# **Spitzer spectroscopy of AGN**

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Tel Aviv, February 20, 2006

# A new quality of mid-infrared spectroscopy



#### Opening the era of high-z infrared spectroscopy



## The first surprise: silicate emission in quasars



Suggested modifications to explain absence of silicate emission in type 1 AGN:

- changes of grain size distribution (Laor & Draine 1993, Maiolino et al. 2001)
- Special geometries, e.g. tapered disks (Efstathiou & Rowan-Robinson 1995)
- Clumpy tori (Nenkova et al. 2002)



Opt. thin dust, different size distributions (Laor & Draine 93)



Type 1 SED for different radial distributions of clumps (Nenkova et al. 02)

#### ... observed also at lower luminosity



- Sizeable population of Type 1 AGN with silicate emission
- Incidence as a function of luminosity and other factors still under investigation
- Demonstrates presence of a significant component of optically thin silicate dust
- **Cold** Temperatures ~140K-220K (from feature ratio and ISM silicate emissivity profile). Too cold for inner side of torus near sublimation but ok for dust further out, e.g. in the NLR?

### Silicate emission in Type 2 objects!



# $1-100\mu m$ QSO SEDs



# Average QSO SED: three mid-infrared bumps



#### Conditions in the silicate emitting region



The most simple cartoon...





Dust outside sublimation Radius: >  $\sim 0.5 L_{46}^{0.5} pc$ 





Dust outside sublimation Radius: >  $\sim 0.5 L_{46}^{0.5} pc$ 

# Similar Galactic SEDs: flared, passive irradiated protostellar disks



### The origin of QSO far-infrared emission





Rowan-Robinson (1995) pure AGN SED – strong far-infrared then must be star formation

Sanders et al. 1989: warped disk could provide enough cold but AGN-heated dust

Ho 2005: [OII] 3727 study - SF inhibited by QSO? QSOs with strong/weak PAH and [NeII]



# Average spectra: PAH is widespread



#### Star formation tracers and far-infrared emission



# Starburst-AGN connection



- Silicate emission widespread in Type 1 AGN, and also detected in some Type 2 objects – not a straightforward unification effect...
- 3µm and silicate bumps in SED: matter near sublimation radius, and at few 100pc – detailed geometry?
- Far-infrared emission in QSOs arises mostly from star formation
- Star formation activity and AGN luminosity correlate up to high luminosity

# If Tel Aviv gets too hot...

