from the region surrounding κ CrB determined by the Keck AO imaging. This is converted to upper limits on the companion mass in Section 3.2, shown in Fig. 5.

κ CrB is sufficiently bright ($H = 2.58$) that observations were acquired with the Hcont narrow-band filter. The 300 mas diameter coronagraphic spot was used to occult the star. Unocculted frames were also obtained to measure the relative brightness (contrast) between the primary star and any off-axis sources.

Individual frames were processed using standard techniques to flat-field the array, identify and replace hot pixel values, and align and co-add images. We used the locally optimized combination of images algorithm to improve the effective signal-to-noise ratio (S/N) of speckle suppressed frames (Lafrenière et al. 2007). We did not detect any candidate companions.

The data, the 5σ contrasts as a function of angular separation, are shown in Fig. 2. These are later converted to upper mass limits on the second companion in Section 3.2.

2.3 The *Herschel* observations

Observations were performed using the *Herschel* Photodetector and Array Camera & Spectrometer (PACS; Poglitsch et al. 2010) at 100 and 160 μm , as listed in Table 2. These observations were performed in mini scan-map mode with two observations being performed with a 40° cross-linking angle. Four repeats were used for each observation and with eight scan legs per repeat. The total observing time was approximately 30 min.

Data were reduced with the *Herschel* Interactive Processing Environment version 7.0 Build 1931 (HIPE; Ott 2010) using version 32 of the PACS calibration. Some data from the telescope turn-around phase (when scanning above 5 arcsec s^{-1}) were used to minimize the ultimate noise level. Maps were then made using the HIPE phot-Project task to provide ‘drizzle’ maps (Fruchter & Hook 2002) with pixel scales of 1 and 2 arcsec in the 100 and 160 μm bands, respectively. The data were high-pass filtered to mitigate low frequency $1/f$ noise, using filtering scales of 66 and 102 arcsec (equivalent to a filter radius of 16 and 25 PACS frames) in the 100 and 160 μm bands, respectively.

The point spread function (PSF) of the PACS beam includes significant power on large scales (10 per cent beyond 1 arcmin).

Table 2. The *Herschel* observations.

Target	Obs. ID	Date	Instrument	Duration
κ CrB	1342234353	15/12/2011	PACS	895 s
κ CrB	1342234354	15/12/2011	PACS	895 s

Table 3. The photospheric fluxes for κ CrB compared to observed fluxes from both archival *Spitzer* data (Kalas & Graham 2008) and the *Herschel* data presented in this work, including systematic uncertainties. ^aFor the *Spitzer* data the first uncertainties quoted are photometry uncertainties estimated based on the data, whilst the second ones include the overall calibration. ^bThe photometry quoted for MIPS 70 μm is based on aperture photometry rather than the usual PSF fitting photometry, as the source is slightly elongated.

Instrument	Wavelength (μm)	Photosphere (mJy)	Observed (mJy)
<i>Spitzer</i>	24	766 ± 13	$800.1 \pm 0.1 \pm 8.0^a$
<i>Spitzer</i>	70	83 ± 2	$426.2^b \pm 6.5 \pm 22.3^a$
<i>Herschel</i>	100	42.34 ± 0.69	$335 \pm 16 \text{ mJy}$
<i>Herschel</i>	160	16.40 ± 0.27	$192 \pm 10 \text{ mJy}$

Consequently, the filtering performed during the data reduction will reduce the flux density of a source by 10–20 per cent, due to the filter removing the wings of the PSF. For point sources this can be readily accounted for using correction factors, determined from the comparison of bright stars with known fluxes with the PACS aperture flux. Correction factors of 1.19 ± 0.05 and 1.12 ± 0.05 at 100 and 160 μm were determined from analysis of the Disc Emission via a Bias-free Reconnaissance in the Infrared/Submillimetre (DEBRIS) survey (e.g. Matthews et al. 2010) targets (Kennedy et al. 2012a). This can also be applied to resolved sources when the source remains similar in scale to the beam full width at half-maximum (FWHM).

3 RESULTS

3.1 Photometry and basic analysis of the *Herschel* data

By integrating the emission in an area surrounding the central source and comparing this to predictions for the stellar photosphere, calculated in the manner discussed in Section 4.1, we are able to calculate the level of excess flux. These values are quoted in Table 3, where the disc is detected at $\sim 17\sigma$ and 18σ at 100 and 160 μm , respectively.

Herschel PACS images at 100 and 160 μm are shown in Figs 3 and 4. First the observations are compared to those expected from a single point source, i.e. unresolved emission. The residuals after subtracting a point source scaled to roughly the peak emission level are shown in the right-hand panels of Figs 3 and 4. The residuals clearly show that the emission is extended. To learn further about the extended emission, we fitted a 2D Gaussian to both sources. We find emission that is elongated along a position angle of $\sim 145^\circ$, where the position angle is measured between north and the long axis of the ellipse, and east is positive. The peak position is consistent with the stellar position to within 2 arcsec (1σ pointing accuracy). The FWHM of the emission is $11.2 \text{ arcsec} \pm 0.01 \text{ arcsec} \times 8.26 \text{ arcsec} \pm 0.01 \text{ arcsec}$ at 100 μm and $14.9 \text{ arcsec} \pm 0.013 \text{ arcsec} \times 11.3 \text{ arcsec} \pm 0.017 \text{ arcsec}$ at 160 μm . Given that the PSF is extended by $6.78 \text{ arcsec} \times 6.95 \text{ arcsec}$ at 100 μm and $12.1 \text{ arcsec} \times 10.7 \text{ arcsec}$ at 160 μm (Kennedy et al. 2012b),⁴ the emission is clearly resolved at both

⁴ These sizes are slightly larger than quoted in the PACS Observer’s Manual, because our data cannot be recentered on a scan by scan basis (i.e. κ CrB is much fainter than the PACS calibration targets used for PSF characterization). The PSF sizes are quoted as minor \times major axis size (i.e. reversed relative to the disc sizes) because the PSF tends to be elongated in the in-scan direction (Kennedy et al. 2012b) and the κ CrB disc is roughly perpendicular to the scan direction.

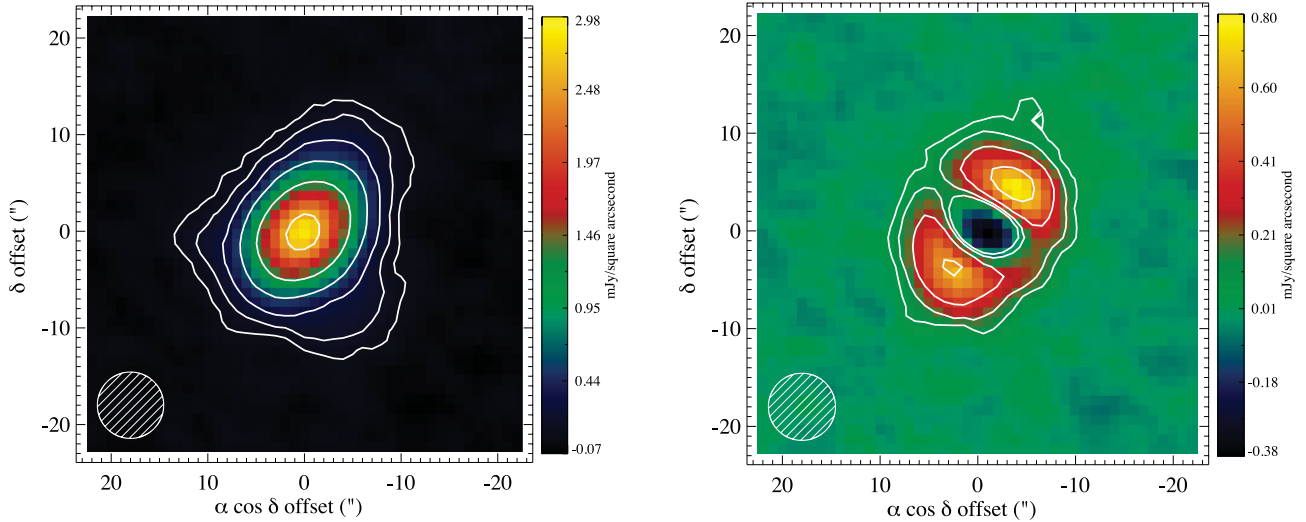


Figure 3. The 100 μm *Herschel* PACS observations of κ CrB. North is up and east is left. The peak position is consistent with the stellar position to within 2 arcsec (*Herschel*'s 1σ pointing accuracy), so the observed position is consistent with the *Hipparcos* astrometry projected to 2011 December. The colour scale is in mJy arcsec^{-2} . The hatched circles show the average PACS beam FWHM of 6.7 arcsec. The residuals after subtraction of the PSF are shown in the right-hand panel. The contours are at 3, 6, 12, 24, 48, 100 in units of the pixel to pixel variation, given by 2.5×10^{-5} or $2.5 \times 10^{-5} \text{mJy arcsec}^{-2}$. These residuals clearly show the detection of extended emission over and above that of the star.

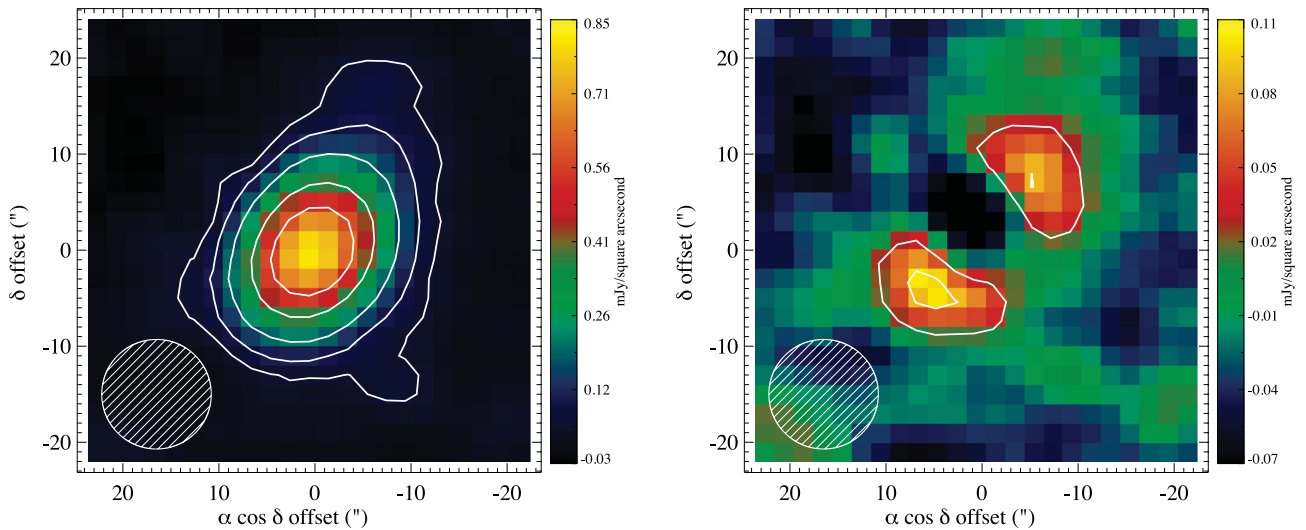


Figure 4. The same as Fig. 3 except at 160 μm . The average PACS beam FWHM is 11.4 arcsec and the contours 3, 6, 12, 24, 36 in units of the pixel to pixel sigma, given by 6.4×10^{-5} or $2.6 \times 10^{-4} \text{mJy arcsec}^{-2}$.

wavelengths. The elliptical shape of such emission is difficult to reconcile with a spherically symmetrical shell, but could result from an azimuthally symmetrical disc, viewed along a line of sight inclined to the disc plane. In which case, the major to minor axis ratio implies that the disc would be inclined at an angle of $58^\circ \pm 1^\circ$ (100 μm) or $48^\circ \pm 1^\circ$ (160 μm), from face-on, where the uncertainties come straight from fitting the 2D Gaussian. The disc would have a deconvolved diameter of ~ 280 au at 100 μm and 320 au at 160 μm .

3.2 Detection limits on (planetary) companions

The constant acceleration found by the RV monitoring of κ CrB, can be used to place limits on the orbital parameters of the second companion to κ CrB. The simplest assumption to make is that the planet is on a circular orbit, in which case a minimum limit on the

companion's mass can be calculated by assuming that its gravity is responsible for the observed acceleration. This limit depends on the separation of the companion from the star, or its semimajor axis and is given by

$$m \sin i > 1.22 M_J \left(\frac{a}{12} \right)^2, \quad (1)$$

where the semimajor axis is a in au.

This limit is plotted in Fig. 5. Our non-detection of the companion using high-contrast imaging places an upper limit on the possible mass of the companion, as a function of its projected separation from the star. Our (5σ) sensitivity to off-axis sources, as a function of angular separation, calculated using the Baraffe et al. (2003) evolutionary models, is overplotted in Fig. 5. This was calculated using κ CrB's measured parallax ($\pi = 32.79 \pm 0.21$) and estimated isochronal age (2.24 ± 0.15 Gyr). The largest uncertainty here is

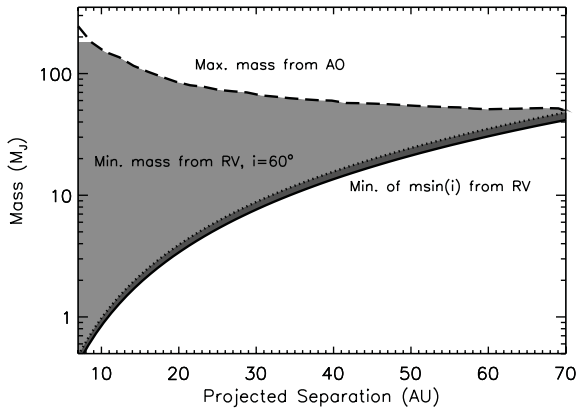


Figure 5. The limits on the planet/companion mass and separation from the host star, based on the non-detections found in the AO imaging (black dashed line, see Section 2.2) and the RV trends found in the Keck RV data (solid line, see Section 3.2). For the latter, the mass limit is the minimum mass, $m \sin i$ and the projected separations, the semimajor axis of the planet, assuming that it is on a circular orbit. In order to explain both sets of observations, κ CrB must have a companion that lies within the shaded area. The dotted line shows the minimum planet mass, based on the assumption that the planet’s orbit is inclined by 60° from face-on, in the same manner as the disc.

in the age of the primary star, followed by systematic errors in the thermal evolutionary models.

These non-detection limits complement the RV measurements and place tight constraints on the properties of κ CrB c. The allowable mass and semimajor axis parameter space is shown by the shaded area in Fig. 5. For instance, Doppler observations rule out the existence of extrasolar planets ($m < 13 M_J$) beyond ~ 40 au. The minimum possible mass of κ CrB c can be determined by considering that the minimum possible orbital period of the companion, even with an eccentricity of $e = 1$, corresponds to the time baseline of the observations. In this case, the minimum period is therefore 8.09 yr, which corresponds to a minimum semimajor axis of 7.3 au and thus, mass of $m \sin i > 0.5 M_J$.

4 MODELS OF THE *Herschel* DATA

The *Herschel* images of κ CrB resemble images of many other debris discs around main-sequence stars. The confined, disc-like nature of the source suggests that we are observing the collisional remnants of planetesimals in a Kuiper-like belt. Although κ CrB has evolved off the main sequence, its properties have not changed significantly from that of a main-sequence star, in particular, there is no expectation that the rate of stellar mass-loss has increased beyond the gentle stellar winds of main-sequence stars.⁵ Thus, although previous explanations for observations of giant stars with infrared excess have included sporadic mass ejections and interstellar clouds (Zuckerman, Kim & Liu 1995; Jura 1999; Kim, Zuckerman & Silverstone 2001), the evidence in the case of κ CrB is strongly in favour of emission from a debris disc. The only other possible source of emission at such wavelengths could be the companion(s),

⁵ Significant stellar mass-loss that could produce an infrared excess emission only occurs towards the tip of the giant branch and on the asymptotic giant branches. Evidence against increased stellar mass-loss rates for subgiant stars comes from the lack of a need to include any stellar mass-loss in evolutionary models that fit observations of globular clusters (Iben 1967).

which the level and morphology of the excess emission lead us to believe is clearly not the origin in this case.

In this section, we consider the *Herschel* observations in their own right, comparing the observations with the emission from a model debris disc. The intention of this modelling is to derive as much information as possible regarding the disc structure from the *Herschel* images. Given the limitations on the information available from these images, it will only really be possible to determine a rough size for the disc and place some broad constraints on its orientation. In Section 5, we discuss these models in the light of the limits on planetary companions in this system.

In order to model the emission from a debris disc, first, the contribution of the stellar emission must be accounted for. Optical and near-infrared photometry is collected from numerous catalogues (Morel & Magnenat 1978; Mermilliod 1987; Moshir et al. 1993; Hauck & Mermilliod 1997; Perryman & ESA 1997; Høg et al. 2000; Cutri et al. 2003; Ishihara et al. 2010). These data were used to find the best-fitting stellar model, using the PHOENIX *Gaia* grid (Brott & Hauschildt 2005), via a χ^2 minimization, as in Kennedy et al. (2012a), Kennedy et al. (2012b) and Wyatt et al. (2012). This method uses synthetic photometry over known bandpasses and has been validated against high S/N *Spitzer* MIPS (Multiband Imaging Photometer) 24 μ m data for DEBRIS (Matthews et al. 2010) targets, showing that the photospheric fluxes are accurate to a few per cent for main-sequence, AFG-type stars.

4.1 Spectral energy distribution

The synthetic stellar spectrum is plotted in Fig. 6. We have added to this the *Herschel* PACS data, as well as archival *Spitzer* data (Kalas & Graham 2008) and data points from the *IRAS* faint source catalogue. There is clear evidence for excess emission above the predicted stellar spectrum, as can also be seen in Table 3.

The only information that can be obtained from just the spectral energy distribution (SED) is an estimate of the disc temperature. In order to determine this, we make the simplest possible assumption; that the dust grains emit like blackbodies. We anticipate that the inefficient emission properties of real grains reduce the flux at wavelengths longer than λ_0 by a factor $\left(\frac{\lambda}{\lambda_0}\right)^{-\beta}$, where we have

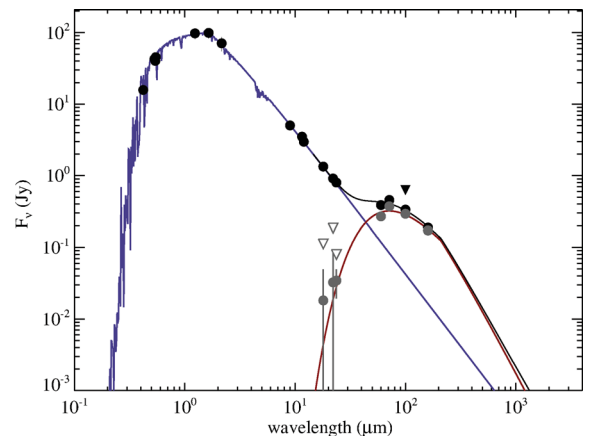


Figure 6. SED for κ Cr B. Photometry is shown as the black dots or black triangles for upper limits. Disc (i.e. photosphere-subtracted) fluxes and upper limits are shown as the grey dots and open triangles. The stellar spectrum is shown as a blue line and the modified blackbody disc model as a red line, with the total shown as a black line. In the modified blackbody model λ_0 was arbitrarily set at 210 μ m and β at 1, following Wyatt (2008).

introduced the free parameters λ_0 and β to take this into account. Since, here we have detections at only four different wavelengths, λ_0 and β are very poorly constrained, but nonetheless illustrative of the reduced emission anticipated at long wavelengths, that could be relevant for future observations, for example with Atacama Large Millimeter/Submillimeter Array (ALMA).

The disc temperature can be determined from Fig. 6 using our modified blackbody description. We find a temperature of 60 ± 10 K, although β and λ_0 remain unconstrained and it is clear that some discrepancy exists between the *IRAS* 60 μm and *Spitzer* MIPS 70 μm points. It is not possible to fit a modified blackbody that agrees with both these points to within the uncertainties (which are smaller than the data points on the plot). We, therefore, assessed whether the *Spitzer* 70 μm point might be contaminated by background sources, but deem this to be unlikely as the flux varies by less than 4 per cent between apertures of different sizes, whilst the uncertainty on each data point is 5 per cent. There is more reason to question the *IRAS* point, as there is a greater than 30 per cent variation in flux between the *IRAS* Point Source Catalogue (*IRAS*-PSC) and *IRAS* Faint Source Catalogue (*IRAS*-FSC), whilst the quoted uncertainties are 10 per cent in *IRAS*-PSC and 8 per cent in *IRAS*-FSC. In general, the *IRAS*-FSC is more reliable, and this is the point that we use; however, it may be that the uncertainty on this point should be increased above that quoted.

If this fit is correct and the dust indeed acts like a blackbody, a temperature of 60 ± 10 K would correspond to a radius of 75_{-20}^{+35} au. The large uncertainty in the disc temperature, and therefore blackbody radius, arises because the temperature is degenerate with λ_0 and β . The inferred disc radius is therefore smaller than suggested by the images, which could arise due to the presence of small (μm) grains that are hotter than blackbodies. However, the temperature is sufficiently uncertain that this conclusion is not strong.

4.2 A model of the *Herschel* images

κ CrB is resolved in both of the *Herschel* images. We, therefore, attempt to fit the observations using a simple model. First, the stellar photosphere is subtracted, such that we are left with emission from the debris disc, which can directly be compared with the emission from a model disc. The models we generate here use the methods described in Wyatt et al. (2012), Kennedy et al. (2012a) and Kennedy et al. (2012b). The basic idea is to determine the spatial distribution of the dust, which coupled with the grain emission properties at each wavelength can be used to produce a high resolution model image of the disc at each wavelength. In these models, we make no attempts to constrain the grain properties or size distribution, since in the absence of spectral features this will be degenerate with other assumptions. Instead we use the modified blackbody prescription, outlined in Section 4.1. In this modified blackbody prescription, the temperature of the disc is assumed to be $T = f_T T_{\text{bb}}$, where $T_{\text{bb}} = 278.3 (L_*/L_\odot)^{\frac{1}{4}} (r/\text{au})^{-\frac{1}{2}} = 521(r/\text{au})^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ is the temperature that a blackbody at a distance r from the star of luminosity $L_* = 12.3 L_\odot$ would achieve, and f_T is a parameter of the model, related to the grain emission efficiency, the same as used in Wyatt et al. (2012) and Lestrade et al. (2012).

The spatial distribution of the dust is assumed to be disc-like, with a small opening angle. It is characterized by the dust's face-on optical depth (τ), which is parametrized as a function of radius by one or more power laws. The dust can be arranged in a single or multiple belts, characterized by their radial location, width, position angle and inclination to the line of sight. The quality of each model is

evaluated using a sum of squared image model differences approach as described in Wyatt et al. (2012).

These models are defined by a large number of parameters, which means that the best-fitting model is not determined by undertaking a grid search of all possible parameter spaces, rather by a combination of by-eye fitting and least-squares minimization. While we do not claim that the models are unique, we do show that they are plausible layouts of the debris disc structure. As we show below, we can reproduce the observed disc structure with several different models, and therefore consider the uncertainties on individual model-specific parameters relatively unimportant.

Given that our modelling approach does not include detailed grain properties, it is likely that the true disc emission spectrum is more complex than our simple modified blackbody, for example including relatively narrow spectral features. Differences may also exist between different sets of photometry due to calibration offsets. As can be seen in the SED (Fig. 6) the spectrum suggested by the four far-IR points is not well represented by the modified blackbody; thus, it may be suffering from these problems. While these differences do not pose a major problem for SED modelling, they complicate image modelling since a small absolute offset caused by an attempt to achieve the best fit for all data can make an otherwise satisfactory image model to appear very poor when compared with the observed image. Our approach, therefore, follows Löhne et al. (2012), who introduce small offsets at some wavelengths, so that the image models focus on fitting the radial distribution of the emission, rather than the overall disc flux, which can be biased due to the preceding factors. In this manner, we could apply small modifications to each of the four far-IR points; however, for simplicity we found that it was only necessary to apply such a modification to the PACS 100 μm point, using a factor C_{100} .

Considering first a single dusty ring, our best-fitting model is a wide belt extending from 20 to 220 au, with an optical depth of $\tau = 2.5 \times 10^{-5} r^{0.5}$, a temperature profile of $T = 597 r^{-0.5}$ i.e. $f_T = 1.1$, $\lambda_0 = 70 \mu\text{m}$, $\beta = 0.6$ and $C_{100} = 0.95$. These parameters are not particularly well constrained, for example, from the SED fitting we already concluded that λ_0 and β are unconstrained, and reasonable fits to the data can be made for different values of the disc inner radius. However, a clear conclusion that a single, narrow belt does not fit this data is made. Better constrained are the inclination and position angle, for which we determine values of 59° from face-on and 142° , respectively. The values quoted here are similar to those found by fitting an ellipse to the emission in Section 3.1 and we consider these to be constrained to within $\pm 10^\circ$. A reduced χ^2 of 0.8 is calculated for this model, in the manner described in Wyatt et al. (2012).⁶ The residuals once this model fit is subtracted from the observations (Fig. 7) show that this model is a good fit to the data. The positive increase in optical depth with radius is unusual for debris disc models; however, we were unable to find a negative slope that provided a good fit to the data. This positive increase in surface density could be a real feature, related to the dynamics or stirring mechanism of the disc. Alternatively, it could provide an indication that this structure is an incorrect interpretation of the real disc structure.

Given that such a wide single belt fits the data, the possibility that the system could contain multiple belts is worthy of investigation. We therefore relax the constraints and allow the model to include

⁶ Although the number of degrees of freedom (7 weighted values) used to calculate this value may be misleading (see Wyatt et al. 2012), a value close to 1 suggests a satisfactory fit.

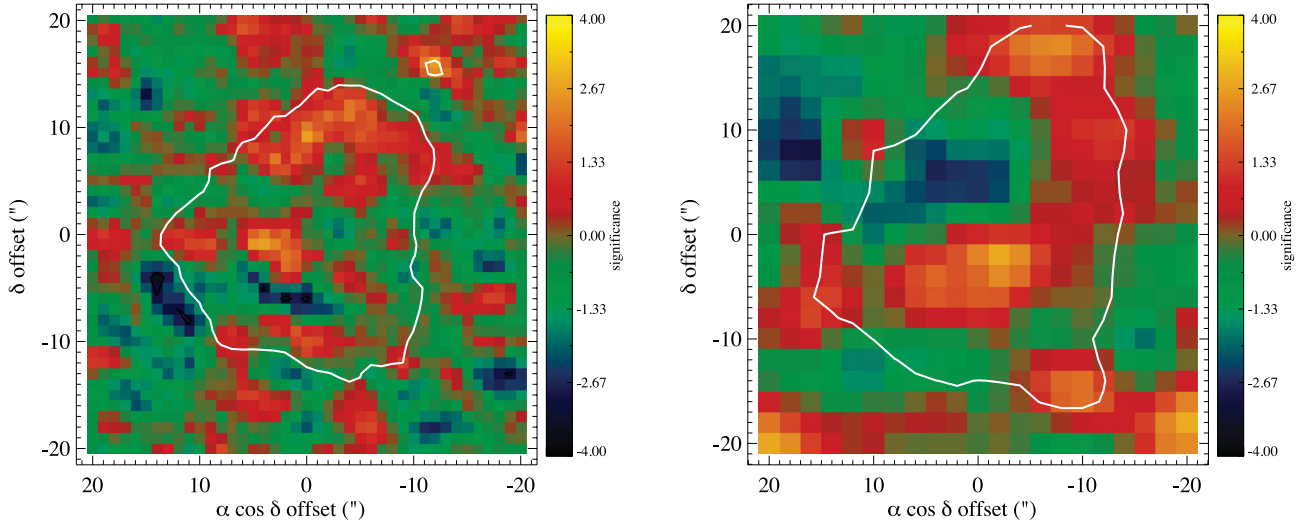


Figure 7. The residuals, in units of significance of (image model)/uncertainty, from the model fits with a single belt described in Section 4.2 at 100 (left) and 160 μm (right). The models provide a good fit to the observations, the residuals are at low levels (note the scale), with the black contours showing residuals of 3σ . The white contours show the 3σ detection of the disc, as shown in Figs 3 and 4.

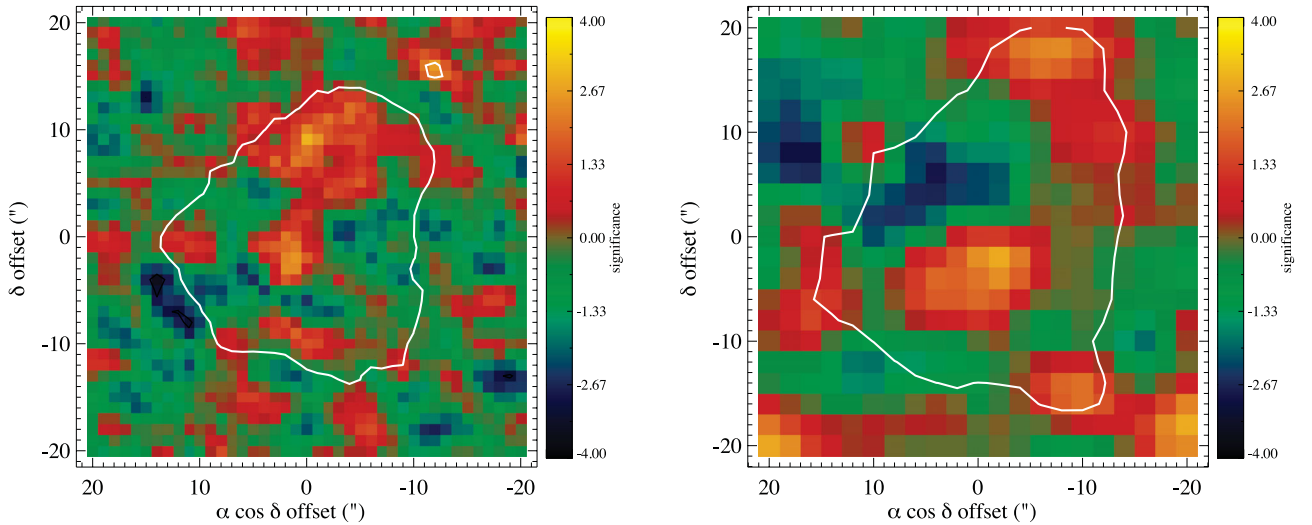


Figure 8. The same as Fig. 7, but this time showing the residuals from the two belt fit.

two dust belts. So that there is no increase in the number of parameters required in order to obtain a fit, we fix various parameters. We assume that both belts are 10 au wide, that the temperature dependence is $T = 521r^{-0.5}$ ($f_T = 1$), $\lambda_0 = 70 \mu\text{m}$ and that each ring has constant optical depth with radius. We find $C_{100} = 0.91$. The best-fitting model has two belts, centred on 41 and 165 au, with optical depths of $\tau = 2.7 \times 10^{-4}$ and $\tau = 1 \times 10^{-3}$ and $\beta = 0.7$ and 1.0, respectively. The disc orientation, with a position angle of 145° and inclination of 60° from face-on, remains close to the original estimation. The residuals for this model are shown in Fig. 8, and a value of $\chi^2 = 0.7$ indicates that this is a good fit.

Both of these models provide equally good fits to the data. They both have a common radial scale for the dusty material (from around 20 au to around 200 au) and an inner hole. The differences between these models reflects our lack of knowledge of the distribution of the emission within this region. In fact, the inner hole need not be completely empty and the observations are equally consistent with a stirring model in which the disc extends from near to the inner planet out to large radial distances, but is collisionally eroded from

inside-out. In such a model the majority of the emission is still from the 20–200 au region.

Planetesimals can be stirred as a result of the manner in which the protoplanetary gas disc was dispersed, the formation of Pluto-sized objects (Kenyon & Bromley 2004), or perturbations by a planetary companion (Mustill & Wyatt 2009). Given the known orbit for the inner planetary companion, we can estimate the radial distance out to which the planet could have stirred the disc. Using equation 15 of Mustill & Wyatt (2009), equating the stirring time-scale, with the 2.5 Gyr age of κ CrB, the $2.1 M_J$ planet could stir planetesimals out to around 70 au. The second, more distant companion might inevitably stir planetesimals beyond this distance, depending on the properties of the orbit. In order to fit such a model to the observations, we consider that the surface density distribution of dust is split into two regions, an inner region where the density increases with radial distance to the star and an outer region in which it decreases. We then determine the radius of this change in surface density, which for these images occurs at 81 au, with the outer region extending to 290 au. Our best fit finds $\tau = 5.8 \times$

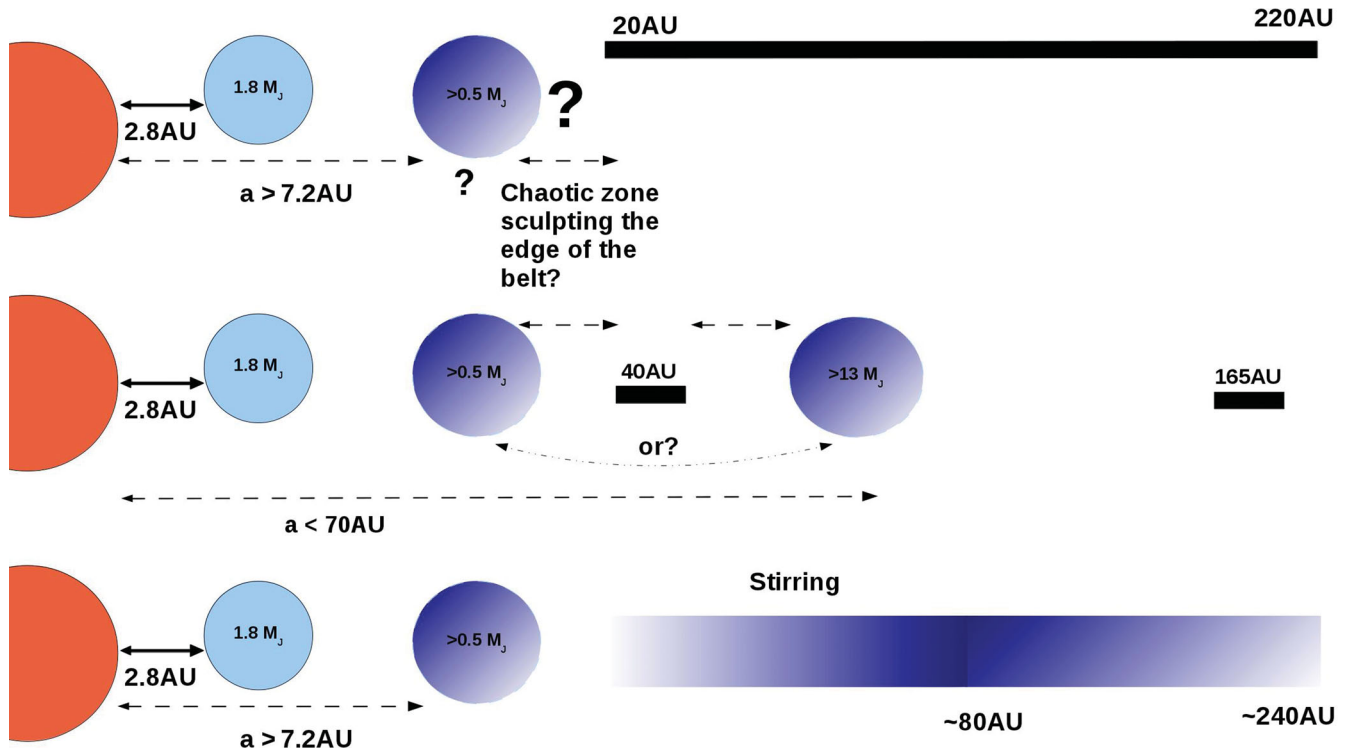


Figure 9. A cartoon to illustrate the possible configurations of the κ CrB planetary system. The top panel illustrates the possibility that the second companion lies interior to the observed dusty material, that lies either in a single wide belt or is split into two narrow belts, as described by the best-fitting models in Section 4.2. The middle panel illustrates the possibility that the outer companion is in fact a binary and orbits between the two narrow dust belts. In the latter scenario, the outer dusty belt would be a circumbinary debris disc. The lower panel illustrates the stirring model, in which the rate of dust production is maximum at ~ 80 au. Diagram is not to scale.

$10^{-8}r^{2.3}$ inside of 81 au and $\tau = 6.6 \times 10^{-5}r^{-1}$ in the outer regions, where the slope of the optical depth in the outer region was fixed at r^{-1} in both regions, with $f_T = 1.15$. This model provides as good a fit to the data as the previous two models, as indicated by a χ^2 value of 0.8. Again, however, these parameters are not very well constrained. This model fits well with the planet stirring of planetesimals out to around 70 au by the known companion, but if our radial constraint is correct, the second companion must have orbital parameters close to the minimum possible ($a_{\text{pl}} = 7.3$ au and $M_{\text{pl}} = 0.5 M_J$) and orbit on a very low eccentricity orbit ($e_{\text{pl}} < 0.06$) in order that planet stirring of planetesimals does not occur beyond ~ 80 au.

To summarize, we have presented three plausible models for the dusty material, as illustrated in Fig. 9. All three models reproduce the *Herschel* images and the SED. Without further observations we have no means of distinguishing between these models, nor ruling out alternative models.

5 DISCUSSION

In this work, we have presented new *Herschel* resolved images of the debris disc around κ CrB, alongside evidence for a second companion from Keck RV data and upper limits on its mass from Keck AO imaging. Coupled with the known planetary companion from Johnson et al. (2008), this allows us to constrain the structure of the κ CrB planetary system. Although our knowledge of the κ CrB planetary system has grown significantly from these observations, it is critically important to distinguish between the information that is well constrained from these observations and the more tentative conclusions that can be made. This will be discussed in the following section.

By constraining the structure of the κ CrB planetary system, we have provided an example of a planetary system around an intermediate mass subgiant, or ‘retired’ A star, which in turn aids our understanding of the population of planetary systems around higher mass stars. In the second half of this discussion, we consider the impact of this study on our understanding of planetary systems in general.

5.1 The structure of the κ CrB planetary system

First, we consider the *Herschel* resolved images. One of the clearest conclusions that can be made regards the inclination of the circumstellar disc. The ellipsoidal nature of the excess emission can be clearly seen in the star-subtracted images shown in Fig. 3. The ellipse-like nature of the source suggests an azimuthally symmetric, circumstellar disc, viewed inclined to the line of sight. The inclination of this dust belt is reasonably well constrained from the images, at around 60° from face-on, with a position angle of 145° . This in turn has implications for the second companion. If the planet and the dust disc formed out of the same protoplanetary disc and there have been no further interactions, it seems reasonable to assume that the inclination determined for the disc is also the inclination for the planet. This would mean that the planet’s mass is a factor of $\frac{1}{\sin 60^\circ} \sim 1.15$ higher than the minimum mass of $m \sin i = 2.1 M_J$, with similar implications for the mass of the unconstrained companion. The dotted line in Fig. 5 shows this increase in the planet’s mass. It should, however, be noted that the disc and the known planet are sufficiently well separated that it is possible that post-formation processes have altered their inclinations from coplanar. Although, during the 2.5 Gyr lifetime of κ CrB

the secular perturbations from the known $2.1 M_J$ companion could have aligned the disc out to ~ 120 au, as suggested in Augereau et al. (e.g. 1999) and Kennedy et al. (2012b).⁷ This means that if the disc and planet were misaligned early in their evolution, the disc might appear warped at around ~ 120 au, and our observations do not have sufficient resolution to detect this warp.

The radial location and structure of the debris disc is not as well constrained as its inclination. In fact, the main conclusion that can be made from these *Herschel* observations is that there is clearly a dense population of dusty bodies orbiting κ CrB. We suggest three structures that could explain the observations, although, based on the current data, we are unable to rule out other possibilities. Our first model is a continuous dust belt, extending from 20 to 220 au. The second is two distinct narrow dust belts, centred on 41 and 165 au. The third is a stirring model, in which the disc is collisionally eroded from inside outwards. In this case, the dust production peaks at around 80 au. Currently, our only source of further information regarding the structure of the planetary system comes from a consideration of the effect of the second companion on the dusty material.

Our constraints on the orbit of the second companion, shown in Fig. 5, are not tight. We can, however, examine how it could fit into the three scenarios proposed. These are illustrated in Fig. 9. In all three cases, the second companion could orbit close to the inner companion, interior to the dusty material, be it in a single belt, two distinct belts, or distributed in a wide belt that is stirred by the planet(s). The companion could even be responsible for sculpting the inner edge of the inner belt.

On the other hand, if the dusty material were to be split into two narrow belts, we consider the possibility that the second companion could orbit between the belts. In this case, the companion could be responsible for clearing the region of material. The outer belt at 165 au is sufficiently far from the second companion (that must lie within 70 au) that it is unlikely to be affected by it. The stability of a belt between 36 and 46 au, however, is likely to be strongly influenced by the second companion. We note here, that our stated values for the exact radial position of the inner belt are not strongly constrained and that reasonable fits to the data can be made using different radial distributions of dust within the same region. Assuming that the companion is on a circular orbit, we can use the overlap of mean-motion resonances, outlined by the chaotic zone ($\delta a_{\text{chaos}} = 1.3(\frac{m_{\text{pl}}}{M_*})^{2/7}$) (Wisdom 1980) to estimate the size of the region in which particles would be unstable and thus, we anticipate it to be clear of dust. The derivation for the size of this zone is only strictly valid for companion masses that are significantly less than the stellar mass, which is not the case for companions $\gg 10 M_J$, nonetheless it remains true that higher mass planets must be further from the disc, if they are not to destabilize it. Using this limit, we find that if the companion were to be at the maximum radial distance from the star of 70 au, and therefore have a mass between ~ 42 and $\sim 47 M_J$, a belt of dust could only be stable interior to this companion, if its outer edge were to be interior to 34 au. The values predicted for the inner belt in our model rule out such a scenario, however, given the uncertain nature of our radial constraints on the dusty belts, the only conclusion that we can make is that if the second companion is to orbit between the two belts of dust, it must be on an orbit with semimajor axis close to 70 au. The limits on the mass of the second companion are such that in

order for it to orbit between the two belts it must be substellar, rather than planetary in nature.⁸ In this case, κ CrB would have an outer circumbinary debris disc, orbiting a main-sequence and brown dwarf binary, in which the main-sequence star has its own debris disc.

To summarize, κ CrB is orbited by significant levels of dusty material and at least two companions, at least one of which is planetary. The inclination of the planetary system is reasonably constrained with an inclination of 60° from face-on and a position angle of 145° . We present three plausible models for the distribution of dust, a single wide belt, two narrow belts or a stirring model. Further resolved imaging of this source in the infrared or submillimetre, combined with further RV monitoring of κ CrB to constrain any outer planetary companions are required in order to be able to fully constrain the structure of this planetary system.

5.2 κ CrB in context

The κ CrB planetary system is special, first, because it is a rare example of a system where both planets and planetesimal belts have been detected orbiting an intermediate mass star ($m > 1.4 M_\odot$) and, secondly, because it is a unique example of a debris disc around a subgiant. κ CrB is the only $> 1.4 M_\odot$ star with a giant planet inside of 8 au and a resolved image of a debris disc.

The evolution of the star should not, on the subgiant branch, have had an effect on the planetary system, particularly not the outer regions of the planetary region studied in this work. The main difference between this and most debris discs observed around main-sequence stars is that the debris disc must have survived the entire main-sequence lifetime. κ CrB has an age of 2.5 Gyr (Johnson et al. 2008), most of which was spent on the main sequence. Models for the collisional evolution of debris discs show a decrease in their fractional luminosity with time, as collisions erode the material in the disc (Wyatt et al. 2007a). An extension of these models, that also include the evolution of the star (Bonsor & Wyatt 2010), shows that this collisional evolution is the main factor that diminishes the detectability of debris discs around subgiants. A population survey for debris discs around subgiants is required to confirm whether κ CrB is unusual in retaining its debris disc until the subgiant branch. The fact that we detect a debris disc at this epoch implies that κ CrB did not suffer an event similar to the Late Heavy Bombardment that cleared our Solar system (Booth et al. 2009).

The main advantage of the subgiant nature of this star is that it enables RV techniques to find planetary companions in a manner that would not have been possible whilst this star was on the main sequence. This raises the question as to whether other main-sequence A stars that have debris discs similar to that of κ CrB may also have undetected planetary companions. For example, if κ CrB has a single wide belt, then it is not dissimilar to the single wide planetesimal belt of Vega (Aumann et al. 1984; Su et al. 2005; Müller, Löhne & Krivov 2010), which raises the question of whether Vega potentially has inner planetary companions, that cannot currently be detected. If on the other hand, the dust in κ CrB is split into two narrow belts, similarities can be seen with HR 8799 (Marois et al. 2008, 2010; Su et al. 2009) in that the dust belts are separated by planetary companion(s). In turn, this

⁷ This is the distance at which particles would have precessed once about the planet's orbital plane.

⁸ Using $M > 13 M_J$, the deuterium burning limit, to define the maximum mass of a planet.

comparison could suggest that κ CrB may have further, undetected companions.

6 CONCLUSIONS

We have presented observational evidence for the structure of the κ CrB planetary system, a unique example of a debris disc around a subgiant and a rare example of an intermediate mass star, where both planets and planetesimal belts have been detected. *Herschel* observations show high levels of excess emission, evidence generally taken for the presence of a debris disc. Following detailed modelling of the *Herschel* observations we suggest three possible structures for the dusty material. Either a single wide belt, extending between ~ 20 and ~ 220 au, two narrow belts, centred on ~ 40 and ~ 165 au, or a stirred belt, most probably stirred by the planetary companion(s), in which the dust production rates peak at ~ 80 au. Our best constraint is on the inclination and position angle of the disc, which we place at 60° from face-on and 145° , respectively, to within $\sim 10^\circ$.

Alongside the *Herschel* observations, we have presented evidence for the presence of a second companion to κ CrB found in the continued RV monitoring of this star. This is in addition to the $m \sin i = 2.1 M_J$ planet, at 2.8 au, detected by Johnson et al. (2008). An upper limit on the mass of this companion was found by its non-detection in AO imaging taken with Keck. The details are shown in Fig. 5. In terms of our suggested models for the dusty material orbiting κ CrB one possibility is that both companions lie interior to all the dusty material, potentially sculpting the inner edge of the inner belt. Alternatively, if the dusty material is split into two belts, we cannot rule out the possibility that the second companion could lie between these belts, giving κ CrB an intriguing structure with both a circumbinary and circumprimary debris disc.

As the first example of a planetary system orbiting a subgiant, a more detailed population study is required to determine whether or not κ CrB is unusual, nonetheless, this work suggests that κ CrB did not suffer any dynamical instability that cleared out its planetary system, similar to the Late Heavy Bombardment. As the first example of a $>1.4 M_\odot$ star, with a giant planet interior to 8 au, where there is also resolved imaging of a debris disc, κ CrB provides a good example system from which to further our understanding of planetary systems around intermediate mass stars.

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