

CRYSTALLINE SILICATE EMISSION IN THE PROTOSTELLAR BINARY SERPENS SVS 20

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ABSTRACT

We present spatially resolved mid-infrared spectroscopy of the Class I/flat-spectrum protostellar binary system SVS 20 in the Serpens cloud core. The spectra were obtained with the mid-infrared instrument T-ReCS on Gemini South. SVS 20-South, the more luminous of the two sources, exhibits a mid-infrared emission spectrum peaking near $11.3 \mu\text{m}$, while SVS 20-North exhibits a shallow amorphous silicate absorption spectrum with a peak optical depth of $\tau \sim 0.3$. After removal of the line-of-sight extinction by the molecular common envelope, the “protostar-only” spectra are found to be dominated by strong amorphous olivine emission peaking near $10 \mu\text{m}$. We also find evidence for emission from crystalline forsterite and enstatite associated with both SVS 20-S and SVS 20-N. The presence of crystalline silicate in such a young binary system indicates that the grain processing found in more evolved Herbig Ae/Be and T Tauri pre-main-sequence stars likely begins at a relatively young evolutionary stage, while mass accretion is still ongoing.

Subject headings: infrared: ISM — infrared: stars — ISM: individual (Serpens, SVS 20, SMM 6) — stars: formation — stars: pre-main-sequence

1. INTRODUCTION

Silicates found in the general interstellar medium are amorphous dust grains, while in T Tauri and Herbig Ae/Be (HAeBe) pre-main-sequence stars (e.g., Meeus et al. 2003; Przygodda et al. 2003; van Boekel et al. 2003; Kessler-Silacci et al. 2005), debris disks surrounding main-sequence stars (e.g., β Pic and HD 145263; Telesco & Knacke 1991; Knacke et al. 1993; Honda et al. 2004), and our own solar system (e.g., comet C/1996 Q1; Harker et al. 1999), we observe both amorphous and crystalline silicate grains. This distinction between the dust in the interstellar medium (ISM) and dust in stellar disks implies a transformation of the dust during the early phases of stellar and disk evolution when planets form. Thus, it is reasonable that probing the evolution of the silicate grains may provide insight into the concurrent planetary evolution.

The data illuminating the evolution of the dust are still sparse and, at times, contradictory. For example, some young stellar objects contain larger amorphous silicate grains indicative of grain growth, while other young stellar objects of similar evolutionary status show signs of crystalline silicate grains, with no simple picture indicating at what stage in the evolutionary sequence significant grain growth and crystallization take place (e.g., Meeus et al. 2003; Przygodda et al. 2003; van Boekel et al. 2003). While a general evolutionary sequence of dust processing seems to be

emerging (e.g., Kessler-Silacci et al. 2005), other significant issues, such as the possible dependence of the grain evolution on the source luminosity and temperature, and the effect of nearby companions in multiple star systems, are not yet understood.

As part of our binary protostellar program (see also Ciardi et al. 2003), we observed the mid-infrared emission of the protostellar binary SVS 20 (Strom et al. 1976). SVS 20 is a member of the young protostellar cluster (age $\sim 10^5$ yr; Kaas et al. 2004) located in the Serpens cloud core ($d \simeq 250$ pc; Straizys et al. 1996). SVS 20 is a submillimeter source (SMM 6; Casali et al. 1993) and was first identified as a binary system by Eiroa et al. (1987). The components (SVS 20-South and SVS 20-North) are separated by $1''.5$ (~ 375 AU) at a position angle of 9° . The two sources have similar infrared spectral energy distributions with spectral indices appropriate for Class I/flat-spectrum protostars (Haisch et al. 2002). From the $3.1 \mu\text{m}$ ice absorption feature, Eiroa & Leinert (1987) determined that the binary components share a common envelope with an extinction of $A_V \approx 14$ mag. In addition, near-infrared polarization observations are centrosymmetric about SVS 20, indicating that SVS 20 has partially evacuated the cavity immediately surrounding the binary system, potentially offering a more direct view of the central protostars (Huard et al. 1997).

ISOCAM (*Infrared Space Observatory* Camera) CVF observations of SVS 20, with an angular resolution of $6'' \text{ pixel}^{-1}$, indicated amorphous silicate in both absorption and emission

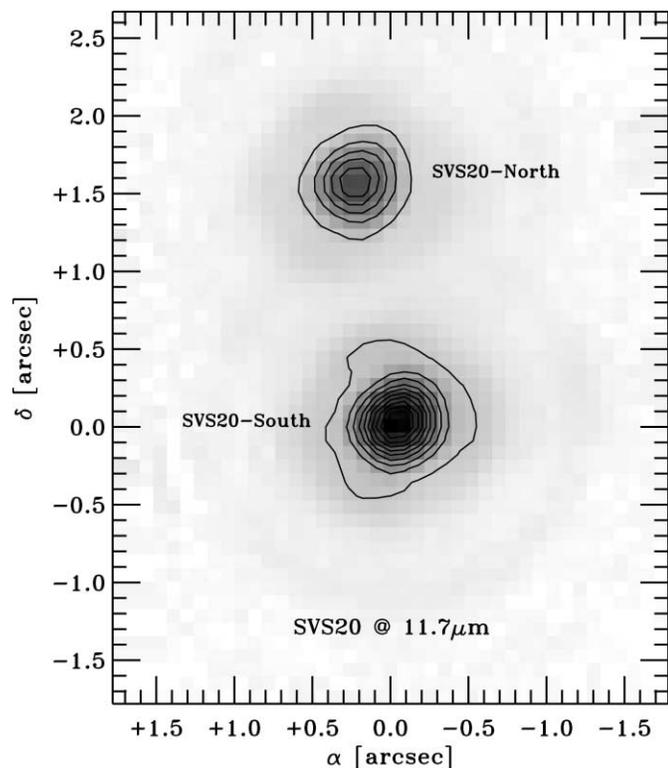


Fig. 1.—T-ReCS $11.7 \mu\text{m}$ image of SVS 20. The (0, 0) point of the image is centered on SVS 20-S at $\alpha = 18^{\text{h}}29^{\text{m}}58^{\text{s}}.7$, $\delta = 01^{\circ}14'03''.2$ (J2000). The gray scale has been stretched by a square root to enhance the contrast. The contours are linear and start at $0.01 \text{ Jy pixel}^{-1}$, and are stepped by $0.02 \text{ Jy pixel}^{-1}$.

(Alexander et al. 2003), but the *ISO* observations did not resolve SVS 20-S and SVS 20-N. We present spatially resolved $8\text{--}13 \mu\text{m}$ spectroscopy of SVS 20. The spectrum of SVS 20-N is dominated by amorphous silicate absorption, while the spectrum of SVS 20-S exhibits strong crystalline silicate emission. The clear differences in the spectra indicate differing levels of dust processing for the two components of the binary system.

2. OBSERVATIONS AND DATA REDUCTION

2.1. Spectroscopy

Mid-infrared ($8\text{--}13 \mu\text{m}$) spectroscopic observations of SVS 20 were made on 2003 October 5 (UT) using the Thermal Region Camera and Spectrograph (T-ReCS; Telesco et al. 1998) on the Gemini South 8 m telescope. T-ReCS utilizes a 320×240 pixel Si:As blocked impurity band detector, with a spatial scale of $0''.089 \text{ pixel}^{-1}$ and a field of view of $28''.8 \times 21''.6$. The observations utilized the low-resolution grating ($R \sim 111$ at $\lambda_c = 10.5 \mu\text{m}$) and a $0''.72$ slit. The *N*-band filter ($\lambda_0 = 10.36 \mu\text{m}$, $\Delta\lambda = 5.2 \mu\text{m}$) served as the blocking filter. The spectral dispersion (along the 320 pixel axis) is $0.022045 \mu\text{m pixel}^{-1}$. T-ReCS was rotated so that both components were positioned in the slit simultaneously. We used a standard $15''$ north-south chop-nod sequence, with an on-source integration time of 150 s. Standard NOAO (National Optical Astronomy Observatory) IRAF packages were used to reduce the data and extract the spectra. HD 187642 (A7 V, $F_{\nu}[9.8 \mu\text{m}] = 33 \pm 1 \text{ Jy}$) was observed for telluric line removal and flux calibration.¹ The zero point of the wavelength scale was set using the deepest point of the telluric ozone feature at $9.495 \mu\text{m}$. The signal-to-noise ratio of the spectra is $\approx 50\text{--}70$;

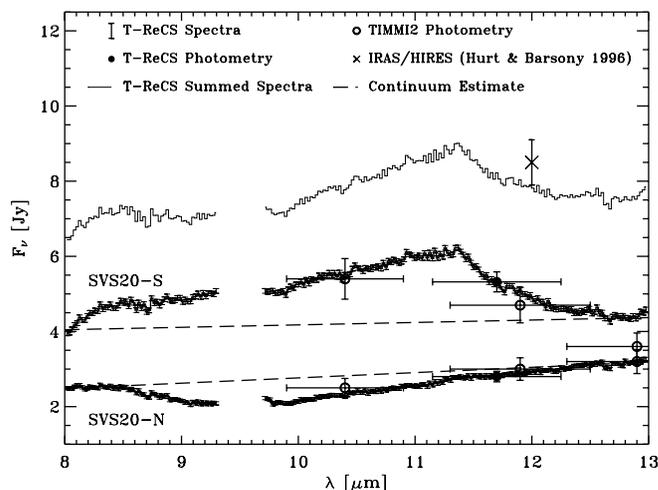


Fig. 2.—Mid-infrared spectra for SVS 20-S and SVS 20-N. The individual data points represent photometry presented in this work (T-ReCS and TIMMI2 photometry) and from the literature (*IRAS*). The summed spectrum is presented for ease of comparison to the unresolved *IRAS* photometry (Hurt & Barsony 1996) and the unresolved *ISO* spectra (not shown; Alexander et al. 2003). The data near telluric ozone ($9.3 < \lambda < 9.7 \mu\text{m}$) have been removed because of uncertain ozone subtraction. The abscissa error bars on the narrowband photometric points represent the widths of the narrowband filters. The continua estimates to the spectra are shown as dashed lines.

the noise has been estimated from the pixel-to-pixel variations in the spectra.

2.2. Photometry

Supplemental photometry was acquired on SVS 20 with T-ReCS as part of the setup for the spectroscopic observations. T-ReCS imaging was performed in the $11.7 \mu\text{m}$ narrowband ($\Delta\lambda = 1.1 \mu\text{m}$) filter, with an integration time of 60 s. Figure 1 displays the T-ReCS $11.7 \mu\text{m}$ image. At the spatial resolution of T-ReCS, the binary system is clearly resolved with no detection of extended emission connecting the system components; all of the mid-infrared emission from SVS 20-S and SVS 20-N emanates from within ~ 100 AU of the central protostars. Flux calibration was obtained from $11.7 \mu\text{m}$ imaging of HD 187642. Standard NOAO IRAF packages were used to reduce the data and extract the aperture photometry.

SVS 20 was also imaged on 2002 July 21 (UT) with the Thermal Infrared Multimode Instrument 2 (TIMMI2) on the European Southern Observatory (ESO) La Silla 3.6 m telescope. TIMMI2 has a 320×240 pixel Si:As blocked impurity band detector, with a pixel scale of $0''.2 \text{ pixel}^{-1}$. SVS 20 was imaged in three narrowband filters (N λ 10.4, $\Delta\lambda = 1 \mu\text{m}$; N λ 11.9, $\Delta\lambda = 1.2 \mu\text{m}$; and N λ 12.9, $\Delta\lambda = 1.2 \mu\text{m}$). A standard north-south chop-nod sequence with a $10''$ on-chip chop throw was used. The integration time was 258 s. The data were reduced with custom-written IDL routines for the TIMMI2 data format. Standard aperture photometry was performed using an IDL version of DAOPHOT. Flux calibration was obtained from observations of HD 187642.²

The T-ReCS spectra along with the corresponding photometry from T-ReCS, TIMMI2, and the literature are summarized in Figure 2 and Table 1. In Figure 2, the continuum levels for the mid-infrared emission underlying the observed silicate features are estimated via a linear interpolation of the mean flux density levels near the endpoints of the spectra, $[8.0\text{--}8.1 \mu\text{m}]$ and

¹ See http://www.gemini.edu/sciops/instruments/miri/filters/stdfluxes_zero.txt.

² See <http://www.laeso.org/lasilla/sciops/3p6/timmi/html/stand.html>.

TABLE 1
SUMMARY OF MID-INFRARED FLUX DENSITIES

λ_c (μm)	SVS 20-S F_ν (Jy)	SVS 20-N F_ν (Jy)	Comments	Reference
8.0.....	4.0 ± 0.1	2.6 ± 0.1	T-ReCS spectroscopy	1
8.0.....	6.16 ± 0.14		ISOCAM CVF; binary unresolved	2
10.4.....	5.4 ± 0.5	2.5 ± 0.2	TIMMI2 photometry	1
10.78.....	4.36 ± 0.26	1.53 ± 0.09	MIRLIN photometry	3
11.7.....	5.32 ± 0.27	2.80 ± 0.14	T-ReCS photometry	1
11.9.....	4.7 ± 0.5	3.0 ± 0.3	TIMMI2 photometry	1
12.0.....	8.5 ± 0.6		IRAS/HIRES; binary unresolved	4
12.9.....	3.6 ± 0.4	3.2 ± 0.3	TIMMI2 photometry	1

REFERENCES.—(1) This work; (2) Alexander et al. 2003; (3) Haisch et al. 2002; (4) Hurt & Barsony 1996.

[12.8–12.9 μm]. The T-ReCS spectroscopic flux densities are in good agreement with the T-ReCS and TIMMI2 photometry and with the unresolved *Infrared Astronomical Satellite* (IRAS) and *ISO* (not shown; see Alexander et al. 2003) observations. The 10.78 μm flux densities for SVS 20 reported by Haisch et al. (2002) are systematically lower by $\sim 25\%$. Given the general agreement between the *ISO*, *IRAS*, T-ReCS, and TIMMI2 data, the 1998 flux densities reported by Haisch et al. (2002) may be discrepant or may represent true intrinsic mid-infrared variability of SVS 20 (e.g., Liu et al. 1996).

3. DISCUSSION

The primary result of this paper is the visibly different mid-infrared spectra exhibited by the two components of the binary system (Fig. 2). Relative to the continuum levels, SVS 20-S displays a strong silicate emission spectrum, while SVS 20-N exhibits a shallow silicate absorption spectrum. Alexander et al. (2003) modeled the *unresolved* ISOCAM CVF observations of SVS 20 as a combination of amorphous silicate absorption ($\tau \approx 0.6\text{--}0.8$; $A_V \sim 10\text{--}14$ mag) superposed on amorphous silicate emission ($\tau \approx -0.4$). The T-ReCS spectra show that SVS 20-S is responsible for the majority of the observed silicate emission in SVS 20.

3.1. Component Luminosities

Superficially, SVS 20-S and SVS 20-N have similar-looking infrared spectral energy distributions (SEDs) with 2.2–10 μm spectral indices [$\alpha = -d \log(\nu F_\nu) / d \log(\nu)$] of $\alpha_S = 0.11 \pm 0.01$, $\alpha_N = 0.38 \pm 0.03$. These spectral indices are redder than those calculated by Haisch et al. (2002) but still indicate that both components are Class I/flat-spectrum protostars.

To explore the SEDs more carefully and parameterize the relative temperatures and luminosities of the central protostars, we have fitted the near-infrared (0.9–3.5 μm) photometry from the literature with a blackbody function modified by a line-of-sight extinction curve, $S_\nu = \Omega B_\nu(T_d) \exp(-A_\nu/1.086)$, where $B_\nu(T)$ is the Planck function, A_ν is the frequency-dependent extinction ($R = 3.1$ assumed; Mathis 1990), and Ω is the solid angle.

A temperature range of $T = 500\text{--}50,000$ K in steps of 100 K, and an extinction range of $A_V = 0\text{--}50$ mag in steps of 0.05 mag, were tested. Uncertainties for the blackbody fitting were estimated via a Monte Carlo simulation for which the data points were randomly adjusted by their individual uncertainties, and the data were refitted; the model parameter uncertainties were estimated from the standard deviations of the best fits.

Of course, the SEDs arise from multiple emission sources of various temperatures within the young stellar objects (e.g.,

central protostar, accretion emission), but the near-infrared emission ($\lambda \lesssim 3$ μm) should primarily be from the stellar photospheres (e.g., Greene & Lada 1997), allowing us to estimate the relative temperatures and luminosities of the central objects within each component. Results of the fitting are shown in Figure 3. The SED for SVS 20-N is reasonably well fit with a $T_{\text{eff}} = 3300 \pm 500$ K blackbody screened by an extinction of $A_V = 26.5 \pm 1.5$ mag ($\chi_\nu^2 \approx 2$) with a luminosity of $L_* \approx 0.9 L_\odot$, similar to the values for other low-mass young stellar objects (e.g., IRAS 04016+2610: $T_{\text{eff}} = 3300\text{--}4200$, $A_V = 19\text{--}21$; Ishii et al. 2004).

The SED modeling for SVS 20-S is less constrained. The reduced chi-square is never better than $\chi_\nu^2 \approx 5$, regardless of the combination of temperature and extinction. There is a broad localized minimum for the temperature range $T_{\text{eff}} \approx 7000\text{--}10,000$ K, with corresponding extinctions of $A_V = 28\text{--}29$ mag. Models with lower extinction have local minima at correspondingly lower temperatures, but the fits are significantly worse ($\chi_\nu^2 > 6$). Models with higher extinction do not have localized minima; the reduced chi-squares asymptotically approach $\chi_\nu^2 \sim 5$. Figure 4 displays the dependence of the model chi-square as a function of temperature for four different extinction levels. We conservatively estimate that the central protostar for SVS 20-S is a 10,000 K blackbody screened by ~ 30 mag of extinction, suggesting a luminosity of $L_* \approx 20\text{--}80 L_\odot$, which is comparable to estimates made by Eiroa & Leinert (1987).

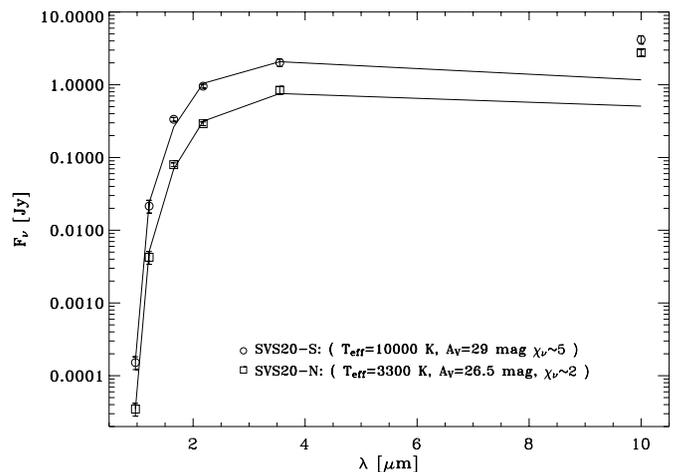


FIG. 3.—SEDs for SVS 20-S and SVS 20-N. The models (solid lines) are extinguished single-temperature blackbody functions fit to the NIR data (Eiroa & Leinert 1987; Eiroa et al. 1987; Haisch et al. 2002). The 10 μm data, estimated from the *continuum* levels in Fig. 2, are not included in the fitting.

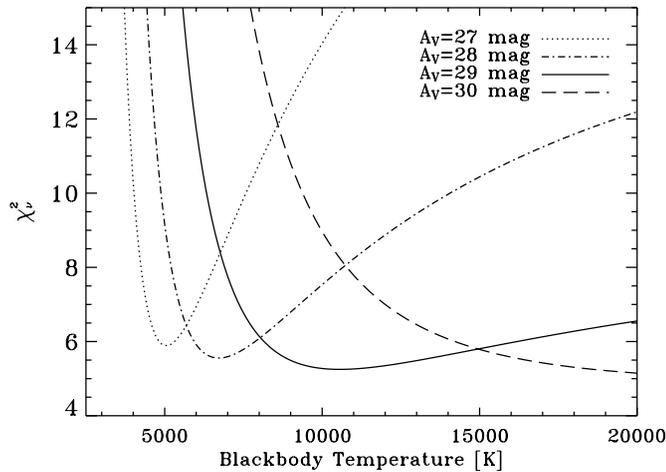


FIG. 4.—Plot of the reduced χ^2 for the SED fits for SVS 20-S as a function of temperature for four different visual extinction levels: $A_V = 27, 28, 29,$ and 30 mag.

The extinguished single-temperature blackbody fits to the near-infrared SEDs represent estimates of the total visual extinction of the central protostar by the surrounding circumstellar disk and the molecular envelope. If a common envelope contributes ~ 14 mag of extinction (Eiroa & Leinert 1987), then the circumstellar material immediately surrounding each protostar extinguishes the central protostar by 10–15 mag. The modeling-reduced χ^2_v of ~ 2 –5 are likely the result of the single-temperature assumption, as evidenced by the extinguished blackbody models predicting too little $10 \mu\text{m}$ continuum emission (see Fig. 3).

3.2. The Observed Mid-Infrared Spectra

The observed mid-infrared spectrum of SVS 20-S exhibits an emission feature with the peak of the emission occurring near $11.3 \mu\text{m}$. In more evolved sources, such as H AeBe stars, the emission peak at $11.3 \mu\text{m}$ is indicative of crystalline silicate (e.g., Knacke et al. 1993), as amorphous olivine particles ($0.1 \mu\text{m}$ in size) emit a feature peaking near $9.7 \mu\text{m}$ (Bouwman et al. 2001; Kessler-Silacci et al. 2005). As amorphous silicate grains grow in size, the emission feature broadens and becomes flat-topped (Bouwman et al. 2001; Przygodda et al. 2003; van Boekel et al. 2003).

Przygodda et al. (2003) and van Boekel et al. (2003) correlate the strength of the silicate emission feature with the ratio of the 11.3 to $9.8 \mu\text{m}$ flux densities. A ratio of $F_{9.8 \mu\text{m}}/F_{11.3 \mu\text{m}} \lesssim 1$ suggests emission from crystalline silicates (Przygodda et al. 2003). Kessler-Silacci et al. (2005) extend this technique by correlating the $F_{9.8 \mu\text{m}}/F_{11.3 \mu\text{m}}$ and the $F_{9.8 \mu\text{m}}/F_{8.6 \mu\text{m}}$ ratios. They find that the ratios are linearly correlated, and that sources with crystalline silicate emission possess lower ratios than those sources with only amorphous silicate emission.

For the observed SVS 20-S spectrum, we have calculated the $F_{9.8 \mu\text{m}}/F_{11.3 \mu\text{m}}$ and $F_{9.8 \mu\text{m}}/F_{8.6 \mu\text{m}}$ ratios from the continuum-normalized spectrum (Fig. 5). We measured ratios of $F_{9.8 \mu\text{m}}/F_{11.3 \mu\text{m}} = 0.8 \pm 0.1$ and $F_{9.8 \mu\text{m}}/F_{8.6 \mu\text{m}} = 1.0 \pm 0.1$. These ratios place SVS 20-S in the same region of the $[8.6 \mu\text{m}, 9.8 \mu\text{m}, 11.3 \mu\text{m}]$ color-color diagram as the more evolved T Tauri star Hen 3-600A and the H AeBe star HD 179218, both of which have crystalline silicate emission (see Fig. 11 in Kessler-Silacci et al. 2005). However, these ratios for SVS 20-S, while similar to those observed in more evolved pre-main-sequence stars with known crystalline grain emission, do not take into account that SVS 20-S,

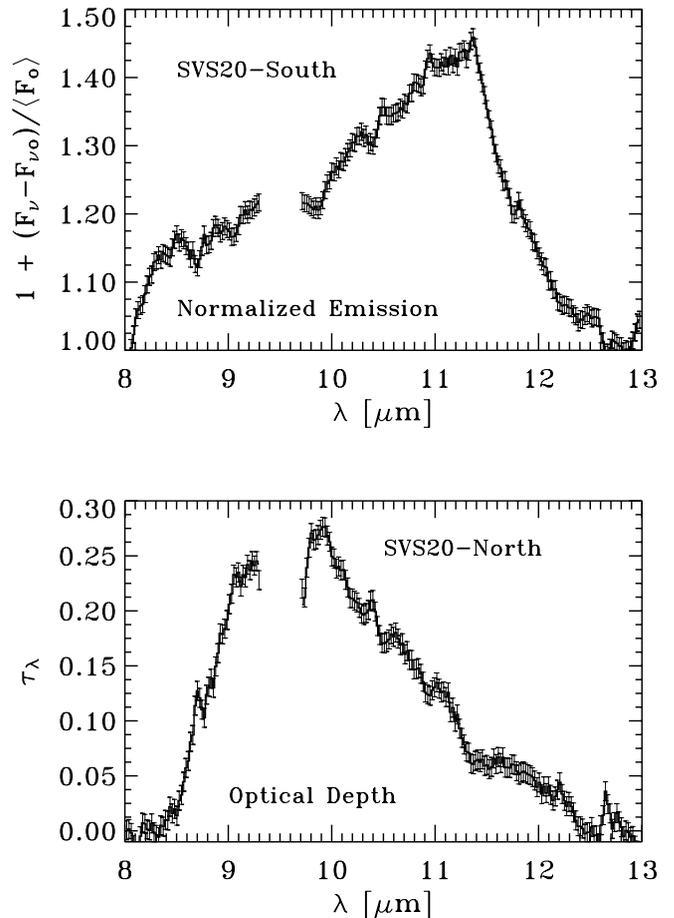


FIG. 5.—*Top*: Normalized emission of SVS 20-S, median-smoothed with a 3 pixel boxcar. *Bottom*: SVS 20-N optical depth derived from the continuum-normalized spectrum, median-smoothed with a 3 pixel boxcar.

unlike the more evolved T Tauri and H AeBe stars, has a significant amount (~ 14 mag) of foreground absorption from the surrounding envelope (see § 3.3).

For SVS 20-N, the observed mid-infrared spectrum, in contrast to SVS 20-S, is dominated by an absorption feature centered at $9.7 \mu\text{m}$. The mid-infrared spectrum of SVS 20-N resembles other low-mass embedded Class I young stellar objects, such as IRAS 04239+2436 (Kessler-Silacci et al. 2005) or IRAS 04108+2803B (Watson et al. 2004), in which the amorphous silicate absorption at $9.7 \mu\text{m}$ is clearly present but shallow ($\sim 25\%$ below the continuum level). We have calculated the optical depth of the absorption, based on the estimated continuum level (Fig. 2): $\tau_\nu = -\ln(F_\nu/F_{\nu 0})$, where F_ν is the observed flux density, and $F_{\nu 0}$ is the flux density of the continuum. The optical depth for SVS 20-N as a function of wavelength is presented in Figure 5. Assuming $A_V/\tau_{9.7 \mu\text{m}} \approx 17$ (Rieke & Lebofsky 1985), the peak optical depth of $\tau \sim 0.3$ corresponds to a line-of-sight visual extinction of only $A_V \sim 5$ mag.

The extinction derived from the silicate optical depth is nearly 10 mag lower than the envelope extinction implied by the $3.1 \mu\text{m}$ ice feature (Eiroa & Leinert 1987). The lower observed optical depth implies that the mid-infrared spectrum of SVS 20-N contains silicate emission that is partially filling in ($\sim 75\%$) the line-of-sight absorption from the surrounding envelope. In addition, there is a decrease in the optical depth near $11.3 \mu\text{m}$, indicating that some of the emission may be from crystalline silicate emission. In § 3.3, the effect of the envelope

absorption on the innate mid-infrared emission from SVS 20-S and SVS 20-N is discussed.

3.3. Correction for the Envelope Extinction

To probe the effects of the line-of-sight absorption by the surrounding common molecular envelope on the observed mid-infrared spectra, we developed a model of the expected extinction by the dust grains contained within the common envelope. Indices of refraction of amorphous olivine (Dorschner et al. 1995) were used with Mie theory to calculate the wavelength-dependent extinction coefficients for particles $0.15 \mu\text{m}$ in diameter. On the basis of the $3.1 \mu\text{m}$ ice feature (Eiroa & Leinert 1987), we assumed that the peak line-of-sight extinction produced by the envelope is $A_V = 14$ mag for both SVS 20-S and SVS 20-N. The envelope dust was assumed to be cool enough (~ 15 K) to produce no substantial mid-infrared emission of its own (Testi & Sargent 1998). The mid-infrared spectra corrected for the envelope extinction [$F_{\nu 0} = F_{\nu} \exp(\tau_{\text{env}})$] are presented in Figure 6. These spectra represent the expected mid-infrared emission of the protostars, after the removal of the surrounding common envelope extinction.

The protostellar mid-infrared emission is dominated by the emission of amorphous silicates, which, in both protostars, peaks at $\lambda \approx 10 \mu\text{m}$. The silicate emission above the continuum from SVS 20-S is 4 times the strength of the silicate emission from SVS 20-N. This is likely a direct result of the different temperatures and luminosities of the central objects (§ 3.1), where SVS 20-S is 3 times hotter and 20 times more luminous than SVS 20-N. After the extinction correction, the $2.2\text{--}10 \mu\text{m}$ spectral indices for SVS 20-S and SVS 20-N, respectively, are $\alpha \approx -0.3$ and ≈ -0.1 , suggesting that while the binary is still deeply embedded, the components of SVS 20 may be evolving toward Class II young stellar objects.

If we apply the flux density ratios developed by Przygodna et al. (2003), van Boekel et al. (2003), and Kessler-Silacci et al. (2005), we find that for SVS 20-S, $F_{9.8 \mu\text{m}}/F_{11.3 \mu\text{m}} \approx 1.3$ and $F_{9.8 \mu\text{m}}/F_{8.6 \mu\text{m}} \approx 2.0$, and that for SVS 20-N, $F_{9.8 \mu\text{m}}/F_{11.3 \mu\text{m}} \approx 1.3$ and $F_{9.8 \mu\text{m}}/F_{8.6 \mu\text{m}} \approx 1.5$. These new ratios are significantly larger than those derived prior to the correction of the line-of-sight extinction, and taken by themselves place SVS 20-S and SVS 20-N among T Tauri and HAeBe stars with no detectable crystalline emission. However, while the spectra for both SVS 20-S and SVS 20-N are dominated by amorphous olivine emission, it is evident from Figure 6 that there is also additional emission near $11.3 \mu\text{m}$ producing a shoulder on the broader olivine emission feature. To study this feature in more detail, we have fitted a local continuum to the spectra between $10.5 \leq \lambda \leq 12.1 \mu\text{m}$. The continuum levels for the mid-infrared emission underlying the observed features are estimated via a quadratic interpolation of the flux density levels near the endpoints: $[10.5\text{--}10.7 \mu\text{m}]$ and $[11.8\text{--}12.1 \mu\text{m}]$. The continuum-subtracted spectra are displayed in the bottom panel of Figure 6.

The emission in this local region from SVS 20-S remains 4 times the strength of the emission from SVS 20-N, but both sources show clear peaks near $\lambda \approx 11.3$ and $10.9 \mu\text{m}$. The peak centered near $11.3 \mu\text{m}$ is tentatively associated with forsterite, Mg_2SiO_4 (Bouwman et al. 2001). This forsterite peak is always accompanied by an additional narrow peak at $10 \mu\text{m}$, which is evident in both sources (Fig. 6, top). The narrower peak at $\lambda \approx 10.9 \mu\text{m}$ is tentatively associated with enstatite, MgSiO_3 (Bouwman et al. 2001). Enstatite is also associated with broader peaks near $8.5\text{--}9.5 \mu\text{m}$ and $10.5 \mu\text{m}$. Evidence for emission from these features in excess of the amorphous silicate emission can also be seen in both sources (Fig. 6, top). Finally, as men-

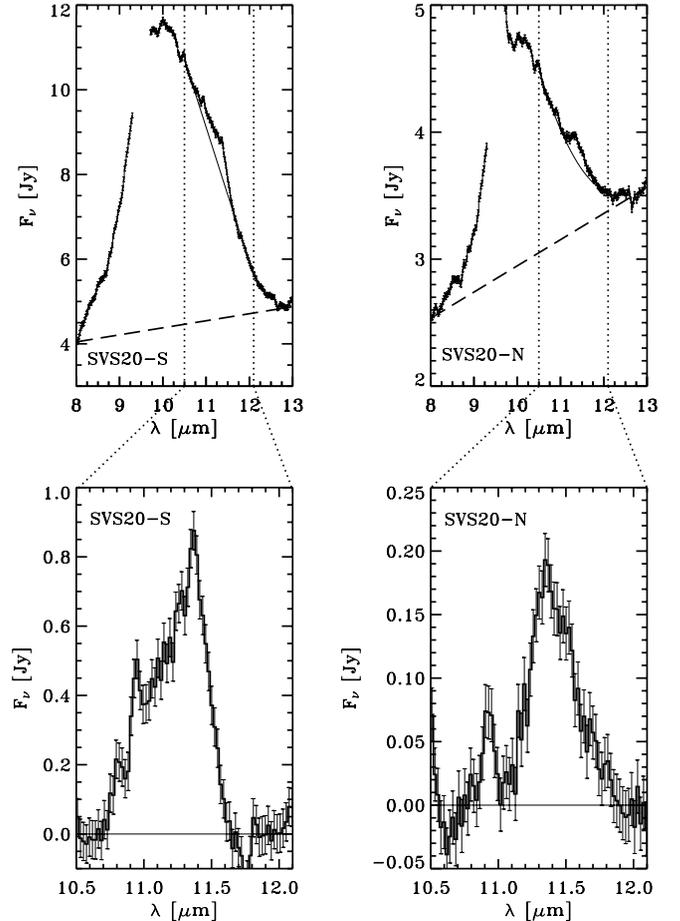


FIG. 6.—*Top*: Spectra for SVS 20 after the removal of the envelope line-of-sight extinction model. The dashed line represents the continuum level for the overall emission. The dotted lines mark the wavelength range ($10.5 \leq \lambda \leq 12.1 \mu\text{m}$) fitted with a local continuum, represented by the solid lines. Spectra have been median-smoothed with a 3 pixel boxcar. *Bottom*: The $10.5 \leq \lambda \leq 12.1 \mu\text{m}$ spectra for SVS 20-S and SVS 20-N after the subtraction of the local continuum. Spectra have been median-smoothed with a 3 pixel boxcar.

tioned in § 2, there is no resolved extended mid-infrared emission, indicating that all of the silicate emission (amorphous and crystalline) is contained within ~ 100 AU of the central protostars. Thus, both SVS 20-S and SVS 20-N appear to have begun processing and annealing the dust grains within their local environments.

4. SUMMARY

We have presented spatially resolved mid-infrared ($8\text{--}13 \mu\text{m}$) spectra of the Class I/flat-spectrum protostellar binary Serpens SVS 20. We summarize our results as follows:

1. Although SVS 20-S and SVS 20-N have similar broadband spectral energy distributions, our simple models suggest that the temperatures and luminosities of the two central objects are quite different. The central protostellar source in SVS 20-S has an effective temperature of $T_{\text{eff}} \approx 7000\text{--}10,000$ K and a luminosity of $L_* \approx 20\text{--}80 L_{\odot}$, while the central protostar in SVS 20-N has an effective temperature of $T_{\text{eff}} \sim 3300$ K and a luminosity of only $L_* \sim 0.9 L_{\odot}$.
2. The observed mid-infrared spectra of the binary components also differ. The spectrum of SVS 20-S exhibits strong silicate emission, while that of SVS 20-N is dominated by shallow amorphous silicate absorption. After correction for the line-of-sight common envelope extinction, the mid-infrared emission

of the protostars for the two objects is dominated by amorphous silicate emission, although the emission feature from SVS 20-S is 4 times the strength of the emission feature from SVS 20-N. In addition to the amorphous silicate emission, *both* SVS 20-S and SVS 20-N show evidence for the presence of emission from crystalline silicate in the form of forsterite and enstatite.

3. The different luminosities of the two components may be responsible for the different amounts of crystalline silicate emission observed in each component. The lower luminosity of SVS 20-N may have caused longer processing times for the circumstellar material, although the apparent presence of crystalline emission indicates that, even for lower mass young stellar objects, crystallization occurs relatively early in the star formation process.

In order to more fully understand the binary system SVS 20, modeling of the complete spectral energy distribution coupled with accretion processes and mineralogy will be the subject of a future paper. The differences in the spectra clearly indicate a different level of dust processing between the two protostars. The presence of crystalline silicates in such a young binary protostellar system indicates that the grain growth and processing

found in more evolved pre-main-sequence stars, debris disks around main-sequence stars, and comets in our own solar system begins at a much younger evolutionary stage, while accretion is still ongoing.

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