



# A thermophysical and dynamical study of the Hildas, (1162) Larissa, and (1911) Schubart

Cristian F. Chavez,<sup>1,2★</sup> T. G. Müller,<sup>3</sup> J. P. Marshall<sup>1b</sup>,<sup>1,4</sup> J. Horner<sup>1b</sup>,<sup>1★</sup> H. Drass<sup>1b</sup>,<sup>1,2</sup> and B. Carter<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Centre for Astrophysics, University of Southern Queensland, West St, Darling Heights, Toowoomba, QLD 4350, Australia

<sup>2</sup>Centre for Astro-Engineering, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Av. Vicuña Mackenna 4860, Santiago, Chile

<sup>3</sup>Max-Planck-Institut für Extraterrestrische Physik, Giessenbachstraße 1, D-85748 Garching, Germany

<sup>4</sup>Academia Sinica Institute of Astronomy and Astrophysics, AS/NTU Astronomy-Mathematics Building, No. 1, Section 4, Roosevelt Road, Taipei 10617, Taiwan

Accepted 2021 January 26. Received 2021 January 25; in original form 2020 September 21

## ABSTRACT

The Hilda asteroids are among the least studied populations in the asteroid belt, despite their potential importance as markers of Jupiter’s migration in the early Solar system. We present new mid-infrared observations of two notable Hildas, (1162) Larissa, and (1911) Schubart, obtained using the Faint Object infraRed CAmera for the SOFIA Telescope (FORCAST), and use these to characterize their thermal inertia and physical properties. For (1162) Larissa, we obtain an effective diameter of  $46.5^{+2.3}_{-1.7}$  km, an albedo of  $0.12 \pm 0.02$ , and a thermal inertia of  $15^{+10}_{-8}$  Jm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>1/2</sup> K<sup>-1</sup>. In addition, our Larissa thermal measurements are well matched with an ellipsoidal shape with an axial ratio  $a/b = 1.2$  for the most-likely spin properties. Our modelling of (1911) Schubart is not as refined, but the thermal data point towards a high-obliquity spin-pole, with a best fit  $a/b = 1.3$  ellipsoidal shape. This spin-shape solution is yielding a diameter of  $72^{+3}_{-4}$  km, an albedo of  $0.039 \pm 0.02$ , and a thermal inertia below  $30$  Jm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>1/2</sup> K<sup>-1</sup> (or  $10^{+20}_{-5}$  Jm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>1/2</sup> K<sup>-1</sup>). As with (1162) Larissa, our results suggest that (1911) Schubart is aspherical, and likely elongated in shape. Detailed dynamical simulations of the two Hildas reveal that both exhibit strong dynamical stability, behaviour that suggests that they are primordial, rather than captured objects. The differences in their albedos, along with their divergent taxonomical classification, suggests that despite their common origin, the two have experienced markedly different histories.

**Key words:** radiation mechanisms: thermal – minor planets, asteroids: general – minor planets, asteroids: individual: (1162) Larissa, (1911) Schubart – planets and satellites: formation – infrared: general.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

Over the past few decades, there has been a growing consensus amongst astronomers and planetary scientists that the Solar system’s youth was a chaotic place. Rather than being the result of a sedate, *in situ* formation, leading models now suggest that the terrestrial planets were shaped by cataclysmic collisions (e.g. Cameron & Benz 1991; Canup 2004; Benz et al. 2007; Canup 2012; Asphaug & Reufer 2014), whilst the giant planets underwent dramatic migration, potentially spanning hundreds of millions or even billions of kilometres (e.g. Gomes et al. 2005; Tsiganis et al. 2005; Levison et al. 2008; Lykawka et al. 2009, 2010, 2011; Walsh et al. 2011; Nesvorný 2018).

Much of the evidence for the chaotic evolution of the early Solar system has come, not from studies of the planets themselves, but from analysis of the vast numbers of small bodies littered throughout the system.<sup>1</sup> The Solar system’s asteroidal bodies are of particular interest in determining the true narrative of the system’s past. The

overwhelming majority of those objects move on orbits between those of Mars and Jupiter, within the Asteroid belt. Those asteroids are of great scientific value as natural records of the formation and evolution of our Solar system. The study of their orbits and physical properties are key research topics to understand the mechanics and evolution of the Solar system as a whole, and particularly the origin, hydration, and collisional history of the Earth (e.g. Morbidelli et al. 2000; Bottke et al. 2005; Gomes et al. 2005; Strom et al. 2005; Horner & Jones 2008; Horner et al. 2009; Minton & Malhotra 2011; Nesvorný 2018).

In recent years, studies of the Jovian Trojan population have brought fresh insights to the migration history of the giant planets (e.g. Morbidelli et al. 2005; Nesvorný, Vokrouhlický & Morbidelli 2013; Roig & Nesvorný 2015; Nesvorný 2018; Nesvorný et al. 2018; Pirani et al. 2019). The degree to which the orbits of Jupiter’s Trojans are excited suggests that they must have been captured during the migration of the giant planets, rather than having formed *in situ* – and as a result, the population has been used as a means to estimate the scale, speed, direction, and chaoticity of that migration (e.g. Morbidelli et al. 2005; Nesvorný et al. 2013; Pirani et al. 2019).

The Jovian Trojans are not, however, the only population of asteroidal bodies trapped in mean-motion resonance with Jupiter. Located between the outer edge of the asteroid belt and Jupiter’s

\* E-mail: cristianfelipe.chavez@usq.edu.au (CFC);

Jonathan.Horner@usq.edu.au (JH)

<sup>1</sup>For a detailed recent review of the various theories of Solar system’s migration history, and the abundant evidence that supports them, we direct the interested reader to Horner et al. (2020), and references therein.

orbit lie the Hildas – a swarm of objects trapped in 3:2 mean motion resonance with Jupiter, at a semimajor axis of around 4 au (Spratt 1989; Gil-Hutton & Brunini 2008; Milani et al. 2017). It is natural, therefore, to wonder whether this population, too, holds clues that may help us unveil the full narrative of the Solar system’s early days.

Following that logic, both Roig & Nesvorný (2015) and Pirani et al. (2019) considered the effect of Jupiter’s migration on the planet’s two main resonant populations. Roig & Nesvorný (2015) examined the ‘Jumping-Jupiter’ model of Jovian migration, and find that ‘*neither primordial Hildas, nor Trojans, survive the instability, confirming the idea that such populations must have been implanted from other sources*’. Similarly, Pirani et al. (2019) investigated how a rapid inward migration of Jupiter from a more distant initial orbit (beyond  $\sim 15$  au) would have affected the Jovian Trojans and the Hildas. They found that such migration would result in the capture of a massive and excited Hilda population – something that is strongly at odds with the modern observed distribution of Hildas, which move on remarkably dynamically cold orbits. Their model does, however, successfully replicate the observed asymmetry between the observed populations of the leading and trailing clouds of Jovian Trojans. These recent studies reveal the importance of the Hildas as a key test for models of planet formation, and as such, it is fair to consider the Hildas as a whole an interesting but underrated link to the Solar system’s formation and evolution.

The first Hilda asteroid to be discovered was that after which the family is named – (153) Hilda, which was found in 1875 November by Johann Palisa,<sup>2</sup> some 30 yr before the discovery of the first Jovian Trojans (e.g. Heinrich 1907; Wolf 1907; Strömberg 1908). Although the Hildas orbit markedly closer to the Sun than the Jovian Trojans, and their population is comparable to that of their more famous cousins, they remain relatively poorly studied.

Recent studies that have focused on the physical properties of Hildas have suggested that these asteroids may have had a common origin with Jovian Trojans. Studies of their near-infrared spectra (Wong, Brown & Emery 2017), size distributions (Terai & Yoshida 2018), size frequency distributions (Yoshida et al. 2019), and their optical and infrared colours (from the Sloan Digital Sky Survey; Gil-Hutton & Brunini 2008, and NEOWISE; De Prá et al. 2018), reveal that the overall properties of the two resonant populations are broadly similar.

Such studies have revealed the presence of at least two collisional/dynamical families in the Hilda population, both of which are named for their largest members (e.g. Brož & Vokrouhlický 2008). To date, 111 members of the (1911) Schubart family have been identified, whilst the (153) Hilda family has at least 216 confirmed members (Romanishin & Tegler 2018). It seems likely that future surveys will reveal both more members of these families, and new collisional families with different parent bodies.

Taxonomically, the detailed mapping of the asteroid belt carried out by DeMeo & Carry (2013, 2014) found the Hildas and Jovian Trojans to be distinct groups of objects, separate from their classification of the main belt asteroids. The Hildas and Trojans were typically labelled as P and D-types in contrast to the S and V-types that are common throughout the main belt, a result that has been verified by later studies (Terai & Yoshida 2018; Yoshida et al. 2019). In addition to their similar taxonomic classifications, the Hildas and Jovian Trojans both exhibit a clear bimodality in their spectral distribution (De Prá et al. 2018; Terai

& Yoshida 2018), a fact that could be suggestive of a variety of source regions having contributed to the modern Hilda and Trojan populations.

To date, amongst the Hildas that have been classified on the basis of their spectral data, the majority of were classified under the low-albedo asteroid classifications C, P, and D-type (Wong et al. 2017; Szabó et al. 2020) in the Tholen taxonomy (Kaasalainen & Torppa 2001; Warner, Harris & Pravec 2009; de Pater & Lissauer 2015). Of these, the D-type asteroids are undoubtedly the most numerous, followed by P-types and finally C-types (Grav et al. 2012).

Some studies state that the general outline for the surface composition of the Hildas is a mix of organics, anhydrous silicates, opaque material, and ice (Dahlgren et al. 1998; Dahlgren, Lahulla & Lagerkvist 1999; Gil-Hutton & Brunini 2008; De Prá et al. 2018). The surfaces of the Hildas have likely experienced significant space weathering, although it should be noted that they may well be considered to be more pristine than similar objects in the main asteroid belt, as a result of their larger heliocentric distances (Gil-Hutton & Brunini 2008; De Prá et al. 2018).

Moreover, De Prá et al. (2018) raised an interesting point on current knowledge of Hildas concluding that there is a population in the Jovian Trojans not present in the Hildas, supporting the idea that Trojans and Hildas may be celestial objects of different origins. Indeed, the stark contrast in mean albedo values amongst sub-groups in the same Hildas suggests that even within them we can appreciate a kind of intruder of another source (Romanishin & Tegler 2018). In the coming years, the Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS; Ricker et al. 2014) will aid the identification of Hildas with different origins, by providing a wealth of high-cadence light curves for these asteroids. As described by Szabó et al. (2020) that detailed photometric data will facilitate a direct comparison between the main belt asteroids, the Hildas, and the Jovian Trojans, allowing the similarities and differences between the populations to be studied in depth.

In this work, we focus on two of the largest and brightest members of the Hilda population – (1162) Larissa and (1911) Schubart. (1162) Larissa was discovered in 1930 by German astronomer Karl Reinmuth<sup>2</sup>, and is amongst the brightest Hildas due to its relatively high albedo (from 0.11 (Alf-Lagoa & Delbo 2017) to 0.18 (Grav et al. 2012) in the literature), which is markedly higher than the average of 0.055 for this group of asteroids (De Prá et al. 2018). Its taxonomy has been variously defined as M-type (Grav et al. 2012), P-type (Warner et al. 2009), and most recently as X-type (De Prá et al. 2018). It does not belong to either of the currently identified collisional families within the Hilda population (e.g. Romanishin & Tegler 2018), and as a result, it is plausible that it might be a primordial, undisrupted body.

(1911) Schubart was discovered in 1973 by Swiss astronomer Paul Wild<sup>2</sup>, and is the largest member of a populous collisional family (the Schubart family), containing at least 111 members (Brož & Vokrouhlický 2008). The extremely low albedo calculated for it, under 0.05 in several studies (Warner et al. 2009; Grav et al. 2012; Romanishin & Tegler 2018), makes it one of the darkest asteroids in the Hilda group and even in the Solar system.

We describe the observations taken by the ‘Faint Object infraRed CAmera for the SOFIA Telescope’ (FORCAST; Adams et al. 2010) instrument on the Stratospheric Observatory For Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA; Herter et al. 2012) used in this work in Section 2. The process by which flux values are extracted from the observations is then described in Section 3. In Section 4, we perform a detailed thermophysical analysis of (1162) Larissa and (1911) Schubart, before investigating the orbital stability of the two asteroids in

<sup>2</sup>Discovery details taken from the NASA/JPL small-body database browser at <https://ssd.jpl.nasa.gov/sbdb.cgi>, accessed on 2020 March 11.

Section 5. In Section 6, we discuss our results and present our conclusions.

## 2 OBSERVATIONS

We obtained SOFIA/FORCAST observations of the Hildas, (1162) Larissa, and (1911) Schubart, which we supplement with archival mid- and far-infrared data taken by *IRAS* (Tedesco 1986), *AKARI* (Usui et al. 2011), and *WISE* (Mainzer et al. 2011) projects. The SOFIA images collected for this research were part of a series of studies about small bodies and Solar system formation that were performed as part of the so-called ‘basic science’ observation flights, under the proposal ID 82.0004, mission ID FO64, PI Dr. Thomas Müller, carried out during 2011 June.

Our data comprise a series of multiwavelength mid-infrared imaging observations taken on 2011 June 4, for (1911) Schubart, and 2011 June 8 for (1162) Larissa. FORCAST is a dual-channel infrared camera and spectrograph, able to produce images with a field of view of approximately  $3.4 \text{ arcmin} \times 3.2 \text{ arcmin}$ , with a plate scale of  $0.768 \text{ arcsec}$ . One channel is the short-wavelength camera (SWC), which operates at  $5\text{--}26 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ , whilst the other, the long-wavelength camera (LWC), operates at  $26\text{--}40 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ ; both channels can be used either individually or simultaneously (Herter et al. 2013).

In order to take advantage of the dual channel nature of FORCAST, two observations were taken per target, in couplet using first the  $11.1$  and  $34.8 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$  and then the  $19.7$  and  $31.5 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$  filters, under the symmetrical two-position chop-nod mode (C2N), to minimize the impact of a variety of sources of noise, including time variable sky backgrounds and the thermal emission from the telescope itself. That mode is recommended for observations of point-like sources such as (1162) Larissa and (1911) Schubart, as described in Herter et al. (2012).

The infrared images used in this work are level 3 coadded data products, which means that they were telluric and flux corrected by SOFIA team in units of  $\text{Jy pix}^{-1}$  (Herter et al. 2013). The files were stored and then downloaded from the SOFIA AIRBORNE OBSERVATORY PUBLIC ARCHIVE.<sup>3</sup>

To complement our new data, we searched for archival observations of our two targets. Fortunately, both (1162) Larissa and (1911) Schubart have been observed multiple times at thermal infrared wavelengths by other surveys, so that in addition to the 12 SOFIA FORCAST images of (1162) Larissa, for the thermophysical analysis we used one observation from *IRAS* (at  $25 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ ), four from *AKARI* (at  $18 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ ), and 42 from *WISE* (21 images at  $11.1 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$  and 21 at  $22.64 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ ).

Moreover, for (1911) Schubart, in addition to the 23 SOFIA FORCAST images, we used 14 observations from *IRAS* (four at  $12 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ , four at  $25 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ , four at  $60 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ , and two at  $100 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ ), eight from *AKARI* (four at  $9 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$  and four at  $18 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ ) and also 39 from *WISE* (20 at  $11.1 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$  and 19 at  $22.64 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ ). All the data for both asteroids were taken from the SBNF Infrared Database (Szakáts et al. 2020) at VizieR Online Data Catalog<sup>4</sup>. Full details on the archival images used are given in Tables 1 and 2.

<sup>3</sup><https://www.sofia.usra.edu/science/data/science-archive/> Accessed on 2019 October 10.

<sup>4</sup>VizieR online data catalogue: SBNF Infrared Database Website at <http://vizier.u-strasbg.fr/viz-bin/VizieR?-source=J/A+A/635/A54>, accessed most recently on 2020 July 14. Earlier in our analysis, we obtained data from the Konkoly Observatory Website at <https://konkoly.hu/database.shtml>, accessed on 2019 December 17, which was used for our preliminary work, but has since been superseded by the updated VizieR catalogue.

## 3 ANALYSIS OF SOFIA DATA

In order to perform a thorough thermophysical analysis of the Hildas, (1162) Larissa, and (1911) Schubart, we first used the images taken of the asteroids at  $11.1$ ,  $19.7$ ,  $31.5$ , and  $34.8 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$  to determine the flux from the asteroids in each waveband. A visual inspection of the images was carried out using SAOIMAGES9 (Joye & Mandel 2003) to assess their quality. This revealed that in 12 of the 23 images of (1911) Schubart there was no clear presence of the asteroid, so those images were discarded after completing the process of checking their signal-to-noise values, and they were not analysed further. The images of (1162) Larissa were all of excellent quality and, as a result, all were used in our research.

The selected images were then analysed using a bespoke code that applied implementations of standard PYTHON-based image analysis tools including the packages ASTROPY (Greenfield et al. 2013) and PHOTUTILS (Bradley et al. 2016), yielding the results shown in Tables 3 and 4.

Although the FORCAST Photometry Recipe reference document<sup>5</sup> recommends aperture photometry radius and annulus dimensions of 12 pixels and  $15\text{--}25$  pixels, the same document suggests the use of smaller apertures to reduce the overall uncertainty in measurement of low S/N sources. In this sense, given the quite irregular backgrounds of several of the images and the diversity amongst them, we opted to individually optimize the values for the aperture photometry radii and annuli for each image.

We used the Aperture Photometry Tool (APT; Laher et al. 2012) and DS9 (Joye & Mandel 2003) as complementary tools to decide upon the best values for making the photometry measurements, making particular use of APT functions aperture slice, radial profile, and curve of growth, which were combined with the DS9 horizontal and vertical graphs in order to set the correct values for the aperture and annulus extent as required.

We applied appropriate colour correction factors to the measured flux densities, assuming blackbody input spectra for our targets with a temperature close to  $150 \text{ K}$ , according to the Hildas’ distance from the Sun (Hinrichs et al. 1999). The magnitude of these corrections per each waveband filter, however, are values quite close to 1 (between 1.0005 and 1.009), implying a small correction for the raw fluxes calculated, and were taken from table 3 of Herter et al. (2013). The resulting aperture photometry measurements obtained from the SOFIA images at  $11.1$ ,  $19.7$ ,  $31.5$ , and  $34.8 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$  are presented in Figs 1 and 2.

To determine the uncertainties in our results, we followed the FORCAST Photometry Recipe.<sup>6</sup> The error propagation was done by adding the photometry, the calibration with the standard star, and the calibration factor in quadrature. In that process, we used values from the table 5 of Herter et al. (2013) to provide the appropriate calibration factor, which was 0.055 for (1162) Larissa, and 0.102 for (1911) Schubart.

## 4 THERMOPHYSICAL MODELLING

In order to better understand the physical properties of (1162) Larissa and (1911) Schubart, we here present a detailed thermophysical

<sup>5</sup>SOFIA FORCAST photometry recipe at [https://www.sofia.usra.edu/sites/default/files/Other/Documents/FORCAST\\_Photometry\\_Recipe.pdf](https://www.sofia.usra.edu/sites/default/files/Other/Documents/FORCAST_Photometry_Recipe.pdf), accessed on 2020 April 17.

<sup>6</sup>SOFIA FORCAST Photometry Recipe at [https://www.sofia.usra.edu/sites/default/files/Other/Documents/FORCAST\\_Photometry\\_Recipe.pdf](https://www.sofia.usra.edu/sites/default/files/Other/Documents/FORCAST_Photometry_Recipe.pdf), accessed on 2020 April 17.

**Table 1.** Summary of the supplementary thermal observations of (1162) Larissa used in this work. The table shows the time at mid-point of the observation (in Julian Date), the reference wavelength (in  $\mu\text{m}$ ), the monochromatic flux density (colour corrected in-band flux density) with its absolute error, the heliocentric distance ( $r_{\text{Helio}}$ ), the observatory-centric distance ( $\Delta$ ; in au), the phase angle ( $\alpha$ ), and the spacecraft telescope used for the observation.

Date (JD)	Wavelength ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Flux density (Jy)	$r_{\text{Helio}}$ (au)	$\Delta$ (au)	$\alpha$ ( $^\circ$ )	Telescope/Instrument
2445613.4677	25.00	$0.538 \pm 0.141$	4.385 57	4.073 05	12.90	IRAS
2453982.9395	18.00	$0.221 \pm 0.033$	4.360 22	4.251 99	13.37	AKARI-IRC
2453983.0083	18.00	$0.299 \pm 0.038$	4.360 23	4.250 95	13.37	AKARI-IRC
2454154.3825	18.00	$0.298 \pm 0.038$	4.371 76	4.267 89	− 13.08	AKARI-IRC
2454154.4514	18.00	$0.327 \pm 0.040$	4.371 75	4.268 96	− 13.08	AKARI-IRC
2455225.2251	11.56	$0.223 \pm 0.011$	3.611 43	3.492 50	15.82	WISE
2455225.2251	22.09	$0.654 \pm 0.046$	3.611 43	3.492 50	15.82	WISE
2455225.3576	11.56	$0.180 \pm 0.009$	3.611 34	3.490 43	15.82	WISE
2455225.3576	22.09	$0.624 \pm 0.040$	3.611 34	3.490 43	15.82	WISE
2455225.4899	11.56	$0.226 \pm 0.011$	3.611 24	3.488 37	15.83	WISE
2455225.4899	22.09	$0.708 \pm 0.044$	3.611 24	3.488 37	15.83	WISE
2455225.6222	11.56	$0.183 \pm 0.009$	3.611 14	3.486 30	15.83	WISE
2455225.6222	22.09	$0.601 \pm 0.038$	3.611 14	3.486 30	15.83	WISE
2455225.6884	11.56	$0.168 \pm 0.008$	3.611 09	3.485 27	15.83	WISE
2455225.6884	22.09	$0.554 \pm 0.033$	3.611 09	3.485 27	15.83	WISE
2455225.7545	11.56	$0.231 \pm 0.011$	3.611 05	3.484 24	15.83	WISE
2455225.7545	22.09	$0.725 \pm 0.045$	3.611 05	3.484 24	15.83	WISE
2455225.9530	11.56	$0.162 \pm 0.008$	3.610 90	3.481 15	15.83	WISE
2455225.9530	22.09	$0.525 \pm 0.033$	3.610 90	3.481 15	15.83	WISE
2455226.0192	11.56	$0.232 \pm 0.011$	3.610 85	3.480 11	15.83	WISE
2455226.0192	22.09	$0.733 \pm 0.048$	3.610 85	3.480 11	15.83	WISE
2455226.0854	11.56	$0.160 \pm 0.008$	3.610 81	3.479 08	15.83	WISE
2455226.0854	22.09	$0.508 \pm 0.033$	3.610 81	3.479 08	15.83	WISE
2455226.2177	11.56	$0.163 \pm 0.008$	3.610 71	3.477 02	15.83	WISE
2455226.2177	22.09	$0.526 \pm 0.032$	3.610 71	3.477 02	15.83	WISE
2455226.3500	11.56	$0.172 \pm 0.008$	3.610 61	3.474 95	15.83	WISE
2455226.3500	22.09	$0.532 \pm 0.034$	3.610 61	3.474 95	15.83	WISE
2455399.6451	11.56	$0.236 \pm 0.011$	3.514 66	3.283 06	− 16.75	WISE
2455399.6451	22.09	$0.671 \pm 0.042$	3.514 66	3.283 06	− 16.75	WISE
2455399.7774	11.56	$0.230 \pm 0.011$	3.514 61	3.284 88	− 16.75	WISE
2455399.7774	22.09	$0.674 \pm 0.044$	3.514 61	3.284 88	− 16.75	WISE
2455399.9097	11.56	$0.238 \pm 0.011$	3.514 56	3.286 70	− 16.75	WISE
2455399.9097	22.09	$0.749 \pm 0.045$	3.514 56	3.286 70	− 16.75	WISE
2455400.0420	11.56	$0.229 \pm 0.011$	3.514 52	3.288 52	− 16.75	WISE
2455400.0420	22.09	$0.701 \pm 0.048$	3.514 52	3.288 52	− 16.75	WISE
2455400.1743	11.56	$0.242 \pm 0.012$	3.514 47	3.290 34	− 16.76	WISE
2455400.1743	22.09	$0.767 \pm 0.046$	3.514 47	3.290 34	− 16.76	WISE
2455400.4389	11.56	$0.255 \pm 0.012$	3.514 37	3.293 98	− 16.76	WISE
2455400.4389	22.09	$0.791 \pm 0.049$	3.514 37	3.293 98	− 16.76	WISE
2455400.5050	11.56	$0.222 \pm 0.011$	3.514 35	3.294 89	− 16.76	WISE
2455400.5050	22.09	$0.684 \pm 0.044$	3.514 35	3.294 89	− 16.76	WISE
2455400.6373	11.56	$0.237 \pm 0.011$	3.514 30	3.296 71	− 16.76	WISE
2455400.6373	22.09	$0.742 \pm 0.046$	3.514 30	3.296 71	− 16.76	WISE
2455400.7696	11.56	$0.213 \pm 0.010$	3.514 26	3.298 54	− 16.77	WISE
2455400.7696	22.09	$0.656 \pm 0.042$	3.514 26	3.298 54	− 16.77	WISE
2455400.9019	11.56	$0.226 \pm 0.011$	3.514 21	3.300 36	− 16.77	WISE
2455400.9019	22.09	$0.709 \pm 0.042$	3.514 21	3.300 36	− 16.77	WISE

analysis for both objects, based on the observational data we obtained using SOFIA, coupled with archival data taken by *IRAS* (Tedesco 1986), *AKARI* (Usui et al. 2011), and *WISE* (Mainzer et al. 2011), as detailed in Section 2.

The thermophysical analysis performed in this research is based on the thermophysical model (TPM) detailed in Lagerros (1996, 1997, 1998) and Müller & Lagerros (1998, 2002). In the TPM, the surface temperature is calculated from the energy balance between absorbed Solar radiation, the thermal emission, and heat conduction into the surface material (here, 1D heat conduction is considered). For a direct comparison with the observed fluxes, we use a given spin-

shape solution to calculate the temperature of each surface facet. The integral over all projected surface elements towards the observer then leads to a TPM flux prediction. In principle, we tune the effective size, albedo, and thermal properties, to calculate simultaneously the reflected light (described by the object's absolute magnitude  $H$  and the phase slope parameter  $G$ ) and the thermal emission (in direct comparison with the observed thermal emission). This is done for all measurements to find the best-possible solution in size, albedo, thermal inertia, and, if possible, to constrain the object's surface roughness. The results of our analysis are presented in Fig. 3, which shows that, in general, the observational data can be relatively well



**Table 2.** Summary of the supplementary thermal observations of (1911) Schubart used in this work. The table shows the time at the mid-point of the observation (in Julian Date), the reference wavelength (in  $\mu\text{m}$ ), the monochromatic flux density (colour corrected in-band flux density) with its absolute error, the heliocentric distance ( $r_{\text{Helio}}$ ), the observatory-centric distance ( $\Delta$ , in au), the phase angle ( $\alpha$ ), and the spacecraft telescope used for the observation.

Date (JD)	Wavelength ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Flux density (Jy)	$r_{\text{Helio}}$ (au)	$\Delta$ (au)	$\alpha$ ( $^\circ$ )	Telescope/Instrument
2445433.9806	12.00	$1.623 \pm 0.286$	3.360 36	3.139 97	– 17.30	IRAS
2445433.9806	25.00	$3.073 \pm 0.591$	3.360 36	3.139 97	– 17.30	IRAS
2445433.9806	60.00	$1.559 \pm 0.364$	3.360 36	3.139 97	– 17.30	IRAS
2445433.9806	100.00	$1.422 \pm 0.367$	3.360 36	3.139 97	– 17.30	IRAS
2445434.0522	12.00	$1.483 \pm 0.291$	3.360 39	3.141 01	– 17.30	IRAS
2445434.0522	25.00	$2.723 \pm 0.543$	3.360 39	3.141 01	– 17.30	IRAS
2445434.0522	60.00	$1.615 \pm 0.419$	3.360 39	3.141 01	– 17.30	IRAS
2445434.0522	100.00	$1.007 \pm 0.248$	3.360 39	3.141 01	– 17.30	IRAS
2445441.8569	12.00	$1.497 \pm 0.256$	3.363 82	3.254 66	– 17.35	IRAS
2445441.8569	25.00	$3.402 \pm 0.604$	3.363 82	3.254 66	– 17.35	IRAS
2445441.8569	60.00	$1.704 \pm 0.438$	3.363 82	3.254 66	– 17.35	IRAS
2445441.9287	12.00	$1.651 \pm 0.288$	3.363 86	3.255 71	– 17.35	IRAS
2445441.9287	25.00	$3.173 \pm 0.608$	3.363 86	3.255 71	– 17.35	IRAS
2445441.9287	60.00	$1.440 \pm 0.332$	3.363 86	3.255 71	– 17.35	IRAS
2454042.7960	18.00	$2.377 \pm 0.199$	3.324 68	3.183 05	17.36	AKARI-IRC
2454042.8649	18.00	$2.417 \pm 0.202$	3.324 69	3.182 08	17.36	AKARI-IRC
2454043.2094	9.00	$0.507 \pm 0.033$	3.324 72	3.177 19	17.36	AKARI-IRC
2454043.2783	9.00	$0.442 \pm 0.029$	3.324 73	3.176 21	17.36	AKARI-IRC
2454218.3471	9.00	$0.468 \pm 0.031$	3.407 87	3.259 34	– 17.18	AKARI-IRC
2454218.4161	9.00	$0.435 \pm 0.029$	3.407 92	3.260 37	– 17.18	AKARI-IRC
2454218.7612	18.00	$2.044 \pm 0.172$	3.408 21	3.265 52	– 17.18	AKARI-IRC
2454218.8303	18.00	$2.241 \pm 0.189$	3.408 26	3.266 55	– 17.18	AKARI-IRC
2455290.9921	11.56	$0.156 \pm 0.009$	4.602 77	4.519 60	12.55	WISE
2455290.9921	22.09	$0.707 \pm 0.045$	4.602 77	4.519 60	12.55	WISE
2455291.2567	11.56	$0.174 \pm 0.010$	4.602 87	4.515 58	12.55	WISE
2455291.2567	22.09	$0.749 \pm 0.044$	4.602 87	4.515 58	12.55	WISE
2455291.3228	11.56	$0.179 \pm 0.010$	4.602 90	4.514 57	12.55	WISE
2455291.3228	22.09	$0.672 \pm 0.044$	4.602 90	4.514 57	12.55	WISE
2455291.3890	11.56	$0.177 \pm 0.010$	4.602 93	4.513 57	12.55	WISE
2455291.3890	22.09	$0.713 \pm 0.047$	4.602 93	4.513 57	12.55	WISE
2455291.5213	11.56	$0.161 \pm 0.009$	4.602 98	4.511 56	12.55	WISE
2455291.5213	22.09	$0.719 \pm 0.045$	4.602 98	4.511 56	12.55	WISE
2455291.5874	11.56	$0.178 \pm 0.010$	4.603 00	4.510 55	12.55	WISE
2455291.5874	22.09	$0.760 \pm 0.046$	4.603 00	4.510 55	12.55	WISE
2455291.5875	11.56	$0.175 \pm 0.010$	4.603 00	4.510 55	12.55	WISE
2455291.5875	22.09	$0.721 \pm 0.045$	4.603 00	4.510 55	12.55	WISE
2455291.9844	22.09	$0.693 \pm 0.045$	4.603 16	4.504 52	12.55	WISE
2455293.5060	11.56	$0.147 \pm 0.008$	4.603 76	4.481 38	12.56	WISE
2455293.5060	22.09	$0.671 \pm 0.047$	4.603 76	4.481 38	12.56	WISE
2455293.5061	11.56	$0.147 \pm 0.008$	4.603 76	4.481 38	12.56	WISE
2455293.5061	22.09	$0.762 \pm 0.052$	4.603 76	4.481 38	12.56	WISE
2455293.9691	11.56	$0.160 \pm 0.009$	4.603 94	4.474 33	12.56	WISE
2455293.9691	22.09	$0.719 \pm 0.044$	4.603 94	4.474 33	12.56	WISE
2455294.0353	22.09	$0.740 \pm 0.047$	4.603 97	4.473 33	12.56	WISE
2455294.1014	11.56	$0.183 \pm 0.010$	4.603 99	4.472 32	12.56	WISE
2455294.1014	22.09	$0.795 \pm 0.048$	4.603 99	4.472 32	12.56	WISE
2455294.1016	11.56	$0.198 \pm 0.011$	4.603 99	4.472 32	12.56	WISE
2455294.1016	22.09	$0.805 \pm 0.050$	4.603 99	4.472 32	12.56	WISE
2455294.1677	11.56	$0.187 \pm 0.010$	4.604 02	4.471 32	12.55	WISE
2455294.1677	22.09	$0.796 \pm 0.050$	4.604 02	4.471 32	12.55	WISE
2455294.2339	11.56	$0.177 \pm 0.010$	4.604 04	4.470 31	12.55	WISE
2455294.2339	22.09	$0.782 \pm 0.050$	4.604 04	4.470 31	12.55	WISE
2455294.3662	11.56	$0.181 \pm 0.010$	4.604 09	4.468 30	12.55	WISE
2455294.3662	22.09	$0.727 \pm 0.045$	4.604 09	4.468 30	12.55	WISE
2455294.4985	11.56	$0.165 \pm 0.009$	4.604 15	4.466 28	12.55	WISE
2455294.4985	22.09	$0.744 \pm 0.045$	4.604 15	4.466 28	12.55	WISE
2455294.6308	11.56	$0.193 \pm 0.011$	4.604 20	4.464 27	12.55	WISE
2455294.6308	22.09	$0.783 \pm 0.052$	4.604 20	4.464 27	12.55	WISE
2455464.9946	11.56	$0.165 \pm 0.012$	4.637 63	4.448 18	– 12.45	WISE
2455465.1269	11.56	$0.169 \pm 0.011$	4.637 63	4.450 24	– 12.45	WISE
2455465.1930	11.56	$0.162 \pm 0.012$	4.637 63	4.451 26	– 12.45	WISE

**Table 3.** Details of the observations of (1162) Larissa taken using the FORCAST instrument on the SOFIA airborne observatory on 2011 June 8, (JD 2455720). The table shows the time at which the observations were started (in Julian Date), the length of the exposure (in s), the reference wavelength (in  $\mu\text{m}$ ), the colour-corrected monochromatic flux densities with errors, the heliocentric distance of the asteroid ( $r_{\text{Helio}}$ ), and the observatory-centric distance ( $\Delta$ , in au). Due to the small span of time (0.05 JD), the phase angle value shows no significant change between the first and last observation, and was estimated to be  $9.08^\circ$ .

Date (JD)	Length of the exposure (s)	Wavelength ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Flux density (Jy)	$r_{\text{Helio}}$ (au)	$\Delta$ (au)
2455720.9175	65.00	19.70	$1.849 \pm 0.218$	3.534 85	2.642 59
2455720.9295	66.72	11.10	$0.524 \pm 0.040$	3.534 86	2.642 50
2455720.9465	66.80	11.10	$0.458 \pm 0.047$	3.534 86	2.642 37
2455720.9545	67.80	11.10	$0.625 \pm 0.051$	3.534 87	2.642 31
2455720.9628	63.77	19.70	$1.665 \pm 0.106$	3.534 87	2.642 24
2455720.9669	67.23	11.10	$0.590 \pm 0.056$	3.534 87	2.642 21
2455720.9175	65.00	31.50	$1.630 \pm 0.117$	3.534 85	2.642 59
2455720.9295	66.72	34.80	$1.464 \pm 0.110$	3.534 86	2.642 50
2455720.9465	66.80	34.80	$1.241 \pm 0.111$	3.534 86	2.642 37
2455720.9545	67.80	34.80	$1.619 \pm 0.134$	3.534 87	2.642 31
2455720.9628	63.77	31.50	$1.508 \pm 0.126$	3.534 87	2.642 24
2455720.9669	67.23	34.80	$1.430 \pm 0.118$	3.534 87	2.642 21

**Table 4.** Details of the observations of (1911) Schubart taken using the FORCAST instrument on the SOFIA airborne observatory on 2011 June 4, (JD 2455716). The table shows the time at which the observations were started (in Julian Date), the length of the exposure (in seconds), the reference wavelength (in  $\mu\text{m}$ ), the colour-corrected monochromatic flux densities with errors, the heliocentric distance of the asteroid ( $r_{\text{Helio}}$ ), and the observatory-centric distance ( $\Delta$ , in au). The images whose values are given in *italics* were of too poor quality to be used further in our analysis – the asteroid was not clearly visible in those images, and any analysis therefore yielded results with very low signal-to-noise ratio. Due to the small span of time (0.03 JD), the phase angle value shows no significant change between the first and last observation, and was estimated to be  $12.12^\circ$ .

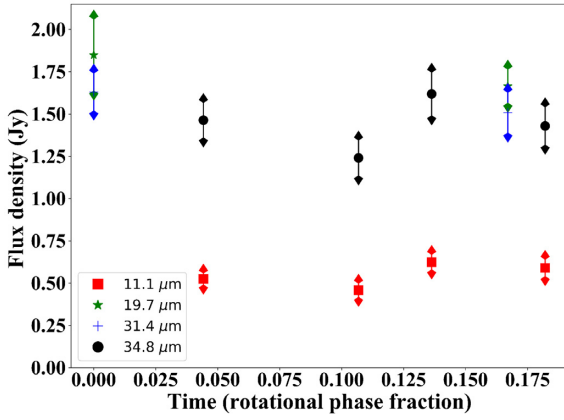
Date (JD)	Length of the exposure (s)	Wavelength ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Flux density (Jy)	$r_{\text{Helio}}$ (au)	$\Delta$ (au)
2455716.9469	63.37	19.70	$1.084 \pm 0.185$	4.566 25	4.133 20
2455716.9484	64.78	19.70	$1.182 \pm 0.174$	4.566 25	4.133 18
2455716.9500	63.41	19.70	$1.028 \pm 0.148$	4.566 25	4.133 15
2455716.9540	63.54	19.70	$1.063 \pm 0.156$	4.566 25	4.133 09
2455716.9578	64.42	19.70	$1.099 \pm 0.156$	4.566 25	4.133 03
2455716.9646	61.34	19.70	$1.139 \pm 0.192$	4.566 24	4.132 93
2455716.9659	<i>61.36</i>	<i>11.10</i>	–	–	–
2455716.9699	<i>61.42</i>	<i>11.10</i>	–	–	–
2455716.9736	<i>61.14</i>	<i>11.10</i>	–	–	–
2455716.9752	<i>61.01</i>	<i>11.10</i>	–	–	–
2455716.9789	<i>61.45</i>	<i>11.10</i>	–	–	–
2455716.9825	<i>60.80</i>	<i>11.10</i>	–	–	–
2455716.9469	63.37	31.50	–	–	–
2455716.9484	64.78	31.50	–	–	–
2455716.9500	63.41	31.50	$1.112 \pm 0.175$	4.566 25	4.133 15
2455716.9540	63.54	31.50	$1.109 \pm 0.169$	4.566 25	4.133 09
2455716.9578	64.42	31.50	$1.132 \pm 0.162$	4.566 25	4.133 03
2455716.9659	<i>61.36</i>	<i>34.80</i>	–	–	–
2455716.9699	<i>61.42</i>	<i>34.80</i>	–	–	–
2455716.9736	<i>61.14</i>	<i>34.80</i>	–	–	–
2455716.9752	61.01	34.80	$0.879 \pm 0.138$	4.566 24	4.132 77
2455716.9789	61.45	34.80	$1.011 \pm 0.173$	4.566 24	4.132 71
2455716.9825	<i>60.80</i>	<i>34.80</i>	–	–	–

fit by our final thermophysical model solutions, despite the lack of high-quality spin-shape information for both targets.

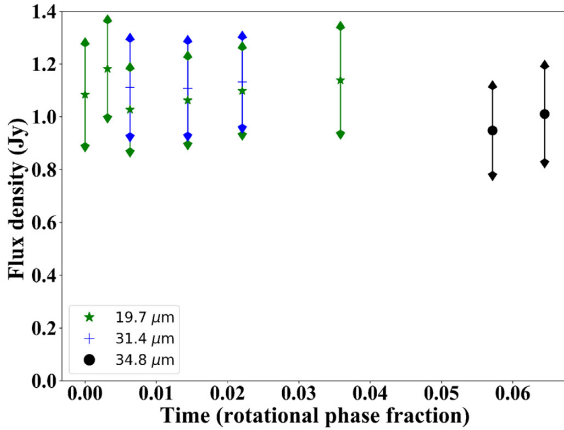
For (1162) Larissa, our radiometric tests were performed using spherical and ellipsoidal spin-shape solutions, with a rotation period of 6.519 148 h (Slyusarev et al. 2013; Warner & Stephens 2017, J. Durech, private communications). The recent, most likely, pole solutions are ( $294^\circ$ ,  $-28^\circ$ ) or ( $114^\circ$ ,  $-23^\circ$ ) in ecliptic longitude and latitude (J. Durech, private communications). In addition (for

spherical shapes only), we considered spin-axis orientations of ( $110^\circ$ ,  $75^\circ$  Cibulková et al. 2018),<sup>7</sup> equator-on prograde, equator-on retrograde, pole-on during the SOFIA observations. We assumed that the asteroid had a typical level of surface roughness (Müller &

<sup>7</sup>Using entries from the database at <https://www-n.oca.eu/delbo/astphys/astphys.html>, accessed November 2020.



**Figure 1.** (1162) Larissa mid-infrared photometric data. The graphic shows the flux densities derived from the four wavelength bands of FORCAST, as a function of the rotational phase of the asteroid, together with the given error bars. The obtained mid-infrared photometric light curves follow the trend of increments and decrements along the different wavelengths used in each chop nod shot.



**Figure 2.** (1911) Schubart mid-infrared photometric data. The graphic shows the flux densities derived from the four wavelength bands of FORCAST, as a function of the rotational phase of the asteroid, together with the given error bars. The obtained mid-infrared photometric light curves follow the trend of increments and decrements along the different wavelengths used in each chop nod shot.

Lagerros 1998), and solved for its size, albedo and thermal inertia using all SOFIA-FORCAST data (12 points) plus all of the detailed archival data described in section 2.

Following this methodology, the radiometric range solution for a spherical object, independent of the spin-axis orientation, and assuming  $H_V = 9.59$  and  $G = 0.49$  (Oszkiewicz et al. 2011) is given by

- (i) Effective diameter: 41–48 km.
- (ii) Geometric V-band albedo 0.10–0.15.
- (iii) Thermal inertia below  $30 \text{ Jm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-0.5} \text{ K}^{-1}$ .

The reduced  $\chi^2$  of the spherical solutions are poor ( $>4.0$ ). Given an observed (visible) light-curve amplitude up to 0.22 mag, the poor fit is likely related to our assumption of a simple spherical shape. This is confirmed by deriving radiometric sizes separately for the different data sets. Due to the different viewing geometries for *IRAS*, *Akari*, *WISE*, and *SOFIA* data, the corresponding data set-specific sizes

deviate substantially and can only be explained by a non-spherical body.

If we take the two recent spin-pole solutions, we can implement ellipsoidal shape solutions with varying  $ab$  ratios from 1.0 to 1.5 to improve the radiometric analysis. For an  $ab$  ratio of 1.2, we obtained lower  $\chi^2$  values (around 2.0 for the  $(114^\circ, -23^\circ)$  and 2.5 for the  $(294^\circ, -28^\circ)$  pole solution) with the following values:

- (i) Effective diameter:  $46.5^{+2.3}_{-1.7}$  km.
- (ii) Geometric V-band albedo:  $0.12 \pm 0.02$ .
- (iii) Thermal inertia:  $15^{+10}_{-8} \text{ Jm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-0.5} \text{ K}^{-1}$ .
- (iv) Preference for the spin-pole solution with  $(114^\circ, -23^\circ)$ ,  $P_{\text{sidereal}} = 6.519148 \text{ h}$ , ellipsoidal shape with  $ab = 1.2$

These two spin-poles with the specified ellipsoidal shape have the big advantage that they can reproduce reasonably well the observed thermal light curve (22 data points taking in 2010 January, and another 20 data points taken in 2010 July, each time within about one day), and the overall flux changes with wavelengths and phase angles. But based on the thermal data alone, it is not possible to entirely exclude other spin-shape solutions. However, future observations of the asteroid will prove critical in order to mitigate the remaining spin-shape uncertainties and to improve the radiometric solution further.

In the case of (1911) Schubart, using the multiple thermal data described in section 2, in combination with a spherical shape, a rotation period of 11.9213 h (Stephens 2016), and pole solution of  $(320^\circ, 20^\circ)$  (J. Durech, private communication) leads to acceptable  $\chi^2$  values below 2.0 for all spin-axis orientations. The data are reasonably well fitted, only the *IRAS* 100- $\mu\text{m}$  observations seem to be problematic. The derived radiometric size range is between about 64 up to 78 km, the corresponding albedos are between 0.033 and 0.42, respectively. However, the analysis process gave a slight preference for a spin-axis with high-obliquity like the pole-on during *SOFIA* observations or one of the recently estimated solutions from light-curve inversion techniques.

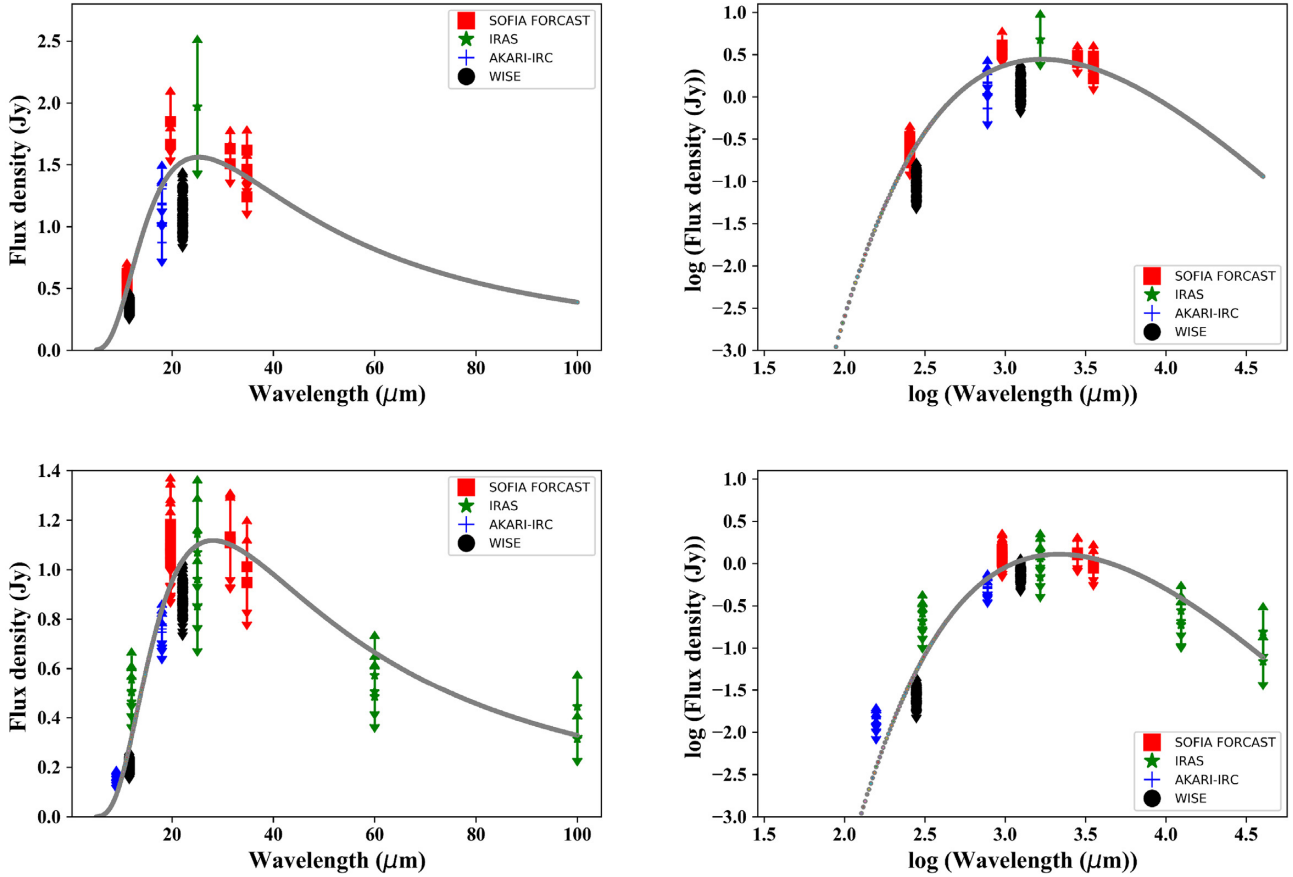
For completeness, we performed additional tests considering the alternative rotation period of 7.9121 h rotation period proposed in Warell (2017). Changing the rotation period in this manner had no impact on the results, showing no influence on the spin-size-albedo-TI solution. However, we find that the 11.9 h rotation period seems to explain the *WISE* data in a more consistent way.

We also investigated if ellipsoidal shape solutions with varying  $ab$  ratios (from 1.0 to 1.5) lead to better fits of all data. An improvement is seen only in the high-obliquity case (with the asteroid seen pole-on during *SOFIA* observations). Here, an axial ratio  $ab = 1.3$  pushes the  $\chi^2$  close to 1.0. However, the *WISE* light-curve data set (36 data points taken within 3.6 d in 2010 April) is still not very well matched. This points to a more complex shape solution. But if we accept this best-fitting pole-on spin-shape solution as baseline, then our radiometric solution provides the following values:

- (i) Effective diameter:  $72^{+3}_{-4}$  km.
- (ii) Geometric V-band albedo:  $0.039 \pm 0.02$ .
- (iii) Thermal inertia:  $10^{+20}_{-5} \text{ Jm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-0.5} \text{ K}^{-1}$ .

In Fig. 4, we show (in the upper panels) the degree to which the thermophysical model agrees with our observations, as a function of wavelength. Aside from the 100- $\mu\text{m}$  observations of (1911) Schubart made by *IRAS*, it is clear that, in general, the model and data are in good agreement. The observation-to-model ratios are well balanced over a wide range of wavelengths, phase angles, and rotational phases.

In the lower panels of Fig. 4, we plot the agreement between our thermophysical model and the gathered observational data against



**Figure 3.** Plot showing both the observations of (1162) Larissa (top) and (1911) Schubart (bottom) and the best-fitting thermophysical model obtained from those observations. The left plots show the data in linear space, with those on the right showing the same data in a log–log space. The observations are coloured to denote their source – with SOFIA observations shown as red squares, *IRAS* as green stars, *Akari* as blue plus marks, and *WISE* as black circles. For each observation, the vertical lines denote the  $1\sigma$  uncertainties. The thermophysical model is plotted in grey. The spectral energy distribution was calculated for the SOFIA/FORCAST epoch at light curve mid-point, with all the other fluxes scaled to these SOFIA/FORCAST epochs.

rotational phase. For both targets, there appears to be a remaining small variation in goodness of fit between our model and the data as a function of rotational phase. In general, there is still a significant scatter in the observational-to-model ratios, which lends further support to the idea that the two asteroids may well have more complex shapes. See the results of thermophysical modelling in Table 5.

## 5 DYNAMICAL MODELLING

To complement our study of the physical properties of (1162) Larissa and (1911) Schubart, we performed two detailed suites of  $N$ -body simulations to examine the long-term dynamical evolution of the two asteroids. For each asteroid, we used the Hybrid integrator within the  $N$ -body dynamics package MERCURY (Chambers 1999) to follow the evolution of a swarm of 61 875 test particles for a period of  $10^9$  yr, under the gravitational influence of the Sun, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune. An integration time-step of 60 d was used, and each individual particle was followed for the full  $10^9$ -yr duration of the simulations, unless it collided with one of the four giant planets, the Sun, or was ejected to a heliocentric distance of 1000 au.

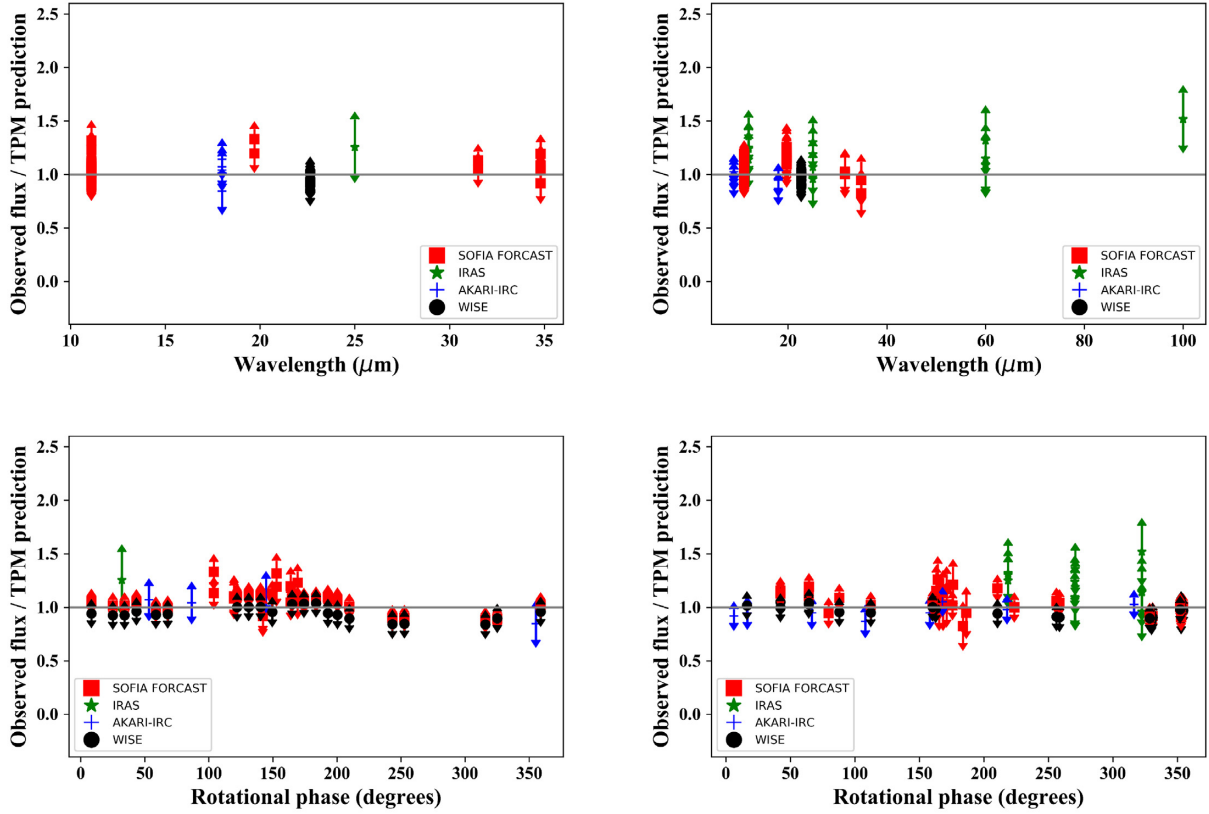
The test particles themselves were generated in a manner similar to that used in our earlier work (e.g. Horner & Lykawka 2010; Horner et al. 2012; Horner, Müller & Lykawka 2012), with ‘clones’ generated in a regular 4D grid spanning the full  $\pm 3\sigma$  uncertainties

in the objects semimajor axis,  $a$ , eccentricity,  $e$ , inclination,  $i$ , and mean anomaly,  $M$ . In total, 25 unique values of semimajor axis were tested. For each of these values, 15 unique values of eccentricity were examined, creating a  $25 \times 15$  grid in  $a - e$  space. For each  $a - e$  ordinate, 15 unique inclination values were tested – with 11 unique mean anomalies being considered for each individual  $a - e$  ordinate. In this way, we generated a four-dimensional hypercube of test particles, distributed on an even lattice, with dimensions  $(25 \times 15 \times 15 \times 11)$  in  $(a, e, i, M)$  space. The initial orbital elements for the two Hildas used as the basis for our integrations, along with their associated uncertainties, are detailed in Table 6.

In stark contrast to our previous studies of resonant Solar system small bodies (Horner & Lykawka 2010; Horner et al. 2012, 2012), both (1162) Larissa and (1911) Schubart proved to exhibit staggering dynamical stability. Over the course of our simulations, not a single clone of either object escaped from the Hilda population. Over time, the test particles did diffuse to fill the entirety of the ‘Hildan Triangle’ – the striking feature in plan view of the Solar system occupied by the Hildas (as shown in Fig. 5) – but none became sufficiently excited to escape that population.

The extreme stability of the two Hildas argues towards them being primordial, rather than captured objects. It stands as an interesting contrast to the dynamical evolution of objects studied in a similar manner in the Jovian and Neptunian Trojan populations – all of





**Figure 4.** The degree to which the thermophysical models agree with the observations can be demonstrated by taking the observed flux and dividing it by the predicted values. Here, we show the degree to which the observations and model agree for (1162) Larissa (left) and (1911) Schubart (right). The upper panels show the agreement between the model and observations as a function of wavelength, whilst the lower panel plots the agreement instead as a function of rotational phase for the two asteroids. As in Fig. 3, the observations are coloured to denote which instrument obtained them. In general, the observations and model are in good agreement, albeit with noticeable scatter at any given wavelength.

**Table 5.** Results of thermophysical modelling for (1162) Larissa and for (1911) Schubart. This table collates data from Tedesco et al. (2004), Usui et al. (2011), Grav et al. (2012), Nugent et al. (2015), (Alf-Lagoa & Delbo 2017), and De Prá et al. (2018).

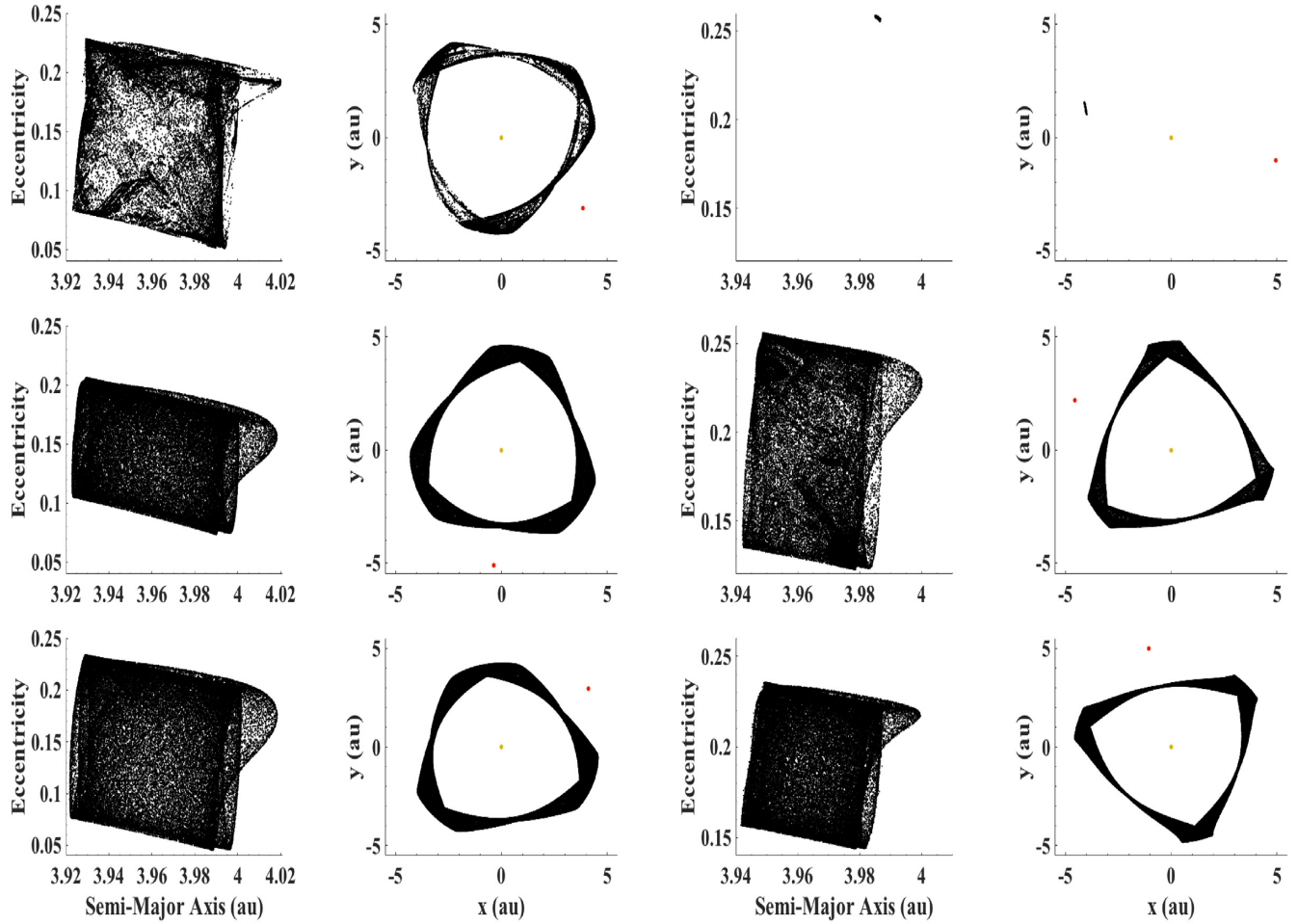
Variables	(1162) Larissa		(1911) Schubart	
	Published data	Current research	Published data	Current research
Effective diameter (km)	40.38–52.16	$46.5^{+2.3}_{-1.7}$	64.66–92.37	$72^{+3}_{-4}$
Geometric albedo in V band	0.102–0.186	$0.12 \pm 0.02$	0.022–0.04	$0.039 \pm 0.05$
Thermal inertia ( $\text{Jm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-0.5} \text{K}^{-1}$ )	No value	$15^{+10}_{-8}$	No value	$10^{+20}_{-5}$

which exhibit some degree of instability (e.g. Levison, Shoemaker & Shoemaker 1997; Marzari & Scholl 2002; Horner & Lykawka 2010; Horner et al. 2012, 2012; Di Sisto, Ramos & Gallardo 2019; Holt et al. 2020). Given the extreme stability of these two objects, it seems reasonable to suggest that future studies of the migration of the giant planets and their impact on the Solar system’s young small body populations should examine whether those models can replicate such tightly captured objects moving on dynamically cold orbits in the Hilda region.

## 6 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

In this work, we have presented a detailed thermophysical and dynamical analysis of the Hilda asteroids, (1162) Larissa, and (1911)

Schubart, using observations made using the FORCAST instrument on the SOFIA airborne observatory on 2011 June 4 and June 8, supplemented by archival data from the *IRAS*, *AKARI*, and *WISE* space observatories. Our dynamical simulations reveal both Hildas to exhibit extreme dynamical stability, with not a single one of the 61 875 clones generated of each object escaping from the Hilda region in the  $10^9$  yr of our integrations. This finding is strongly suggestive that the two objects are primordial in nature, rather than having been captured, since objects in populations that are widely accepted to have been captured during the Solar system’s youth tend to exhibit dynamical instability to some degree (e.g. Levison et al. 1997; Marzari & Scholl 2002; Horner & Lykawka 2010; Horner et al. 2012; Horner et al. 2012; Di Sisto et al. 2019; Holt et al. 2020).



**Figure 5.** The dispersion of a suite of 61 875 clones of (1162) Larissa (left two columns) and (1911) Schubart (right two columns). The top row shows the clones after 10 Myr of integration time have elapsed, the central row shows them after 100 Myr, and the lower row shows them after 1 Gyr, at the end of our simulations. For each object, the left-hand column shows the clones in semimajor axis-eccentricity space, whilst the right shows them in plan view, looking down at the Solar system from above. In the plan view plots, the yellow point at the centre denotes the location of the Sun, whilst the red dot shows the location of Jupiter at the instant the clones are plotted. Whilst the clones of both (1162) Larissa and (1911) Schubart take some time to disperse, it is noticeable that the clones of (1911) Schubart do so more slowly, and over a smaller distance in orbital element space.

Our thermophysical analysis of the two Hildas reveals that both asteroids have non-spherical shapes, with the physical properties we derive on the basis of our analysis being in broad agreement with previously published values, albeit with markedly reduced uncertainties (see Table 5).

For (1162) Larissa, the geometric  $V$ -band albedo we obtained ( $0.12 \pm 0.02$ ) is in close agreement with the  $0.127 \pm 0.009$  given by Usui et al. (2011). It does not, however, agree with the values of  $0.169 \pm 0.012$  and  $0.186 \pm 0.03$  given by De Prá et al. (2018) and Grav et al. (2012). Despite this, our results confirm that (1162) Larissa is amongst the most reflective Hildas, whose mean albedo (0.055) is markedly darker (De Prá et al. 2018). In this sense, it sounds reasonable to have slightly different values regarding surveys that use another infrared wavelengths to study asteroids and thus may under or overestimate the geometric albedo, making valuable the effort for making use of instrumentation such as FORCAST operating at 3–50  $\mu\text{m}$ , which spans the wavelength range of peak thermal emission from asteroids (Harris & Lagerros 2002; Emery, Cruikshank & Van Cleve 2006). Our results yield a refined value for the effective diameter of (1162) Larissa of  $46.5^{+2.3}_{-1.7}$  km, a measurement that sits close to the centre of the range of previously published diameters,

spanning 40.38–48.59 km (Tedesco et al. 2004; Usui et al. 2011; Nugent et al. 2015).

Our thermophysical analysis of (1911) Schubart proved more challenging, as a result of having to discard a number of our images of the asteroid. When our observations are taken in concert with those obtained by *WISE*, we find better agreement with the longer rotation period of 11.915 h proposed in (Warell 2017), rather than the short 7.9-h period also presented in that work. By incorporating that longer period into our analysis, we obtain a geometric  $V$ -band albedo for (1911) Schubart of  $0.039 \pm 0.05$ , which is in agreement with the mean value of 0.035 presented by Grav et al. (2012) and Nugent et al. (2015). This confirms that (1911) Schubart is an unusually dark asteroid, amongst the least reflective objects known in the Solar system. Indeed, this outcome is in strong agreement with the work of Romanishin & Tegler (2018), who state that (1911) Schubart dynamical family as a whole is 30 per cent darker than the bulk of the Hilda population outside that family. Our results yield an effective diameter for (1911) Schubart of  $72^{+3}_{-4}$  km. This result is once again in broad agreement with those published in the literature, which range between 64.66 and 92.37 km (Tedesco et al. 2004; Usui et al. 2011; Nugent et al. 2015).

**Table 6.** Orbital elements, and their associated uncertainties, for (1162) Larissa and (1911) Schubart, as taken from the AstDys data base on 2012 January 12.

Variables	1162 Larissa		1911 Schubart	
	Best-fitting value	1 $\sigma$ uncertainty	Best-fitting value	1 $\sigma$ uncertainty
Semimajor axis (au)	3.9234	$5.092 \times 10^{-8}$	3.978 85	$4.723 \times 10^{-8}$
Eccentricity	0.110524	$6.291 \times 10^{-8}$	0.165 839	$6.74 \times 10^{-8}$
Inclination ( $^{\circ}$ )	1.888	$6.972 \times 10^{-6}$	1.651	$7.72 \times 10^{-6}$
$\omega$ ( $^{\circ}$ )	39.791	$1.825 \times 10^{-4}$	285.447	$2.269 \times 10^{-4}$
$\Omega$ ( $^{\circ}$ )	212.222	$1.847 \times 10^{-4}$	183.727	$2.282 \times 10^{-4}$
Mean anomaly ( $^{\circ}$ )	59.024	$3.447 \times 10^{-5}$	246.572	$2.093 \times 10^{-5}$

Our thermophysical analysis also enabled us to determine the thermal inertias of the two Hilda asteroids we studied. That analysis yielded values of  $15_{-8}^{+10} \text{ Jm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-0.5} \text{ K}^{-1}$  for (1162) Larissa and  $10_{-5}^{+20} \text{ Jm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-0.5} \text{ K}^{-1}$  for (1911) Schubart. These results lie within the broad range of values given by Müller & Lagerros (1998) in their study of a number of the largest main-belt asteroids, whose thermal inertias were found to range between 5 and  $25 \text{ Jm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-0.5} \text{ K}^{-1}$ , and stand in stark contrast to the outliers found in previous studies of inner main belt asteroids, such as (306) Unitas, which yielded values as high as  $260 \text{ Jm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-0.5} \text{ K}^{-1}$ , and (277) Elvira, with values reaching  $400 \text{ Jm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-0.5} \text{ K}^{-1}$  (Delbo et al. 2015).

Flux variations in the thermal measurements provide some evidence that (1911) Schubart has an elongated shape since the spherical one produces significant variations in the observation-divided-by-model plot which seem to correlate with the most-likely rotation period. Future improved spin-shape solution might resolve this issue and will allow to refine the radiometric solutions for both Hildas.

It is interesting that the two asteroids studied, (1162) Larissa and (1911) Schubart, are similar in size and thermal inertia, but so different in terms of albedo. Indeed, they seem to mark extremes in the observed properties of the Hildas – with (1162) Larissa being unusually reflective, and (1911) Schubart particularly dark.

These albedo values motivate us to review the taxonomy of both asteroids; the P-type assigned to (1162) Larissa in the (LCDB)<sup>8</sup> and JPL<sup>9</sup> is not in tune with its low thermal inertia of  $15_{-8}^{+10} \text{ Jm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-0.5} \text{ K}^{-1}$ , suggesting a clear difference in physical nature compared to the P-type low albedo (1911) Schubart and its  $10_{-5}^{+20} \text{ Jm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-0.5} \text{ K}^{-1}$ .

Romanishin & Tegler (2018) suggest that the (1911) Schubart family are interlopers to the Hilda region. The low albedo we obtain from our observations supports the idea that (1911) Schubart is physically somewhat different to the other Hildas – but the question remains of whether those differences are the result of the collision that formed the (1911) Schubart family, or are instead indicative that the parent of the family is an interloper in the Hilda region. Our dynamical results reveal that (1911) Schubart is extremely firmly embedded in the Hilda population, trapped securely in 3:2 mean-motion resonance with Jupiter – a result that seems hard to reconcile with its having been captured to the population after the bulk had already formed. This result is potentially supported by the similarity between the thermal inertias of the two objects – suggesting that the divergent albedos are the result of processes that have occurred through the lifetime of the objects, rather than being indicative of their having markedly different origins.

It is clear that further study is needed before we can conclusively determine whether any or all of the Hildas are captured objects, rather than having formed *in situ*. The origin of the Hildas is still an open and crucial question, and it seems likely that the answer to that question will shed new light on the formation and evolution of the Solar system as a whole.

*Facilities:* SOFIA (FORCAST).

*Software:* ASTROPY (Astropy Collaboration 2013, 2018), NUMPY (Oliphant 2006; van der Walt, Colbert & Varoquaux 2011), MATPLOTLIB (Hunter 2007), and MERCURY (Chambers 1999).

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This research is mainly based on observations taken by the NASA/DLR SOFIA airborne telescope. SOFIA is jointly operated by the Universities Space Research Association, Inc. (USRA, NASA contract NAS2-97001), and the Deutsches SOFIA Institut (DSI) under DLR contract 50 OK 0901, to the University of Stuttgart. This work has made use of the NASA/JPL Solar System Dynamics page, at <https://ssd.jpl.nasa.gov/>. It has also made use of the AstDys database, at <https://newton.spacedys.com/astdys/index.php?pc=3.0>, and NASA’s Astrophysics Data System, ADS. Also, this research made use of ASTROPY, a community-developed core PYTHON package for Astronomy, PHOTUTILS, an affiliated package of ASTROPY for detecting and performing photometry of astronomical source, Aperture Photometry Tool (APT), a software created to perform simple and effective aperture photometry analyses, and SAOImageDS9 for visualizing FITS images.

TM has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme, under Grant Agreement No. 687378, as part of the project ‘Small Bodies Near and Far’ (SBNF). JPM acknowledges research support by the Ministry of Science and Technology of Taiwan under grants MOST104-2628-M-001-004-MY3, MOST107-2119-M-001-031-MY3, and MOST109-2112-M-001-036-MY3, and Academia Sinica under grant AS-IA-106-M03.

CCh wishes to acknowledge the fruitful discussions in the field of Infrared Astronomy with Dr. Felipe Barrientos.

The authors wish to thank the anonymous referee, whose comments helped to improve the flow and clarity of this work.

## DATA AVAILABILITY

The data underlying this article will be shared on reasonable request to the corresponding author.

## REFERENCES

- Adams J. D. et al., 2010, *Proc. SPIE*, 77351U, 7735  
 Alí-Lagoa V., Delbo M., 2017, *A&A*, 603, A55

<sup>8</sup>Asteroid light curve data base at <http://www.minorplanet.info/PHP/lcdbsummaryquery.php>, accessed on 20th March 2020.

<sup>9</sup>NASA/JPL small-body data base at <https://ssd.jpl.nasa.gov/sbdb.cgi>, accessed on 20th March 2020.

- Asphaug E., Reufer A., 2014, *Nat. Geosci.*, 7, 564
- Astropy Collaboration, 2013, *A&A*, 558, A33
- Astropy Collaboration, 2018, *AJ*, 156, 123
- Benz W., Anic A., Horner J., Whitby J. A., 2007, *Space Sci. Rev.*, 132, 189
- Bottke W. F., Durda D. D., Nesvorný D., Jedicke R., Morbidelli A., Vokrouhlický D., Levison H. F., 2005, *Icarus*, 179, 63
- Bradley L. et al., 2016, *Astrophysics Source Code Library*, record ascl:1609.011
- Brož M., Vokrouhlický D., 2008, *MNRAS*, 390, 715
- Cameron A. G. W., Benz W., 1991, *Icarus*, 92, 204
- Canup R. M., 2004, *Icarus*, 168, 433
- Canup R. M., 2012, *Science*, 338, 1052
- Chambers J. E., 1999, *MNRAS*, 304, 793
- Cibulková H. et al., 2018, *A&A*, 611, A86
- Dahlgren M., et al., 1998, *Icarus*, 133, 247
- Dahlgren M., Lahulla J. F., Lagerkvist C. I., 1999, *Icarus*, 138, 259
- De Prá M. N., Pinilla-Alonso N., Carvano J. M., Licandro J., Campins H., Mothé-Diniz T., De León J., Alí-Lagoa V., 2018, *Icarus*, 311, 35
- Delbo M., Müller M., Emery J. P., Rozitis B., Capria M. T., 2015, *Asteroids IV*. University of Arizona Press, Tucson, USA
- DeMeo F. E., Carry B., 2013, *Icarus*, 226, 723
- DeMeo F. E., Carry B., 2014, *Nature*, 505, 629
- de Pater I., Lissauer J., 2015, *Planetary Sciences*. Cambridge Univ. Press, Cambridge, UK
- Di Sisto R. P., Ramos X. S., Gallardo T., 2019, *Icarus*, 319, 828
- Emery J. P., Cruikshank D. P., Van Cleve J., 2006, *Icarus*, 182, 496
- Gil-Hutton R., Brunini A., 2008, *Icarus*, 193
- Gomes R., Levison H. F., Tsiganis K., Morbidelli A., 2005, *Nature*, 435, 466
- Grav T. et al., 2012, *ApJ*, 744, 197
- Greenfield P. et al., 2013, *Astrophysics Source Code Library*, record ascl:1304.002
- Harris A. W., Lagerros J. S. V., 2002, *Asteroids III*. University of Arizona Press, Tucson, USA
- Heinrich V., 1907, *Astron. Nachr.*, 176, 193
- Herter T. L. et al., 2012, *ApJ*, 749, L18
- Herter T. L. et al., 2013, *PASP*, 125, 1393
- Hinrichs J. L., Lucey P. G., Robinson M. S., Meibom A., Krot A. N., 1999, *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 26, 1661
- Holt T. R. et al., 2020, *MNRAS*
- Horner J., Jones B. W., 2008, *Int. J. Astrobiol.*, 7, 251
- Horner J., Lykawka P. S., 2010, *MNRAS*, 405, 49
- Horner J., Mousis O., Petit J. M., Jones B. W., 2009, *Planet. Space Sci.*, 57, 1338
- Horner J., Müller T. G., Lykawka P. S., 2012, *MNRAS*, 423
- Horner J., Lykawka P. S., Bannister M. T., Francis P., 2012, *MNRAS*, 422, 2145
- Horner J. et al., 2020, *PASP*, 132, 102001
- Hunter J. D., 2007, *Comput. Sci. Eng.*, 9, 90
- Joye W. A., Mandel E., 2003, in Payne H. E., Jedrzejewski R. I., Hook R. N., eds, *ASP Conf. Ser. Vol. 295, Astronomical Data Analysis Software and Systems XII*. Astron. Soc. Pac., San Francisco, p. 489
- Kaasalainen M., Torppa J., 2001, *Icarus*, 153
- Lagerros J. S. V., 1996, *A&A*, 315, 625
- Lagerros J. S. V., 1997, *A&A*, 325, 1226
- Lagerros J. S. V., 1998, *A&A*, 332, 1123
- Laher R. R., Gorjian V., Rebull L. M., Masci F. J., Fowler J. W., Helou G., Kulkarni S. R., Law N. M., 2012, *PASP*, 124, 737
- Levison H. F., Shoemaker E. M., Shoemaker C. S., 1997, *Nature*, 385, 42
- Levison H. F., Morbidelli A., Van Laerhoven C., Gomes R., Tsiganis K., 2008, *Icarus*, 196, 258
- Lykawka P. S., Horner J., Jones B. W., Mukai T., 2009, *MNRAS*, 398, 1715
- Lykawka P. S., Horner J., Jones B. W., Mukai T., 2010, *MNRAS*, 404, 1272
- Lykawka P. S., Horner J., Jones B. W., Mukai T., 2011, *MNRAS*, 412, 537
- Mainzer A. et al., 2011, *ApJ*, 731, 53
- Marzari F., Scholl H., 2002, *Icarus*, 159, 328
- Milani A., Knežević Z., Spoto F., Cellino A., Novaković B., Tsirvoulis G., 2017, *Icarus*, 288, 240
- Minton D. A., Malhotra R., 2011, *ApJ*, 732, 53
- Morbidelli A., Chambers J., Lunine J. I., Petit J. M., Robert F., Valsecchi G. B., Cyr K. E., 2000, *Meteorit. Planet. Sci.*, 35, 1309
- Morbidelli A., Levison H. F., Tsiganis K., Gomes R., 2005, *Nature*, 435, 462
- Müller T. G., Lagerros J. S. V., 1998, *A&A*, 338, 340
- Müller T. G., Lagerros J. S. V., 2002, *A&A*, 381, 324
- Nesvorný D., 2018, *ARA&A*, 56, 137
- Nesvorný D., Vokrouhlický D., Morbidelli A., 2013, *ApJ*, 768, 45
- Nesvorný D., Vokrouhlický D., Bottke W. F., Levison H. F., 2018, *Nat. Astron.*, 2, 878
- Nugent C. R. et al., 2015, *ApJ*, 814, 117
- Oliphant T., 2006, *Guide to NumPy*. Trelgol Publishing, USA
- Oszkiewicz D. A., Bowell E., Wasserman L. H., Muinonen K., Penttilä A., Pieniluoma T., Trilling D. E., Thomas C. A., 2011, *EPSC-DPS Joint Meeting 2011*. Nantes, France, p. 1539
- Pirani S., Johansen A., Bitsch B., Mustill A. J., Turrini D., 2019, *A&A*, 623, A169
- Ricker G. R. et al., 2014, *Proc. SPIE*, 9143, 914320
- Roig F., Nesvorný D., 2015, *AJ*, 150, 186
- Romanishin V., Tegler S. C., 2018, *AJ*, 156, 19
- Slyusarev I. G., Shevchenko V. G., Belskaya I. N., Krugly Y. N., Chiorny V. G., 2013, *Astron. Sch. Rep.*, 9, 75
- Spratt C. E., 1989, *J. R. Astron. Soc. Can.*, 83, 393
- Stephens R. D., 2016, *Minor Planet Bulletin*, 43, 336
- Strom R. G., Malhotra R., Ito T., Yoshida F., Kring D. A., 2005, *Science*, 309, 1847
- Strömgren E., 1908, *Astron. Nachr.*, 177, 123
- Szabó G. M. et al., 2020, *ApJS*, 247, 34
- Szákáts R., Müller T., Alí-Lagoa V., Marton G., Farkas-Takács A., Bányai E., Kiss C., 2020, *A&A*, 635, A54
- Tedesco E. F., 1986, in Lagerkvist C. I., Rickman H., Lindblad B. A., Lundstedt H., eds, *Proceedings of a meeting (AMC 85), Asteroids, Comets, Meteors II*. Uppsala University, Sweden
- Tedesco E. F., Noah P. V., Noah M., Price S. D., 2004, *NASA Planetary Data System*, IRAS-A-FPA-3-RDR-IMPS-V6.0
- Terai T., Yoshida F., 2018, *AJ*, 156, 30
- Tsiganis K., Gomes R., Morbidelli A., Levison H. F., 2005, *Nature*, 435, 459
- Usui F. et al., 2011, *PASJ*, 63, 1117
- van der Walt S., Colbert S. C., Varoquaux G., 2011, *Comput. Sci. Eng.*, 13, 22
- Walsh K. J., Morbidelli A., Raymond S. N., O'Brien D. P., Mandell A. M., 2011, *Nature*, 475, 206
- Warell J., 2017, *Minor Planet Bull.*, 44, 304
- Warner B. D., Stephens R. D., 2017, *Minor Planet Bull.*, 44, 220
- Warner B. D., Harris A. W., Pravec P., 2009, *Icarus*, 202, 134
- Wolf M., 1907, *Astron. Nachr.*, 174, 47
- Wong I., Brown M. E., Emery J. P., 2017, *AJ*, 154, 104
- Yoshida F., Terai T., Ito T., Ohtsuki K., Lykawka P. S., Hiroi T., Takato N., 2019, *Planet. Space Sci.*, 169, 78

This paper has been typeset from a  $\text{\LaTeX}$  file prepared by the author.