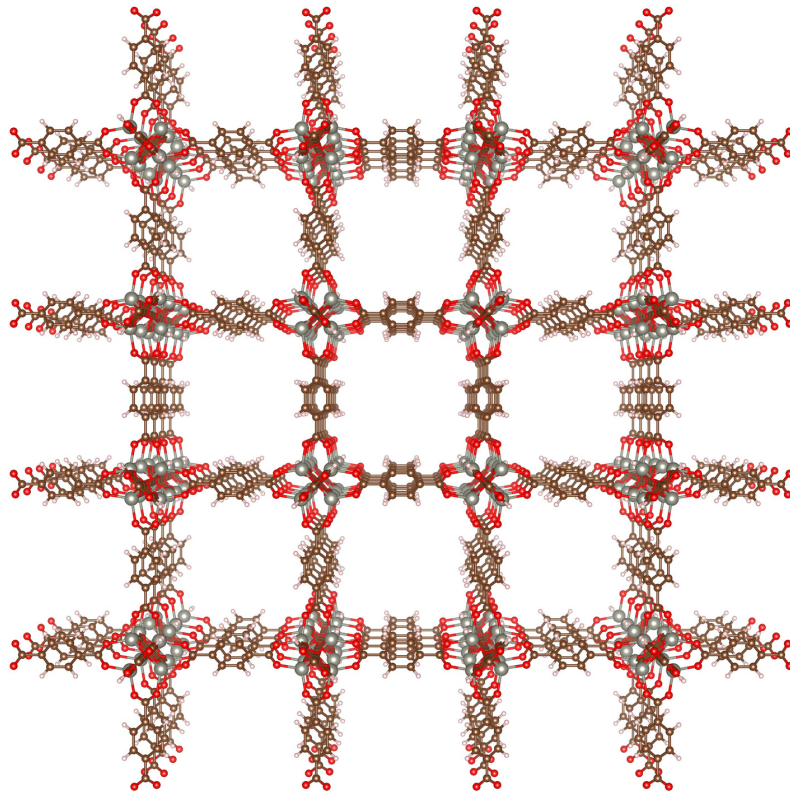


Volume 10, Issue 1, June 2023

ISSN 2542-2545

*The*  
**HIMALAYAN  
PHYSICS**

*A peer-reviewed Journal of Physics*



*Department of Physics, Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara  
Nepal Physical Society, Gandaki Chapter, Pokhara*

## **Publisher**

*Department of Physics, Prithvinarayan Campus, Pokhara  
Nepal Physical Society, Gandaki Chapter, Pokhara*

## **The Himalayan Physics**

*Volume 10, Issue 1, June 2023*

*ISSN 2542-2545*

*The Himalayan Physics (HimPhys) is an open access peer-reviewed journal that publishes quality articles which make innovative contributions in all areas of Physics. HimPhys is published annually by Nepal Physical Society (Gandaki Chapter), and Department of Physics, Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara. The goal of this journal is to bring together researchers and practitioners from academia in Nepal and abroad to focus on advanced techniques and explore new avenues in all areas of physical sciences and establishing new collaborations with physics community in Nepal.*

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*Cover: Ball-and-stick model of MOF-5. © Roshani Sharma. Printed with permission.*

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# Dust properties around NGC 7023 nebula in interstellar medium using IRIS, AKARI, and WISE survey

Research Article

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**Abstract:** We have studied the physical properties of dust around the nebula NGC 7023. The physical properties have been studied at  $60\ \mu\text{m}$  and  $100\ \mu\text{m}$  in the IRIS survey,  $90\ \mu\text{m}$  and  $140\ \mu\text{m}$  in the AKARI survey, and  $12\ \mu\text{m}$  and  $22\ \mu\text{m}$  in the WISE survey at the right ascension (R.A.) (J2000) =  $21^{\text{h}}01^{\text{m}}35.60^{\text{s}}$ , declination (J2000) =  $+68^{\circ}10^{\text{m}}10.0^{\text{s}}$ . The nebula is found at a distance of 335.82 pc from us. We found the dust color temperature is in the range between  $36.19\ \text{K} \pm 0.03\ \text{K}$  to  $24.49\ \text{K} \pm 0.03\ \text{K}$  with an average dust color temperature of  $28.24\ \text{K} \pm 0.03\ \text{K}$  in IRIS survey and a range between  $38.80\ \text{K} \pm 0.25\ \text{K}$  to  $21.00\ \text{K} \pm 0.25\ \text{K}$  with an average dust color temperature  $26.39\ \text{K} \pm 0.25\ \text{K}$  in AKARI survey. Similarly, in WISE, the dust color temperature was found in the range between  $130.92\ \text{K} \pm 0.01\ \text{K}$  to  $88.71\ \text{K} \pm 0.01\ \text{K}$  with an average of  $104.76\ \text{K} \pm 0.25\ \text{K}$ . The temperature in WISE is higher than that of the IRIS and AKARI survey. We have also calculated the dust mass, whose average value was found to be  $1.18 \times 10^{27}\ \text{kg}$  ( $5.93 \times 10^{-4}\ M_{\odot}$ ) in IRIS,  $1.06 \times 10^{28}\ \text{kg}$  ( $5.33 \times 10^{-3}\ M_{\odot}$ ) in AKARI, and  $1.06 \times 10^{27}\ \text{kg}$  ( $5.33 \times 10^{-4}\ M_{\odot}$ ) in the WISE survey. We have also studied the visual extinction parameter due to such dust in infrared bands. This work will contribute to understanding infrared band emission from the dusty region around the nebular structure in the interstellar medium.

**Keywords:** Interstellar medium • Dust color temperature • Dust mass • Visual extinction

## I. Introduction

The substance and radiation between stars is known as the interstellar medium (ISM). Nearly 15% of the observable stuff in the Milky Way galaxy is interstellar matter. ISM is mostly composed of hydrogen, with 8.9% of it being helium and 0.1% of heavier components. Ionized hydrogen and cool neutral atomic molecules make up the interstellar gas near hot young stars [1]. The amount of heavy elements in the ISM is gradually rising. The ISM model contains three phases: Molecular hydrogen from the molecular cloud, ionized hydrogen (HII), also known as hot and warm ionized medium, and atomic hydrogen (HI), also known as cold and warm neutral medium (Coronal gas). Planetary nebulae (PN) continue to be of interest due to their importance in studies of

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stellar development and their key position in the mass exchange between stars and the interstellar medium (ISM). The planetary nebulae (PN) morphologies range from simple circular to intricate symmetrical designs [2].

A nebula is a large cloud of gas and dust that occurs between stars and serves as the breeding ground for young stars. Dust, fundamental components like hydrogen, and other ionized gases make up nebulae. They can develop as supernova remnants or rigid interstellar gas and dust clouds. The Iris Nebula, commonly known as NGC 7023, is a subject of great interest to astronomers. Reflection Nebulae are illuminated by their exceedingly tiny solid matter particles, which can be up to 10 or even 100 times smaller than the dust on Earth. Due to the light scattering caused by these particles, the nebula has a blue second-hand glow. Although NGC 7023 seems to be primarily blue, it includes enormous strands of deep red, indicating the existence of an unidentified chemical compound likely based on hydrocarbons [3].

Jha and Aryal [4] studied the properties of interstellar dust using the infrared survey in the region near the Pulsars. Poudel et al. [5] performed similar works near the White Dwarfs. Jha & Upadhyay [6], and Gautam et al. [7] studied dusty environments nearby AGB Star and calculated dust temperature. Jha et al. [8] and Poudel et al. [9] studied the dust color temperature of Supernova Remnants. Similar works have been performed by a few researchers nearby Far Infrared (FIR) loops [10], FIR Cavities [11], and Isolated Nebula at different positions in the sky and calculated dust temperature, Planck's function distribution, and dust mass using IRIS and AKARI surveys. In this work, we have studied the dust properties around NGC 7023 Nebula using IRIS, AKARI, and WISE surveys which help to understand the shaping mechanism of ISM and possible physical phenomena are explained.

## II. Material and Methods

We have used data from IRIS (60  $\mu\text{m}$  and 100  $\mu\text{m}$ ), AKARI (90  $\mu\text{m}$  and 140  $\mu\text{m}$ ), and WISE (12  $\mu\text{m}$  and 22  $\mu\text{m}$ ) surveys to find flux densities. From SkyView Virtual Observatory (<https://skyview.gsfc.nasa.gov/current/cgi/query.pl>), FITS images were downloaded for these bands. Aladin v2.5 and v11.0 are used to extract and reduce the data. Each pixel of the FITS image of our region of interest is analyzed by the software Aladin v11.0. We used the Gaia Archive (<https://gea.esac.esa.int/archive>) for the estimation of the distance of this Nebula.

### Dust color temperature

We have used the method of Dupac et al. [12] and Schnee et al. [13] to calculate the dust color temperature.

#### For IRIS

The expression to calculate the dust color temperature for the IRIS survey is:

$$T_d = \frac{-96}{\ln [R \times 0.6^{(3+\beta)}]} \quad (1)$$

where flux density ratio,  $R$ , is given by:

$$R = \frac{F(60 \mu\text{m})}{F(100 \mu\text{m})} \quad (2)$$

The flux densities at  $60 \mu\text{m}$  and  $100 \mu\text{m}$ , respectively, are  $F(60 \mu\text{m})$  and  $F(100 \mu\text{m})$ . The spectral emissivity index value,  $\beta$ , is determined by dust particle parameters such as composition, size, and compaction. For crystalline dielectric, dust has a value of  $\beta = 2$  [12].

#### For AKARI

The expression for dust color temperature in the AKARI survey is:

$$T_d = \frac{-57}{\ln [R \times 0.6^{(3+\beta)}]} \quad (3)$$

where flux density ratio,  $R$ , is

$$R = \frac{F(90 \mu\text{m})}{F(140 \mu\text{m})} \quad (4)$$

Here,  $F(90 \mu\text{m})$  and  $F(140 \mu\text{m})$  are the flux densities at  $90 \mu\text{m}$  and  $140 \mu\text{m}$  respectively.

#### For WISE

The expression for dust color temperature in the WISE survey is:

$$T_d = \frac{-546}{\ln [R \times 0.54^{(3+\beta)}]} \quad (5)$$

where flux density ratio,  $R$ , is

$$R = \frac{F(12 \mu\text{m})}{F(22 \mu\text{m})} \quad (6)$$

Here,  $F(12 \mu\text{m})$  and  $F(22 \mu\text{m})$  are the flux densities at  $12 \mu\text{m}$  and  $22 \mu\text{m}$  respectively.

### Planck's function

Planck's function is given by the equation,

$$B(\nu, T_d) = \frac{2h\nu^3}{c^2} \left[ \frac{1}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T_d}} - 1} \right] \quad (7)$$

where  $h$  = Planck's constant,  $c$  = velocity of light,  $\nu$  = frequency at which the emission is observed, and  $T_d$  the average temperature of the region [14].

### Dust mass

The dust mass is estimated from the IR flux densities. The resulting dust mass depends on the physical and chemical properties of the dust grains, the adopted dust color temperature ( $T_d$ ), and the distance ( $D$ ) [15]. For the calculation of dust mass, first we need the value of flux density ( $F_\nu$ ),



$$F_v = NB(v, T_d)Q(v)T_d \left( \frac{\pi a^2}{D^2} \right) \quad (8)$$

where  $Q(v)$  is grain emissivity index. The dust mass can be calculated as,

$$M_d = \frac{4\alpha\rho}{3Q(v)} \frac{F(v)D^2}{B(v, T_d)} \quad (9)$$

where,  $\alpha$  = weighted grain size,  $\rho$  = grain density,  $Q$  = grain emissivity,  $F_v = f \times \text{MJy/sr} \times 5.288 \times 10^{-9}$  where  $1 \text{MJy/sr} = 1 \times 10^{-20} \text{ kg s}^{-2}$  and  $f$  = relative flux density measured from the image.

### Visual Extinction

The empirical formula for the calculation of visual extinction is given by Wood et al. [16],

$$A_v(\text{mag}) = 15.078 \left[ 1 - e^{-\frac{\tau_{100}}{641.3}} \right] \quad (10)$$

Here,  $\tau_{100}$  = optical depth at  $100\mu\text{m}$  wavelengths,  $F(100 \mu\text{m})$  = flux at  $100 \mu\text{m}$ , And  $B(v, T_d)$  = Planck's function at  $100 \mu\text{m}$ .

## III. Results and Discussion

### Projection map

Fig. 1(a), 1(b), and 1(c) show the IRIS, AKARI, and WISE map projections of NGC 7023, respectively. The candidate is placed in the southern hemisphere on this projection map. The size of the isolated cavity structure in the IRIS is larger than that of the AKARI and WISE, although the resolution of AKARI and WISE is more than IRIS. This difference in the structure size in the projection map is because we have extracted a  $50 \times 50$  size image in IRIS, a  $500 \times 500$  size image in AKARI, and a  $150 \times 150$  size in WISE.

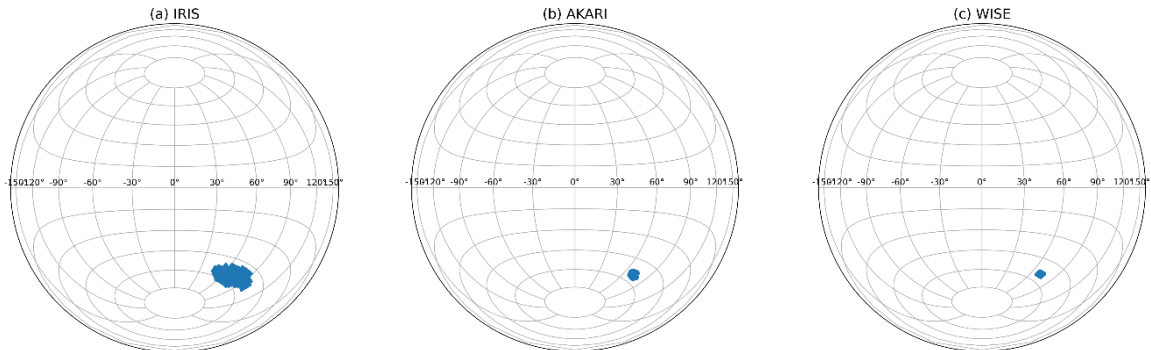
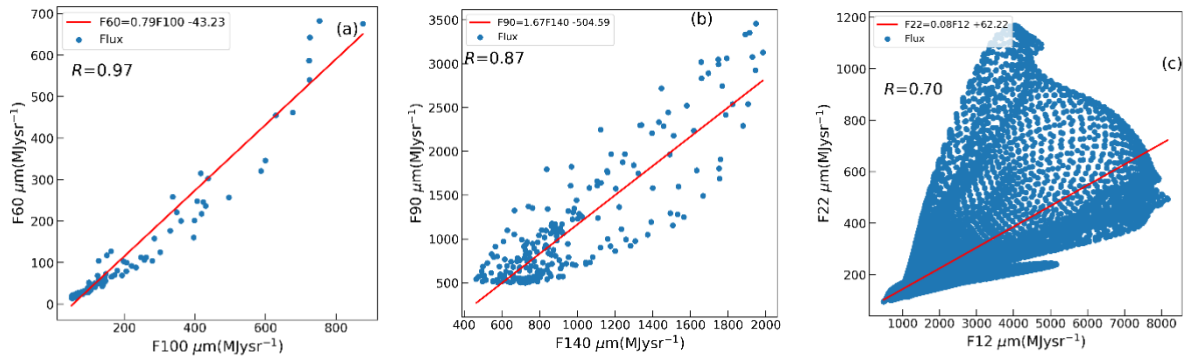


Figure 1. Position of candidate NGC 7023 (a) IRIS, (b) AKARI and (c) WISE.

## Linear fit of flux

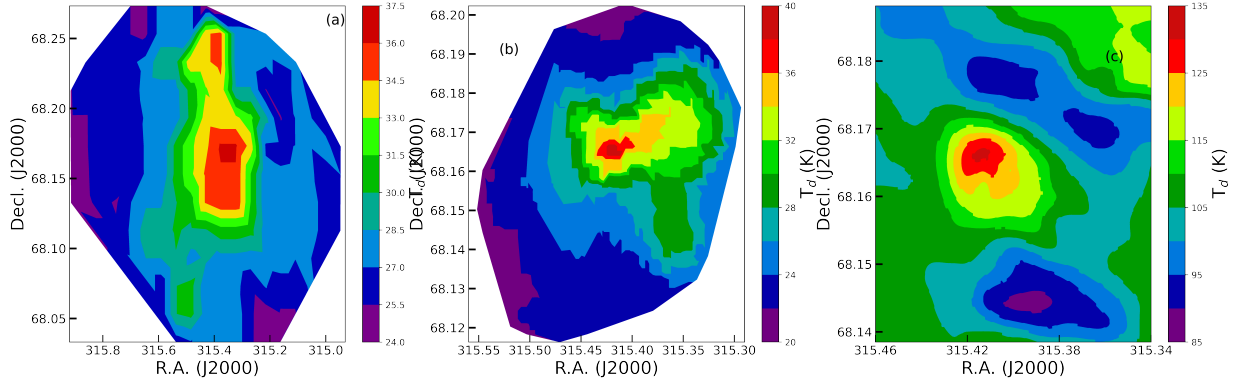
The flux distributions using a best-fit line between IRIS F60  $\mu\text{m}$  and F100  $\mu\text{m}$ , AKARI F90  $\mu\text{m}$  and F140  $\mu\text{m}$ , and WISE 12  $\mu\text{m}$  and 22  $\mu\text{m}$  along the X and Y axis are shown in Fig. 2 (a), 2(b), and 2(c). From Fig. 2, the flux in the AKARI map is linearly distributed and the slope is found to be 1.67, the intercept is -504.59 MJy/sr, correlation coefficient ( $r$ ) is 0.87. For IRIS, the flux is more concentrated towards the left side and the slope is 0.79, the correlation coefficient ( $r$ ) is 0.97. Similarly, for WISE, the slope is 0.08, and the correlation coefficient ( $r$ ) is 0.97.



**Figure 2.** A best-fit line of Flux density with scatter diagram at (a) IRIS F60  $\mu\text{m}$  versus F100  $\mu\text{m}$ , (b) AKARI WIDE-S versus WIDE-L and (c) WISE 22  $\mu\text{m}$  versus 12  $\mu\text{m}$ . The straight line represents the best-fit line, whereas the dots represent the flux.

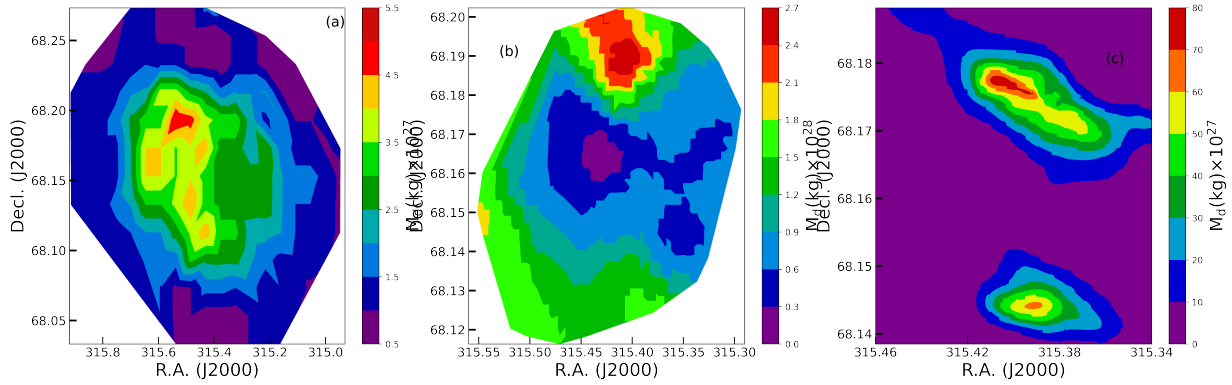
## Distribution of dust color temperature

Fig. 3(a), 3(b), and 3(c) shows the variation of dust color temperature in the IRIS, AKARI, and WISE surveys, respectively. The temperature distribution shows that the core region is hot, and the lower region is cold. In the case of AKARI, maximum and minimum temperatures are  $38.80 \text{ K} \pm 0.25 \text{ K}$ , and  $21.00 \text{ K} \pm 0.25 \text{ K}$ , respectively. Similarly, for the IRIS, maximum and minimum temperatures are  $36.19 \text{ K} \pm 0.03 \text{ K}$  and  $24.49 \text{ K} \pm 0.03 \text{ K}$ , and the maximum and minimum temperatures for WISE are found to be  $130.92 \text{ K} \pm 0.01 \text{ K}$  and  $88.71 \text{ K} \pm 0.01 \text{ K}$  respectively. The offset temperature is found to be 17.80 K in AKARI, 11.70 K in IRIS, and 42.21 K in WISE surveys. The minimum temperature region indicates the region has cold ISM matter, and the maximum temperature region indicates the region has warm ISM matter.



**Figure 3.** The counter contour plot of (a) Decl. (J2000) versus R.A.(J2000) versus temperature in IRIS (b) Decl. (J2000) versus R.A.(J2000) versus temperature in AKARI and (c) Decl. (J2000) versus R.A.(J2000) versus temperature in WISE at R.A.(J2000) =  $21^h 01^m 35.60^s$ , Decl. (J2000) =  $+68^{\circ}10^m 10.0^s$ .

### Distribution of dust mass



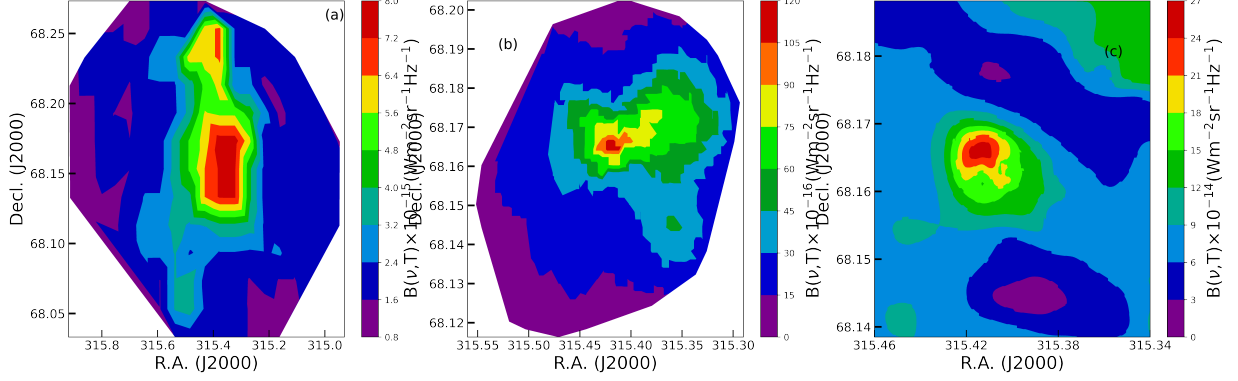
**Figure 4.** The contour plot of (a) Decl. (J2000) versus R.A.(J2000) versus mass in IRIS, (b) Decl. (J2000) versus R.A.(J2000) versus mass in AKARI and (c) Decl. (J2000) versus R.A.(J2000) versus mass in WISE. The color bar indicates the dust mass distribution ( $M_d$ ).

Fig. (4(a), 4(b), and 4(c) are the contour plots of the distribution of dust mass in the IRIS, AKARI, and WISE maps. The maximum and minimum dust mass in AKARI is  $2.65 \times 10^{28}$  kg and  $1.99 \times 10^{27}$  kg, respectively. Similarly, in IRIS, the maximum and minimum dust mass is  $3.34 \times 10^{27}$  kg and  $4.06 \times 10^{26}$  kg. In WISE,  $7.72 \times 10^{27}$  kg is the maximum and  $1.06 \times 10^{26}$  kg is the minimum value of dust mass in the nebular region of NGC 7023, respectively.

### Distribution of Planck's function

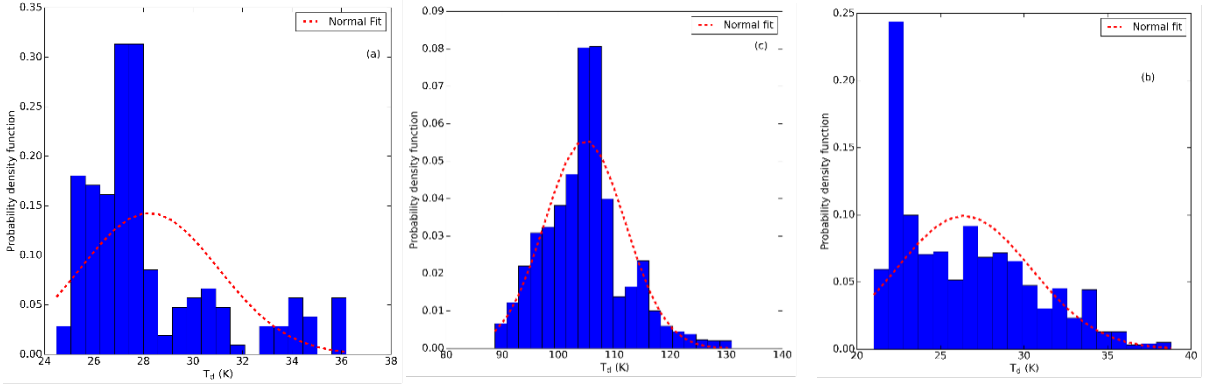
The variations of the Planck function with between R.A. (J2000) and Decl. (J2000) along the horizontal and vertical axis in the contour plot in the IRIS, AKARI, and WISE maps are shown in Fig. 5(a), 5(b), and 5(c). The greater the value of Planck's function in the centre region, the greater the infrared emission in that region

in comparison to the lower regions. From the calculation, it is found that the maximum and minimum values of Planck's function are  $1.10 \times 10^{-14} \text{ Wm}^{-2}\text{sr}^{-1}\text{Hz}^{-1}$  and  $1.09 \times 10^{-15} \text{ Wm}^{-2}\text{sr}^{-1}\text{Hz}^{-1}$  in AKARI,  $8.98 \times 10^{-15} \text{ Wm}^{-2}\text{sr}^{-1}\text{Hz}^{-1}$  and  $2.21 \times 10^{-15} \text{ Wm}^{-2}\text{sr}^{-1}\text{Hz}^{-1}$  in IRIS and  $2.54 \times 10^{-13} \text{ Wm}^{-2}\text{sr}^{-1}\text{Hz}^{-1}$  and  $2.34 \times 10^{-14} \text{ Wm}^{-2}\text{sr}^{-1}\text{Hz}^{-1}$  in WISE, respectively.



**Figure 5.** The contour plot of (a) Decl. (J2000) versus R.A.(J2000) versus Planck's function in IRIS (b) Decl. (J2000) versus R.A.(J2000) versus Planck's function in AKARI and (c) Decl. (J2000) versus R.A.(J2000) versus Planck's function in WISE. The color bar indicates the Planck's function distribution  $B(v, T)$ .

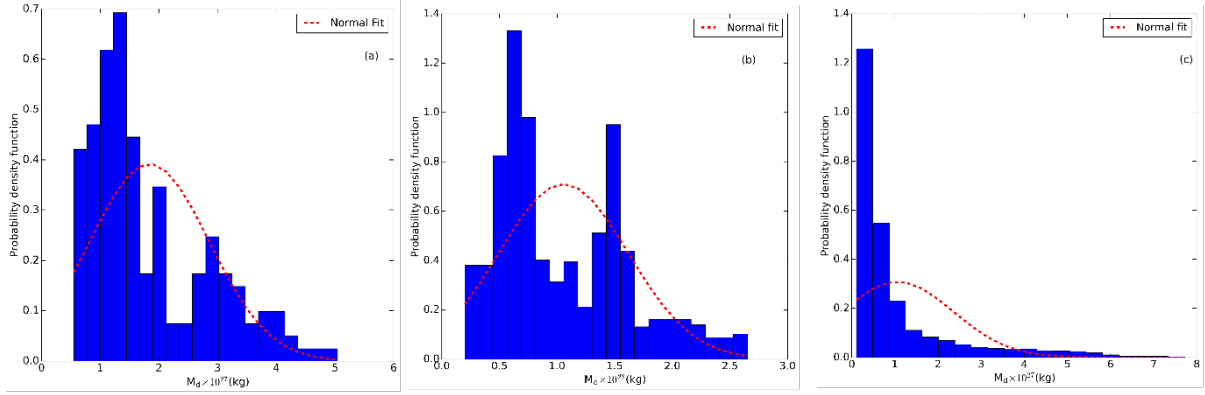
### Normal with histogram plot of temperature



**Figure 6.** Normal fit with histogram plot of (a) Probability density function versus temperature: IRIS, (b) Probability density function versus temperature AKARI, and (c) Probability density function versus temperature: WISE.

The normal plot with histogram of temperature versus probability density function is shown in Fig. 6 (a), 6(b), and 6(c). The curve is slightly skewed to the right in IRIS and AKARI surveys, and normally distributed in wise survey. The normal center is found to be 27.39 K in IRIS, 25.65 K in AKARI and 104.84 K in WISE.

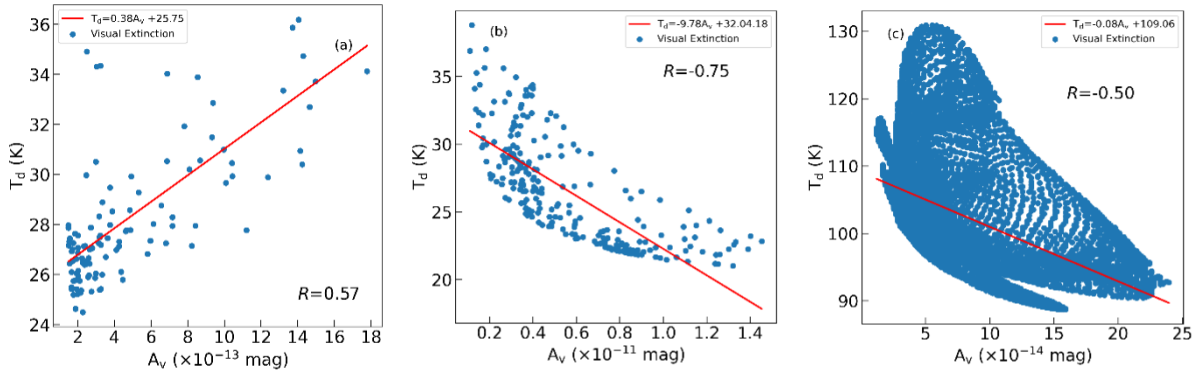
## Normal with histogram plot of dust mass



**Figure 7.** Normal fit with histogram plot of (a) Probability density function versus mass: IRIS, (b) Probability density function versus mass: AKARI and (c) Probability density function versus mass: Wise.

The normal with histogram plot of mass is shown in Fig. 7(a), 7(b), and 7(c). The normal centre is found to be  $8.32 \times 10^{26}$  kg in IRIS,  $8.69 \times 10^{27}$  kg in AKARI and  $5.11 \times 10^{26}$  kg in WISE survey.

## Dust color temperature vs visual extinction



**Figure 8.** Dust color temperature  $T_d$  (K) versus Visual extinction ( $A_v$ ) in the region of interest. (a) IRIS (b) AKARI and (c) WISE surveys.

Fig. 8(a), 8(b), and 8(c) show the variation of visual extinction ( $A_v$ ) with dust color temperature around the cavity region of NGC 7023 in the IRIS, AKARI, and WISE surveys, respectively. For IRIS, we found the slope value 0.38, intercept = 25.75 (mag), and correlation coefficient = 0.57. This positive value of  $r$  indicates a positive correlation between temperature and extinction. For AKARI, we found the slope = -9.78, intercept = 32.04 (mag), and the correlation coefficient = -0.78. Here, the value of  $r$  is negative, so there is a negative correlation between (K) and  $A_v$  (mag). Similarly, for WISE, we found the slope = -0.81, intercept = 109.06

(mag), and the correlation coefficient = -0.50. This indicates that they are showing the opposite behavior. In AKARI and WISE, we see an inverse relationship between  $T_d$  (K) and  $A_v$  (mag).

## Comparison with previous work

Using the AKARI survey, Gautam et al. [17] investigated the dust color temperature and Planck's function distribution of a far-infrared (FIR) planetary nebula structure at  $90 \mu\text{m}$  and  $140 \mu\text{m}$ . The dust color temperature of the reflection nebula (NGC 7023) is compared to Jha et al. [11] of a far-infrared planetary nebula in the AKARI survey at  $90 \mu\text{m}$  and  $140 \mu\text{m}$  as: from Table 1 it can be seen that the two nebulae have comparable dust color temperature at  $90 \mu\text{m}$  and  $140 \mu\text{m}$  in the AKARI survey.

Table 1. Comparison of dust color temperature in the AKARI survey.

Candidate	Maximum $T_d$ (K)	Minimum $T_d$ (K)	Average $T_d$ (K)	Offset $T_d$ (K)
Planetary Nebula	37.36	16.99	27.18	20
NGC 7023	38.80	21.00	26.39	17.8

Aryal et al. [18] presented a large new high latitude cone-like cloud found at  $100 \mu\text{m}$  and  $60 \mu\text{m}$  IRAS images. They have determined the dust color temperature  $T_d$  (K) of the nebula with an average dust color temperature in the region was to be  $27 \pm 4$  K. in the IRIS survey, we found an average temperature of  $28.24 \pm 0.034$  K, which is comparatively equal to the previous work.

Table 2. Comparison of dust color temperature in the IRAS survey [19].

Candidate	Average $T_d$ (K)
Cone-like far-IR rebula	$27 \pm 4$
NGC 7023	$28.24 \pm 0.034$

## IV. Conclusions

We chose NGC 7023, having isolated strong emission structure around the central region for our far-infrared investigation at  $60 \mu\text{m}$  and  $100 \mu\text{m}$  in the IRIS survey,  $140 \mu\text{m}$  and  $90 \mu\text{m}$  in the AKARI survey, and  $22 \mu\text{m}$  and  $12 \mu\text{m}$  in the WISE survey. The dust color temperature, dust mass, and visual extinction are calculated. We found the isolated dust structure interesting and prominent to study in all bands of IRIS, AKARI and WISE. The variance in dust temperature, dust mass, Planck's function, and flux density was determined, and these results were compared and analyzed in IRIS, AKARI, and WISE. We draw the following conclusion from our study:

- The dust color temperature is found in the range between  $36.19 \text{ K} \pm 0.034 \text{ K}$  to  $24.49 \text{ K} \pm 0.034 \text{ K}$  with an

average dust color temperature  $28.24 \text{ K} \pm 0.034 \text{ K}$  in IRIS survey and range between  $38.80 \text{ K} \pm 0.251 \text{ K}$  to  $21.00 \text{ K} \pm 0.251 \text{ K}$  with an average dust color temperature  $26.39 \text{ K} \pm 0.251 \text{ K}$  in AKARI survey. Similarly in WISE, the dust color temperature is found in the range between  $130.92 \text{ K} \pm 0.009 \text{ K}$  to  $88.71 \text{ K} \pm 0.009 \text{ K}$  with an average  $104.76 \text{ K} \pm 0.009 \text{ K}$ .

- The dust color temperature was found to be the higher in the WISE survey than that of the IRIS and AKARI survey. Thus, there is inverse relation between the dust color temperature and the wavelength.
- According to the IRIS survey, the maximum and minimum dust mass in our region of interest are  $3.34 \times 10^{27} \text{ kg}$  ( $1.68 \times 10^{-3} M_{\odot}$ ) and  $4.06 \times 10^{26} \text{ kg}$  ( $2.04 \times 10^{-4} M_{\odot}$ ) respectively. Similarly,  $2.65 \times 10^{28} \text{ kg}$  ( $1.33 \times 10^{-2} M_{\odot}$ ) and  $1.99 \times 10^{27} \text{ kg}$  ( $1.00 \times 10^{-3} M_{\odot}$ ) in the AKARI survey and  $7.72 \times 10^{27} \text{ kg}$  ( $3.89 \times 10^{-4} M_{\odot}$ ) and  $1.06 \times 10^{26} \text{ kg}$  ( $5.32 \times 10^{-5} M_{\odot}$ ) in the WISE survey respectively. The dust mass value is higher in AKARI as it has a direct relationship with flux.
- From the contour map, the dust color temperature and dust mass show an inverse relation with each other.
- The visual extinction is found to be in the range of  $1.83 \times 10^{-12} \text{ mag.}$  to  $2.23 \times 10^{-13} \text{ mag.}$  with an average value of  $6.46 \times 10^{-13} \text{ mag.}$  in IRIS,  $1.45 \times 10^{-11} \text{ mag.}$  to  $1.09 \times 10^{-12} \text{ mag.}$  with an average value of  $5.78 \times 10^{-12} \text{ mag.}$  in AKARI and  $2.39 \times 10^{-13} \text{ mag.}$  to  $1.17 \times 10^{-14} \text{ mag.}$  With an average value of  $5.31 \times 10^{-14} \text{ mag.}$  in WISE. This result shows the inverse relationship between extinction and temperature. This supports the fact that the higher the temperature, the lower will be the visual extinction.

## V. Acknowledgements

We appreciate the referee's helpful feedback and insightful remarks. We would like to acknowledge Aladin, Skyview virtual observatory, SIMBAD, IRAS, AKARI, and WISE surveys. Two authors (AKJ & SNY) acknowledge UGC, Nepal, for providing a faculty research grant no.FRG-075/076-S&T-2.

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