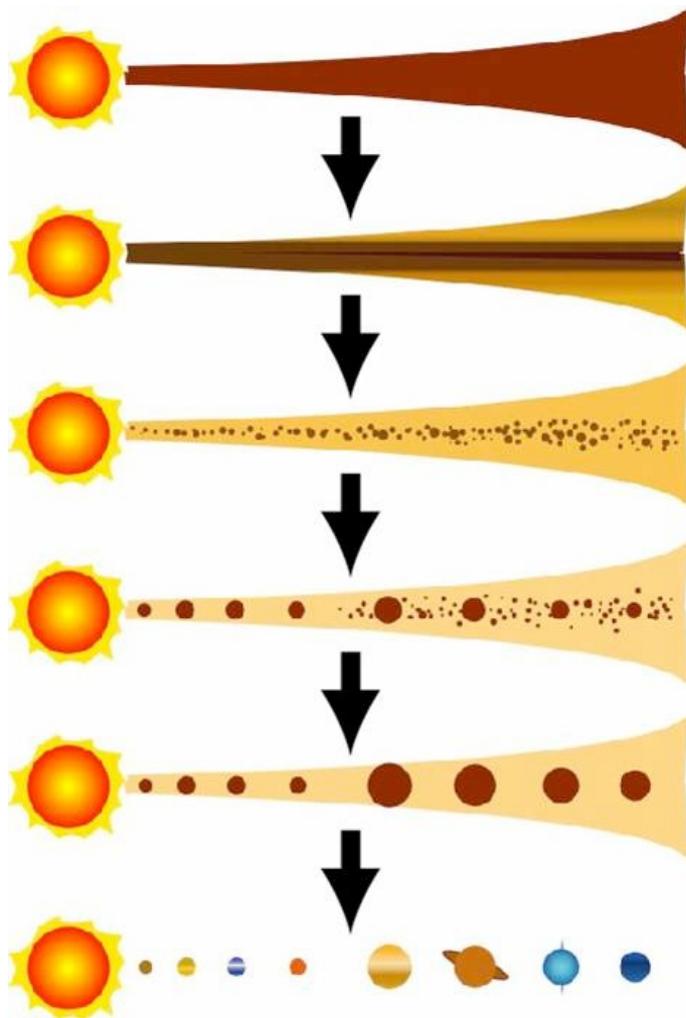
A simulation of a protoplanetary disk, showing a central star surrounded by a disk of gas and dust. The disk is depicted with concentric rings and spiral arms, suggesting the formation of planets. The colors range from dark brown and black in the outer regions to bright yellow and orange near the central star. The background is a dark, starry space.

Charles Abod
Jake Simon

Simulating Planetesimal Formation with Varying Pressure Gradients

Motivation

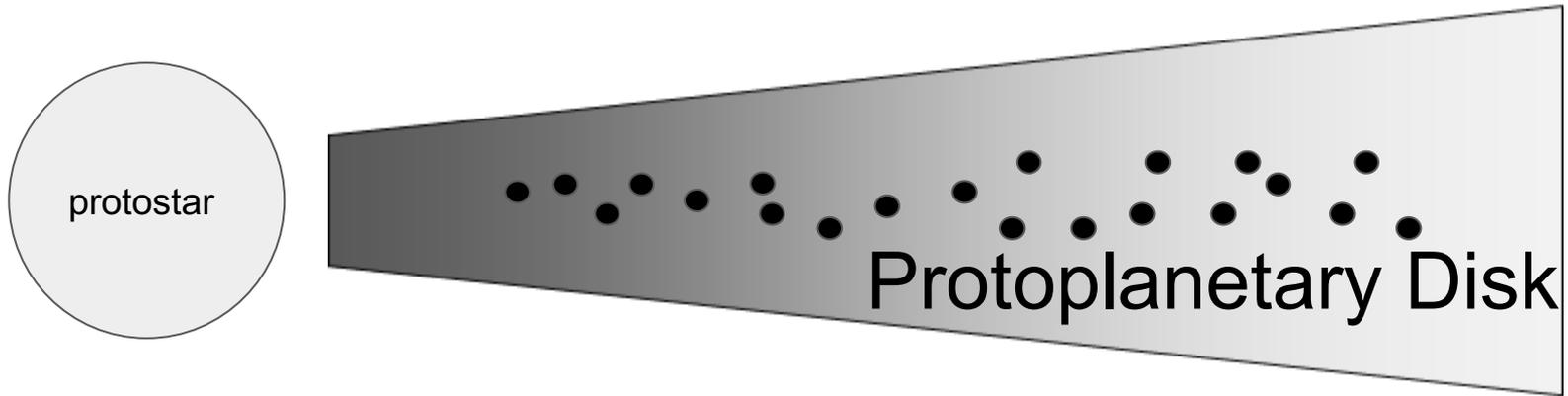


Initial planetesimal form

We want to look here.

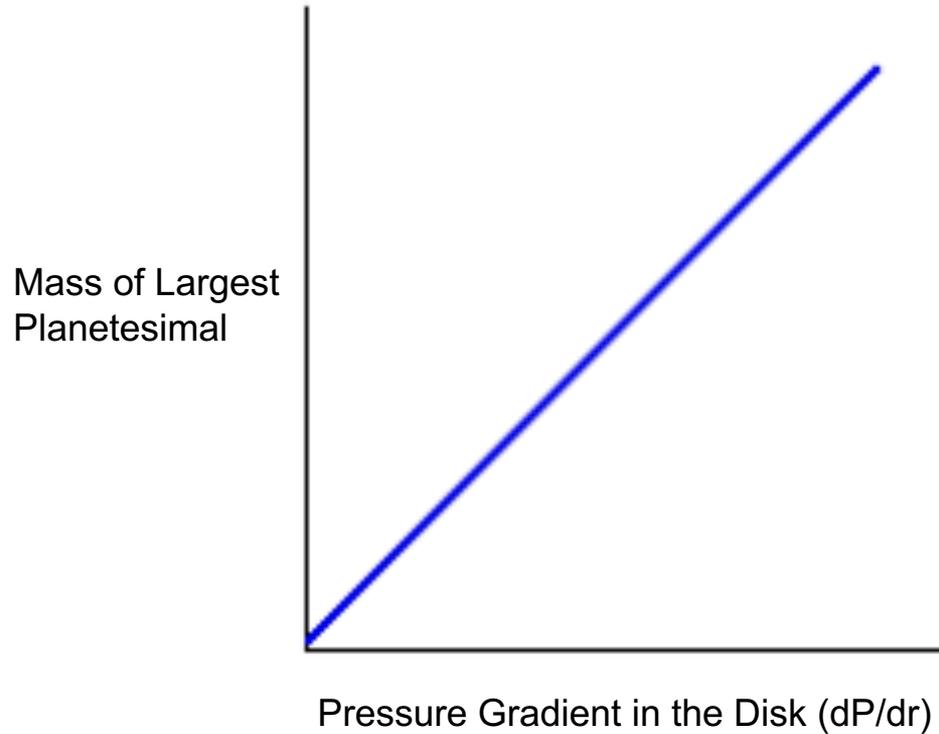
[For the experts]: This is where the streaming instability occurs
(see Johansen & Youdin)

Extremely Detailed Diagram



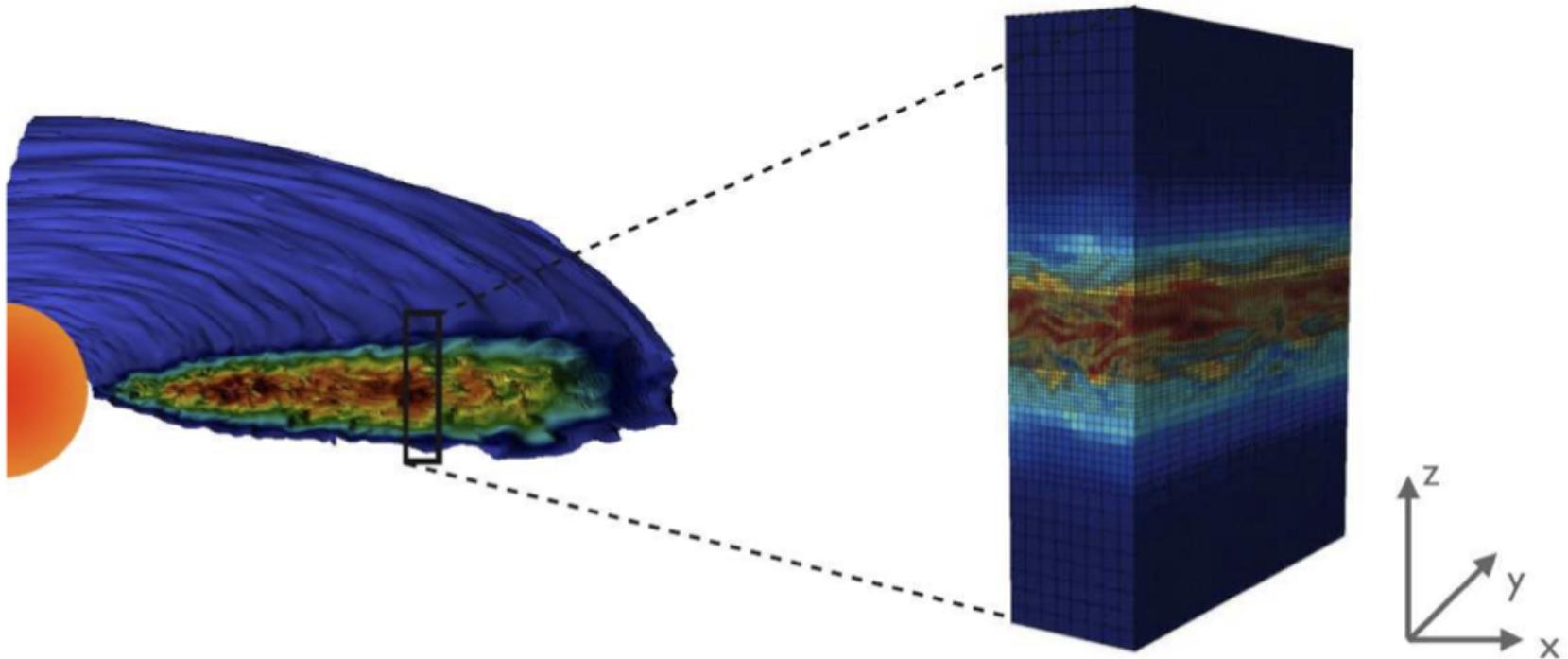
Pressure Gradient (dP/dr) \longrightarrow

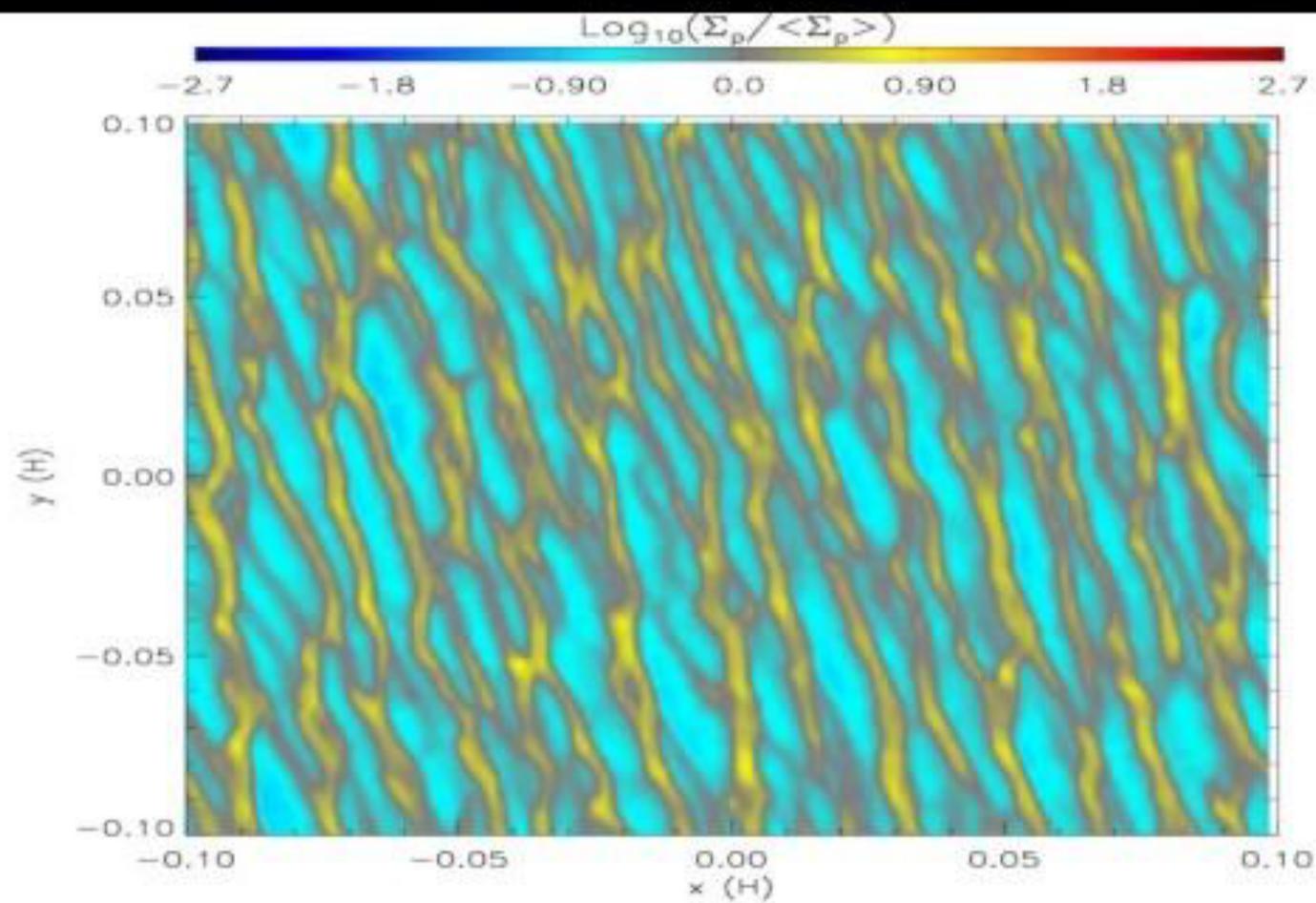
Claim by Taki, et al. (2016)



Method

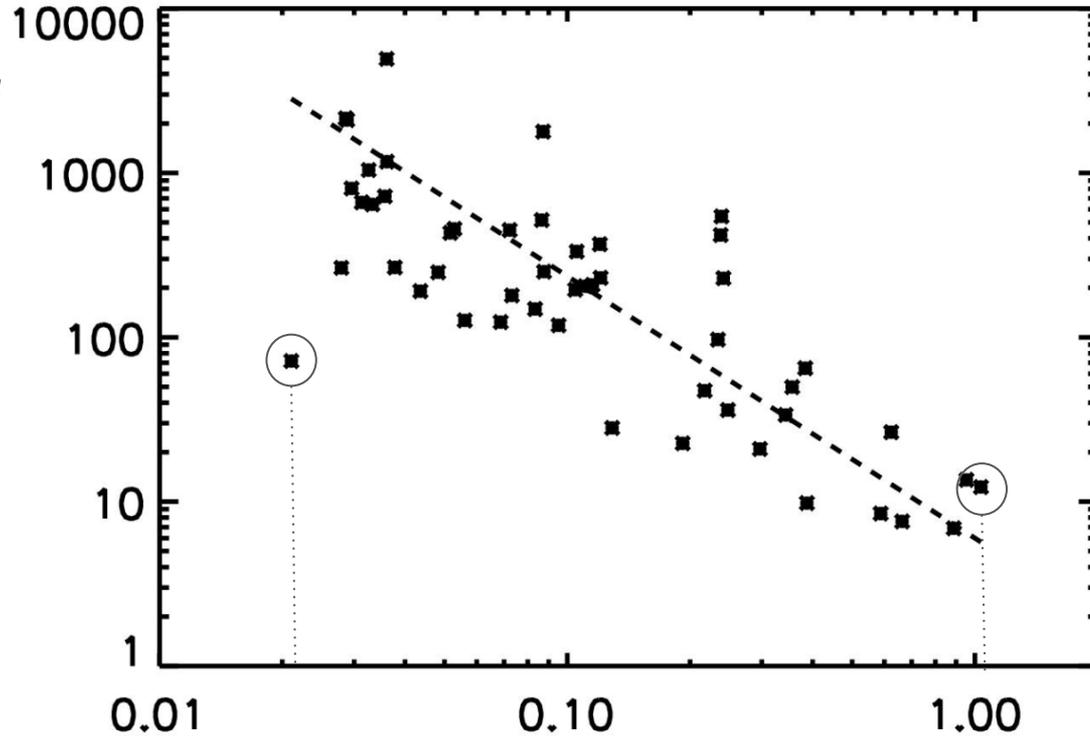
We use a shearing box to look at a small section of the disk





Differential Mass Distribution Plot

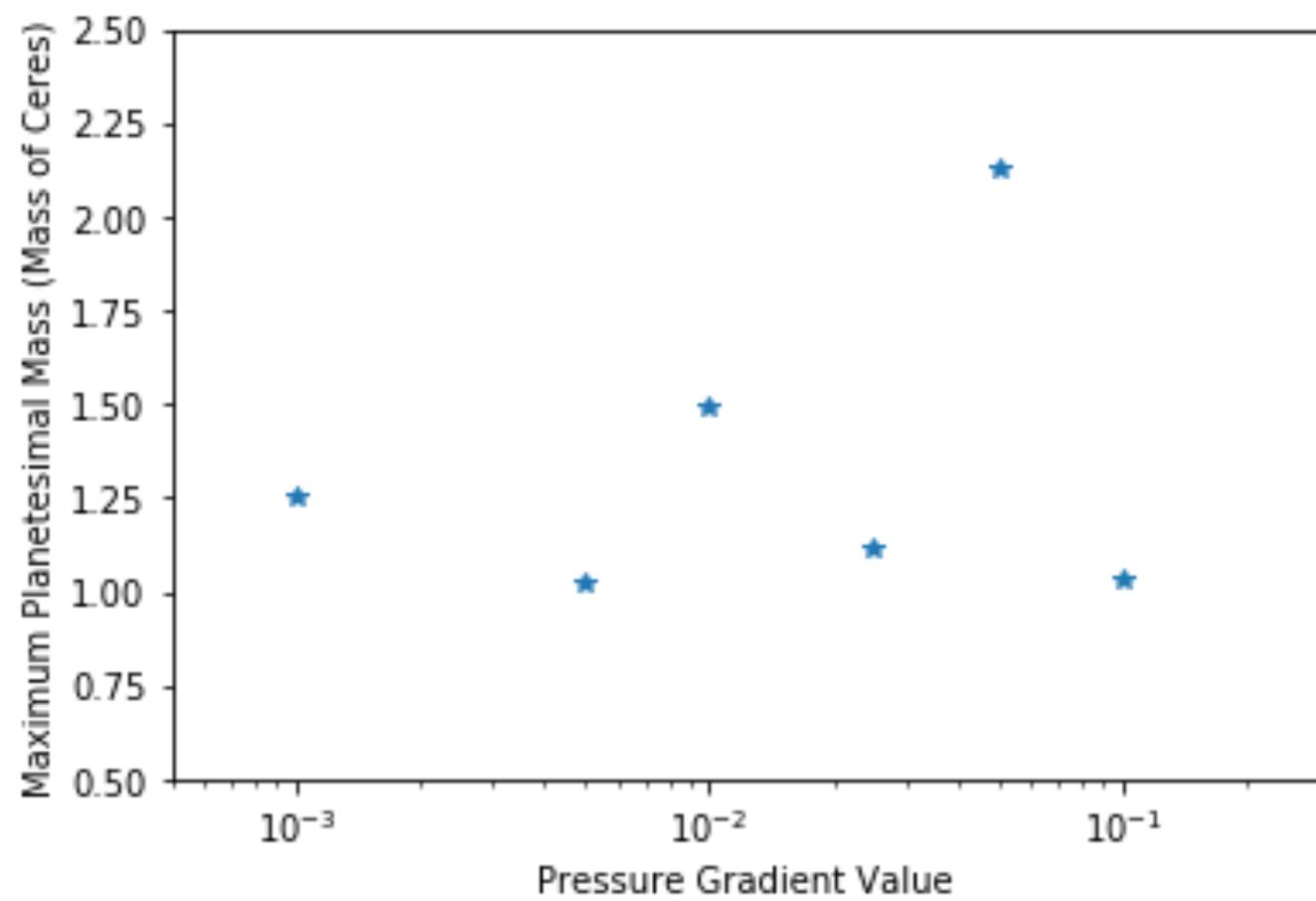
Frequency of
Planetesimal
Mass
(dn/dM_{Ceres})



Planetesimal Masses (M_{Ceres})



$M_{\text{Ceres}} = 9.4 \times 10^{20}$ kg



Conclusion

>Maximum planetesimal masses in a protoplanetary disk are not correlated with pressure gradient.

Follow-up inquiries:

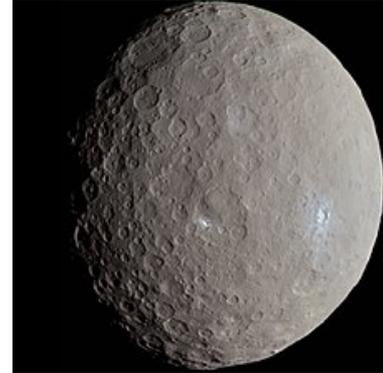
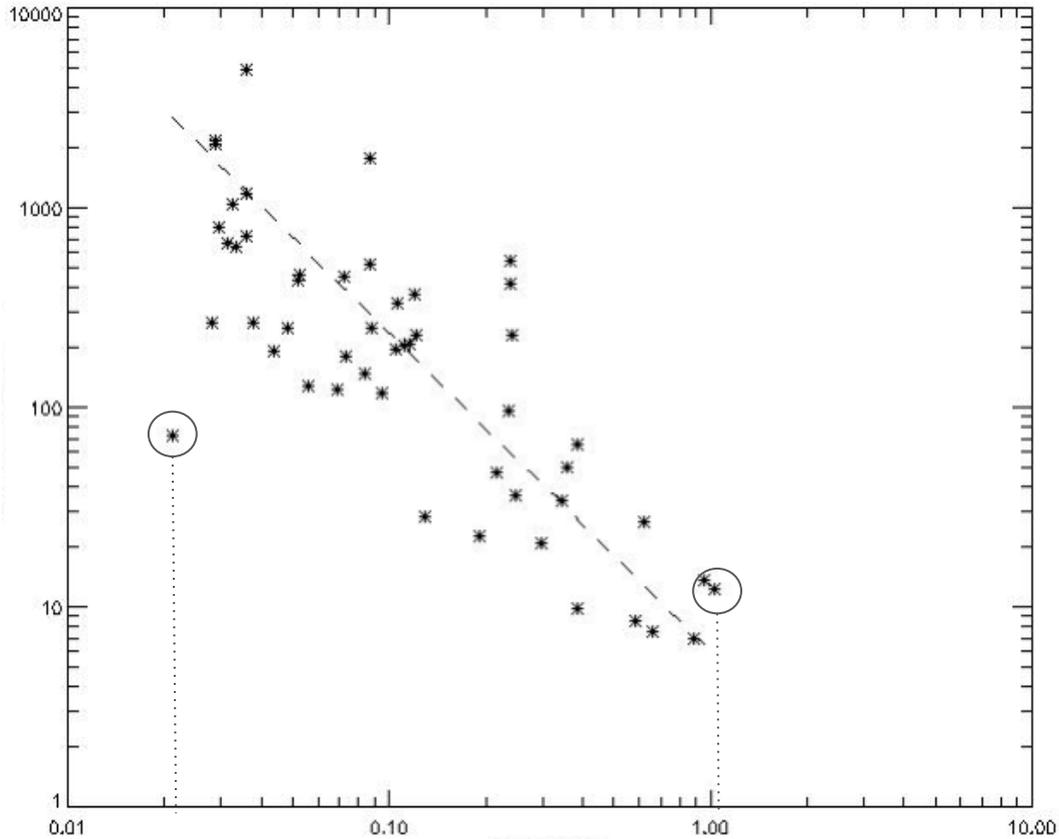
-Determine why there is no correlation.

-Does slope and/or planetesimal mass change when varying other disk properties?

Extra Slides

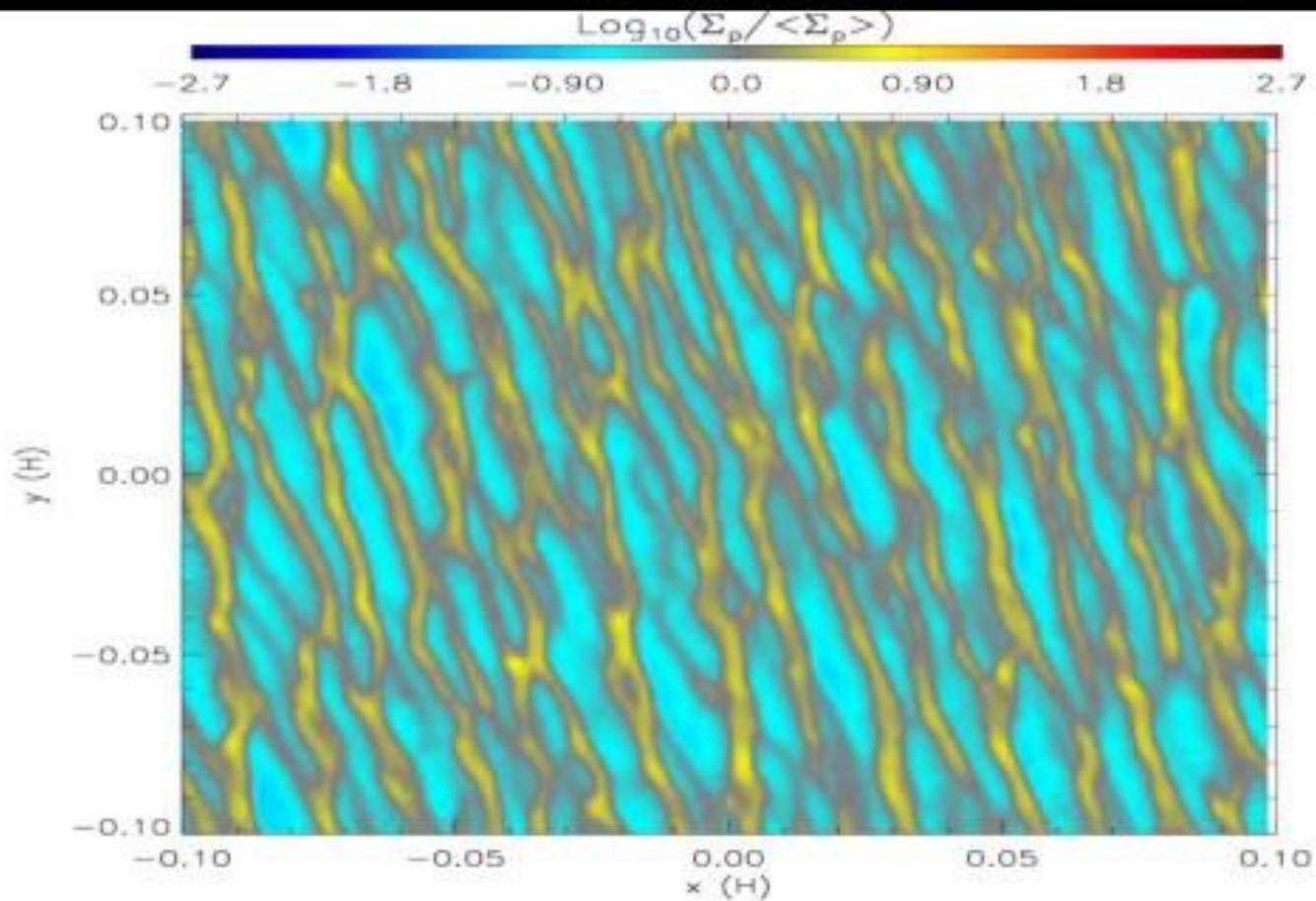
Differential Mass Distribution Plot

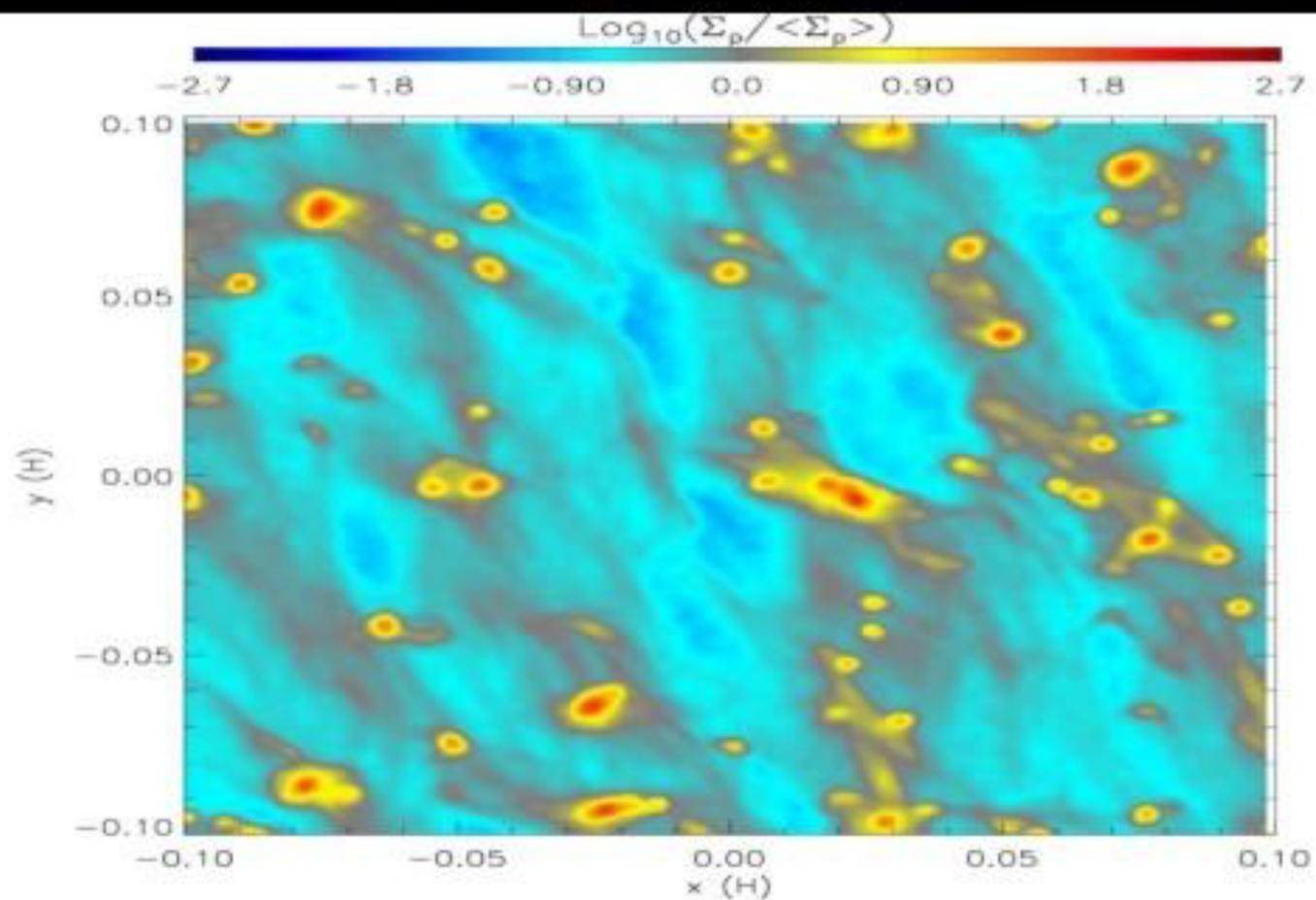
Frequency of
Planetesimal
Mass
(dn/dM_{Ceres})



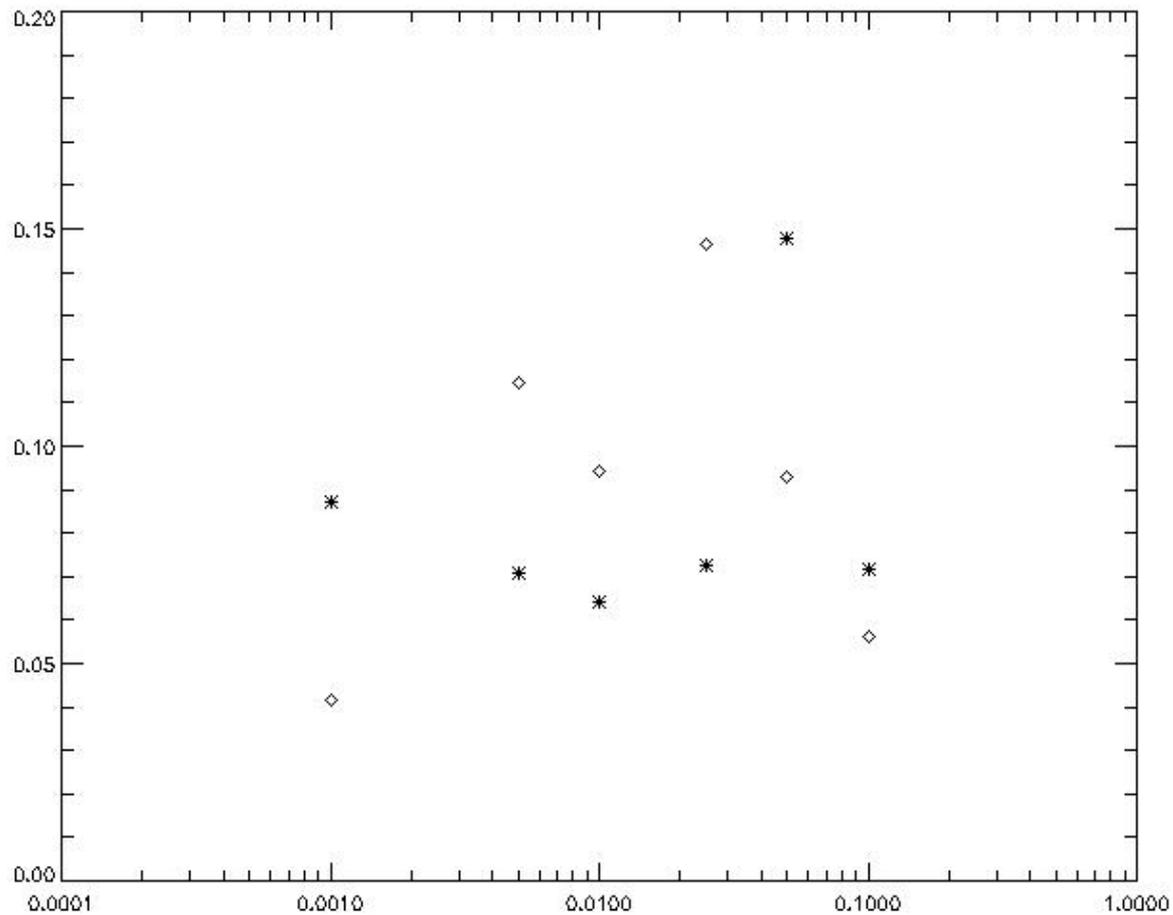
$M_{\text{Ceres}} = 9.4 \times 10^{20}$ kg

Planetesimal Masses (M_{Ceres})

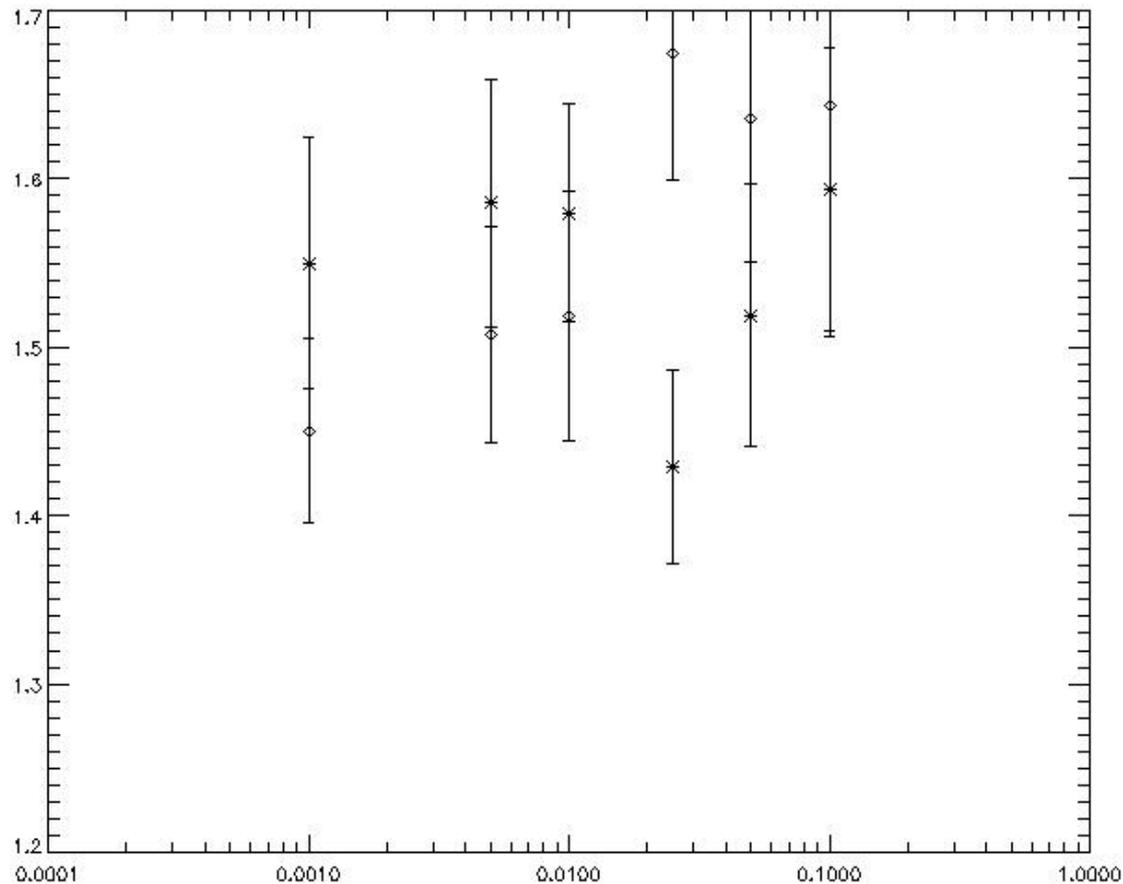




Maximum Mass with respect to Pressure Gradient



Slope Values with respect to Pressure Gradient



Minimum Mass with respect to Pressure Gradient

