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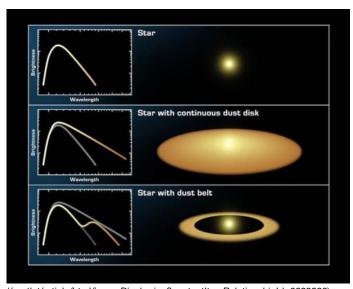


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Star par **Star parity** do **hear about Infrared** tp://www.eptrail.com/news/ci_27602324/star-party-to-hear-ab... Estes Park Local Guide (http://mylocal.eptrail.com/)

For the Trail-Gazette

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Charts depicting measurements of infrared light.

"Infrared Excess" is the subject of this month's Estes Valley Astronomical Society (EVAS) meeting. EVAS and The Estes Park Memorial Observatory (EPMO) welcome the public to attend the free public star night at 1600 Manford Ave, just North of Estes Park High School on Saturday, Feb. 28. Doors open at 7 p.m., and the lecture starts about 7:30 p.m.

The guest speaker for this public star night will be Caden Brown, an exceptional sophomore high school student from Estes Park. He, and his two local team members, Aspen Turner and Ted Dumont, worked with a scientist from NASA and Caltech over this past year to produce a new catalog of objects with an unusual energy/light signature, referred to as Infrared Excess (IRXS).

IRXS is a rare light signature in which an object emits light with two peaks in intensity, one in the longer infrared wavelengths. This is very unusual, being exhibited by only a few celestial objects. The four types of objects that can create this type of light signature include: young stellar objects surrounded by either a disc or belt of dust (i.e., stars with planets), active galactic nuclei (Pulsars and Quasars) that are feeding on in-falling matter, galaxies that interact gravitationally with neighboring galaxies and small old dying stars which expel shells of gas away from their collapsing cores.



IRXS.

Caden and his team closely examined about a hundred of the most extreme and unusual candidates to confirm the identity of seventy-six (76) never before studied sources of Infrared Excess. This work will pave the way to future research for radio astronomers who do not have access to a precise, space telescope that images in the Infrared. The team has made a lasting contribution to the ever-evolving world of cutting-edge professional astrophysical research. This work is not yet done. In addition to explaining this project, Caden will also introduce his goals for continued studies of

Public star nights are held the fourth Saturday of each month. No reservations are necessary for these nights. Just show up and enjoy an astronomical topic and (with some cooperation from the clouds) a bit of observing afterwards. The mission of EVAS is to provide free programing and events in support of our goal of promoting amateur astronomy and education in the Estes valley.

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