Characterisation of the inner region of three debris discs with AMBER

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Scientific motivations

• Detecting the signature of hot dust around three bright Vega-type stars (70 Vir, G Lup and HD 207129).

- What's a Vega-type star?
 - ✓ Significant IR luminosity excess (Spitzer, IRAS).
 - ✓ About 15% of the ma
- Appropriate targets to test

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3" occultation (\approx 50 AU)

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Hubble (ACS)



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Interferometry with AMBER

 $0.011^{\prime\prime}$ resolution ($\approx 0.2 \text{ AU}$)



Scientific motivations

- Already observed Vega-type stars with their measured flux ratios:
 - ✓ Vega: 1.29 ± 0.19%
 - ✓ τ Cet : 0.98 ± 0.21%
 - ✓ ε Eri : < 0.6%
 - ✓ β Leo: 2.06 ± 0.79%

(Absil et al., A&A, 2006) (Di Folco et al., A&A, 2007) (Di Folco et al., A&A, 2007) (see Akeson talk)

• Aim of the proposal: extending the study to the 3 following targets

Stars	Туре	Dist [pc]	Vmag	Kmag	Age	Ldisk/Lsta	Reference
70 Vir	G2.5V	18.1	5.00	3.25	5.4G	1E-05	Bryden et al. 2006
G Lup	F5V	17.5	4.64	3.66	200M	1.3E-04	Chen et al. 2006
HD 207129	G2V	15.6	5.58	4.14	40M-6G	1.4E-04	Chavero et al. 2006

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Observation strategy

• Obtaining visibility measurements at short baselines (host star unresolved).



- Why AMBER?
 - Appropriate angular resolution on EO-GO-HO;
 - Good dynamic range ;
 - Good wavelength range (substantial emission in the near-infrared).

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- Maximum resolution of AMBER insufficient to resolve the target stars
- Use of surface brightness technique (Kervella et al. 2004)

What about the u,v plane?

• The central stars are unresolved \Rightarrow V \approx 1



Observation window

- Observation constraints:
 - ✓ 1 calibrated triplet of visibilities with AMBER = 1h30;
 - ✓ Standard accuracy of AMBER = 2-5%;
 - ✓ Desired accuracy \approx 1%;
 - ✓ Required time per target = $6 \times 1h30 = 9h$;
 - ✓ 3 asked nights.
- Targets observable at the same time from 15 May to 15 June



Calibrators

- Ideal calibrators properties:
 - Small angular distance
 - Observable at the same time
 - Unresolved withour baselines
 - Similar magnitude than the target star
 - Same spectral type as the target star
- In practice we have relaxed the spectral type constraint

Target	Calibrator
70 VIR	HD114889
G LUP	HD137730
HD207129	HD204960

QUESTIONS ?