Scientific rationale

Fuors: low-mass pre-main sequence stars exhibiting outbursts in optical light of ~5 mag

Outbursts are due to enhanced accretion from circumstellar disc onto the star

Parsamian 21 is a unique FUor: it is surrounded by an edge-on disc → ideal case to study disc structure



Simple source model



Very oblate elliptical disc oriented E-W

Expected E–W size at 10 μ m: few AU (~10 mas at a distance of 400 pc)

Immediate objective

Measure the size of the midinfrared emitting region

Measure the wavelengthdependence of the fitted sizes

Measure the optical depth of the 10 μm silicate feature and derive precise extinction for the target

Use the determined parameters in disc modelling

Requested configuration

MIDI on UT1-UT3

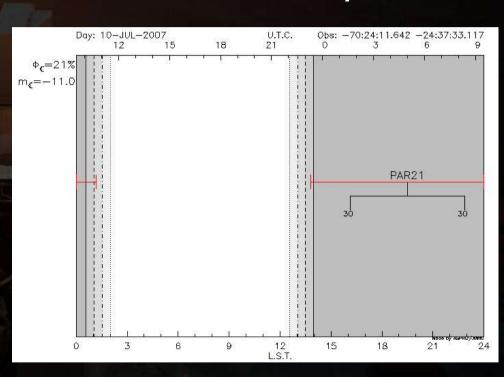
1 visibility measurement at 0 hour angle (1h of obs.)

Spectrally resolved visibilities in the N band (8–13 μ m)

Spectral resolution: low (PRISM mode)

Beam combiner: HIGH_SENS

Technical feasibility



Preferred date of observation:

JUN-JUL-AUG 2007 (P79)

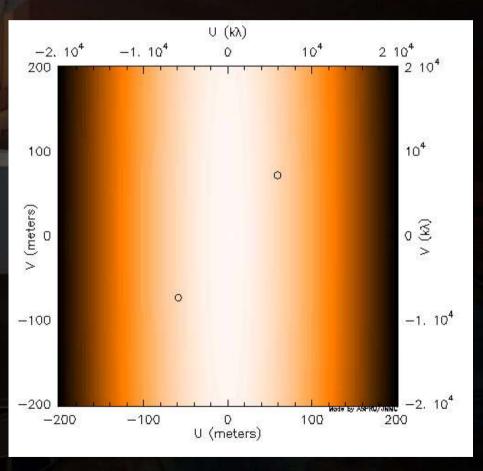
Technical feasibility

Source brightness:

N=3.7 mag (Cohen 1974)
Observable with MIDI
in low spectral resolution
in HIGH_SENS mode

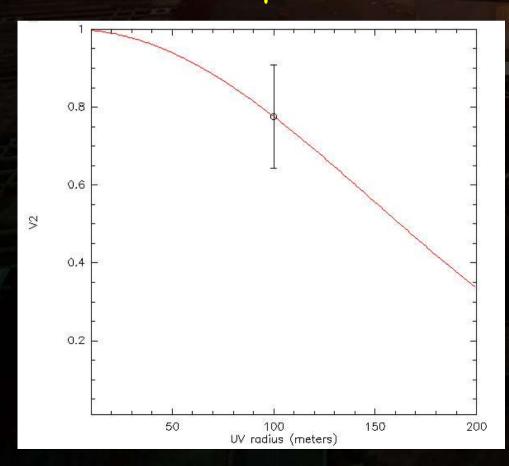
V=12 mag (estimated from USNO)
The source is bright enough for MACAO

Source model: elliptical disc



Technical feasibility

Expected visibilities: V^2 ~ 0.8 at 10 µm



Calibrators:

Name: HD184406

Spec. type: K3III

Brightness: N=2.0 mag

Visibility: V^2=0.97

Dist. to sci. target: 2.5°

Name: HD179987

Spec. Type: K2

Brightness: N=2.1 mag

Visibility: $V^2=0.99$

Dist. to sci. Target: 4.2°