

# GRAVITY: Microarcsecond Astrometry and Deep Interferometric Imaging with the VLT

- Introduction: The supermassive black hole at the GC
- Observe supermassive black hole with dedicated VLTI  
Instrument: GRAVITY
- Instrument concept
- Schedule



# Introduction: The Galactic Center - a Success Story in Angular Resolution

2008: Shaw Prize for R. Genzel

# SgrA\*

$R/R_s$

1000

100

10

TeV  $\gamma$ -  
source

SgrA\*

2r  
5

5

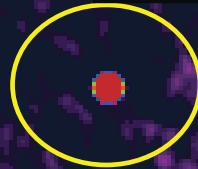
1.6'

$\lambda$ (cm)

4 light  
months

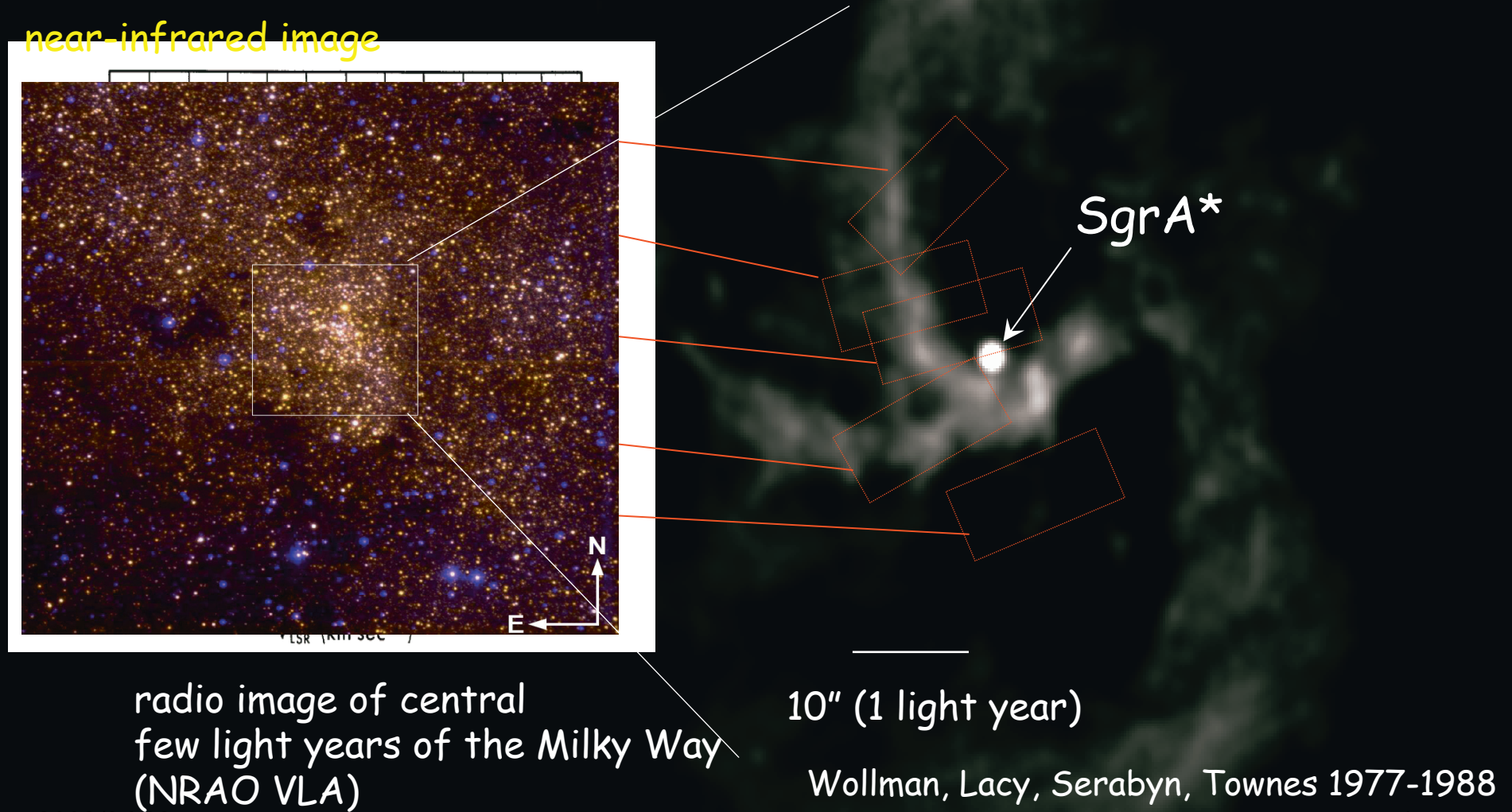
$v \leq 20$  km/s

(50  $\mu$ arcseconds/year !)



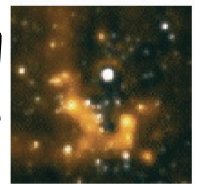
Backer & Sramek 1996, Bower et al. 2003, 2005, Reid & Brunthaler 2004, Shen et al. 2005, Baganoff et al. 2001, 2003, Aharonian et al. 2004-06, Bartko et al. 2007

# Early Evidence for a Central Mass Concentration in the Galactic Center

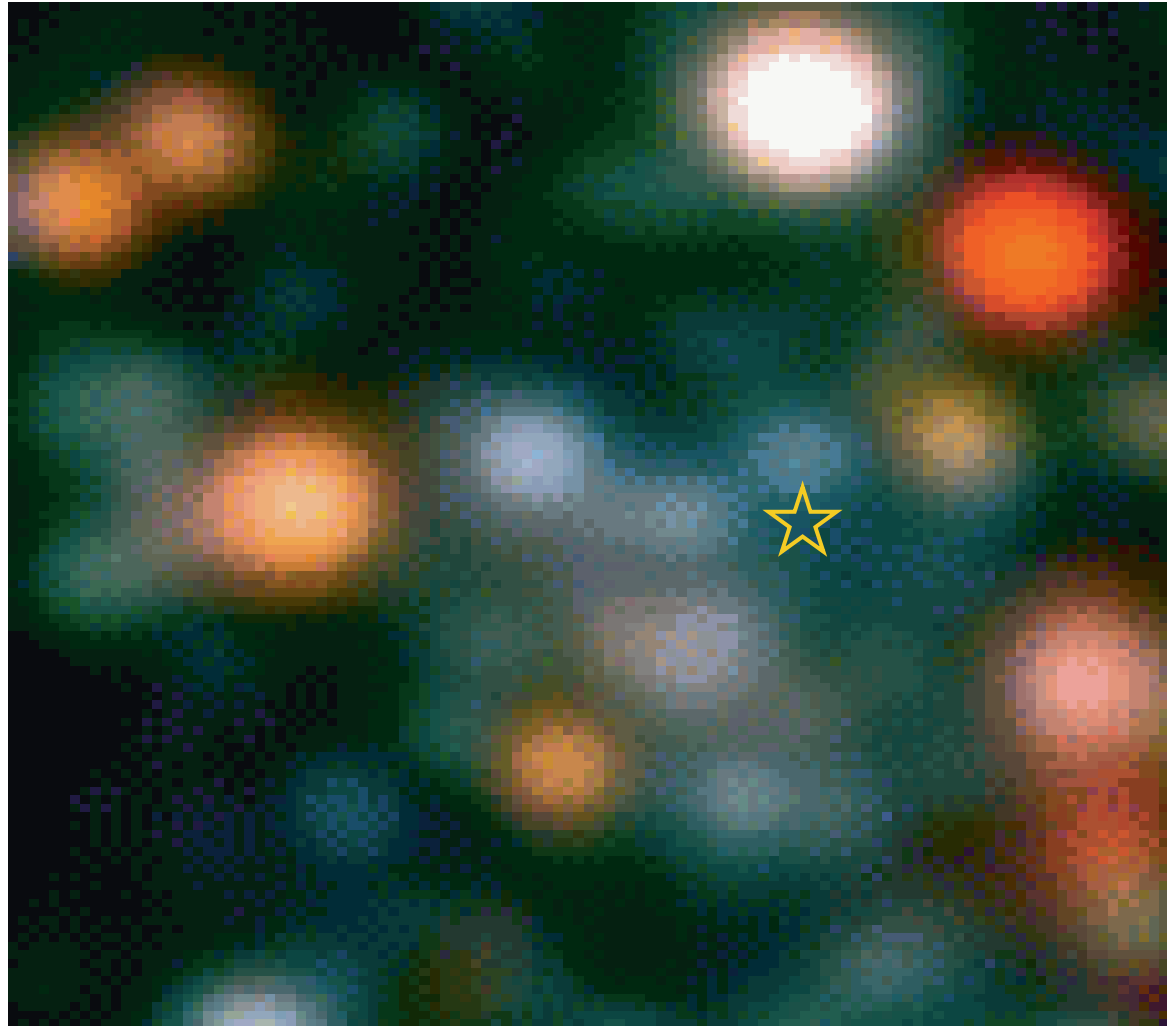




# Pre 1992: IR Seeing limited

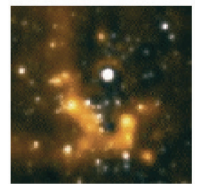


10" ( 1 light year )

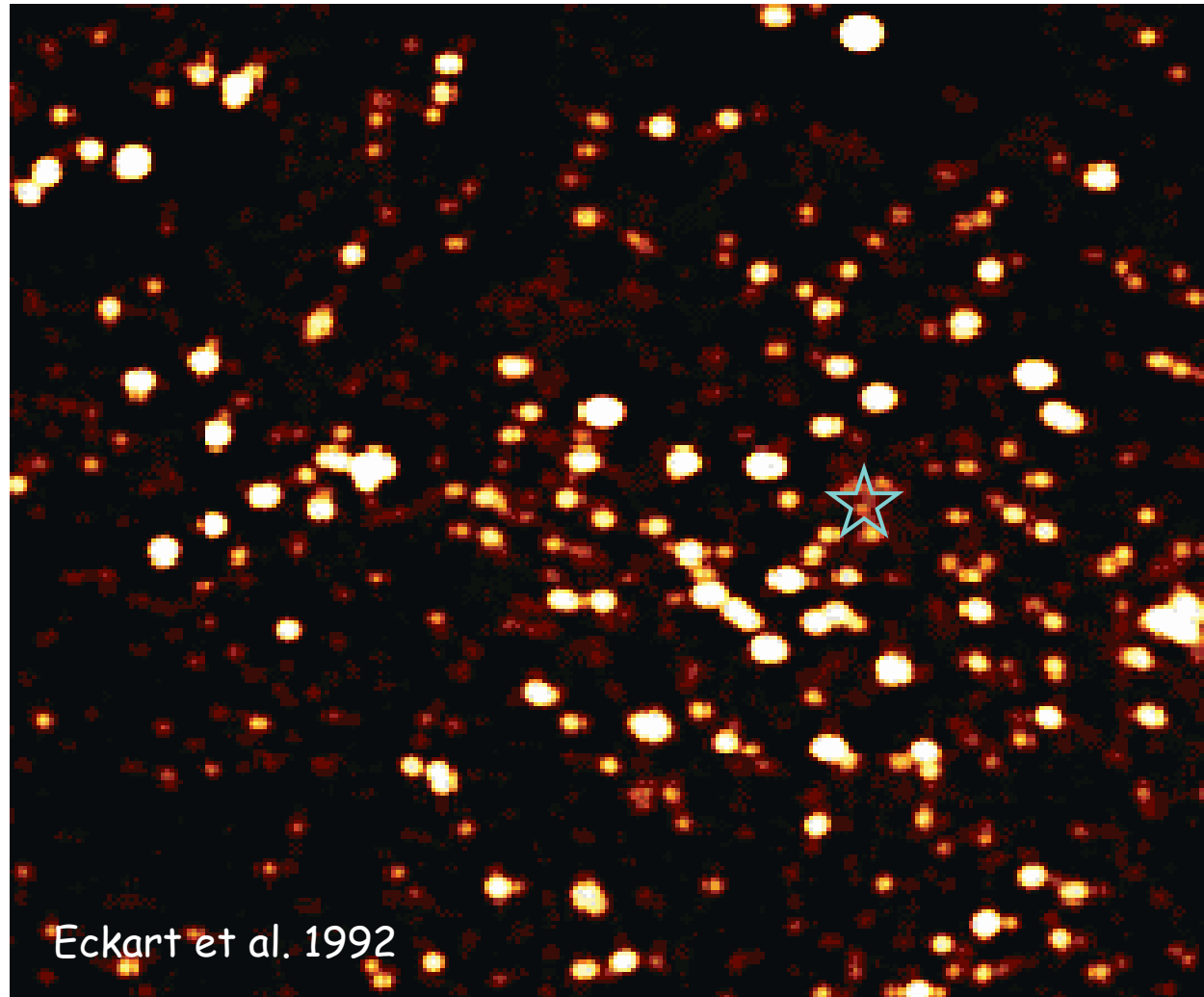




# 1992: IR Speckle Imaging

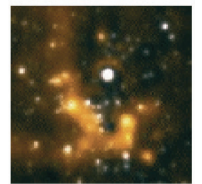


10" ( 1 light year )

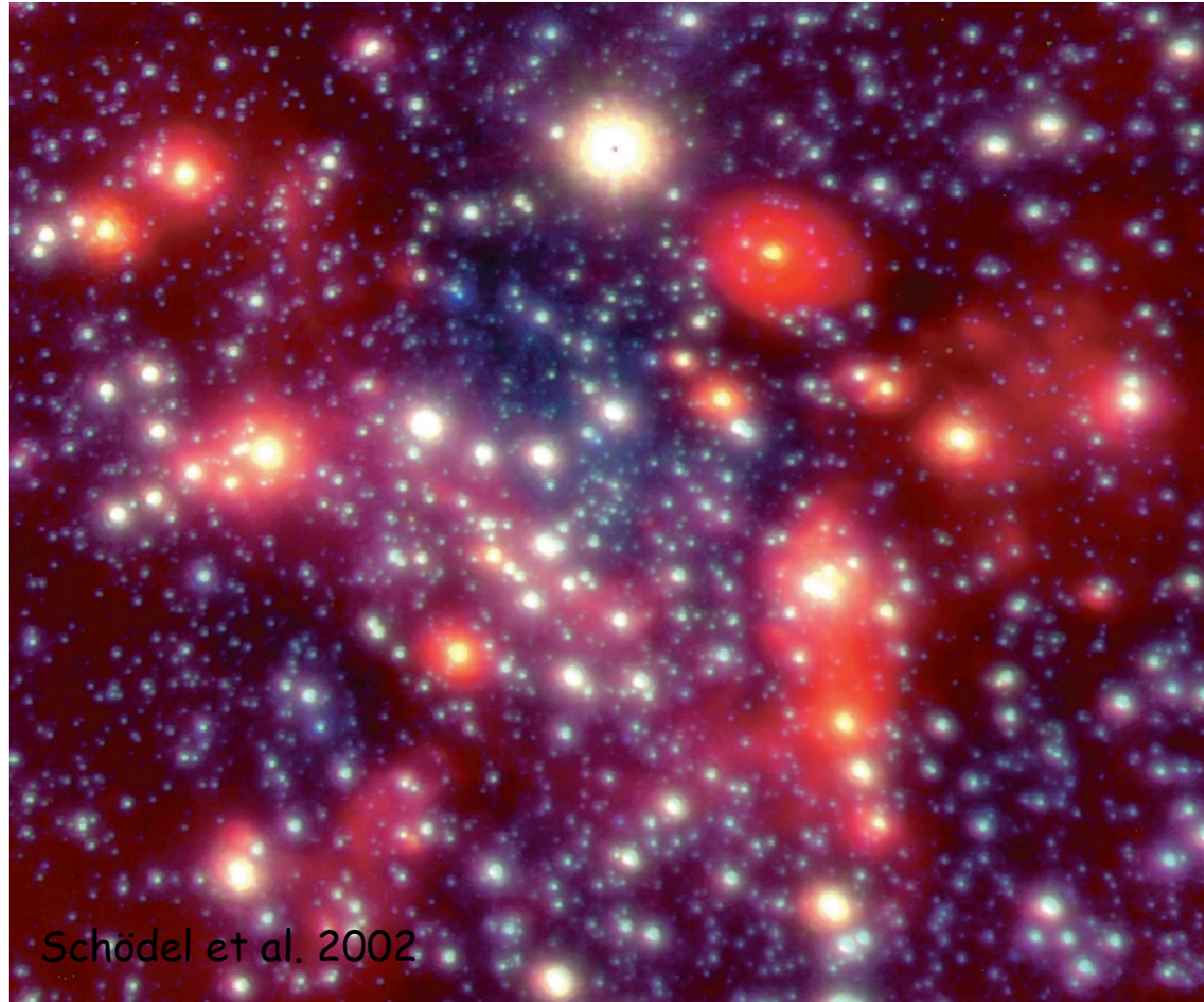




# 2002: AO Imaging (NACO)

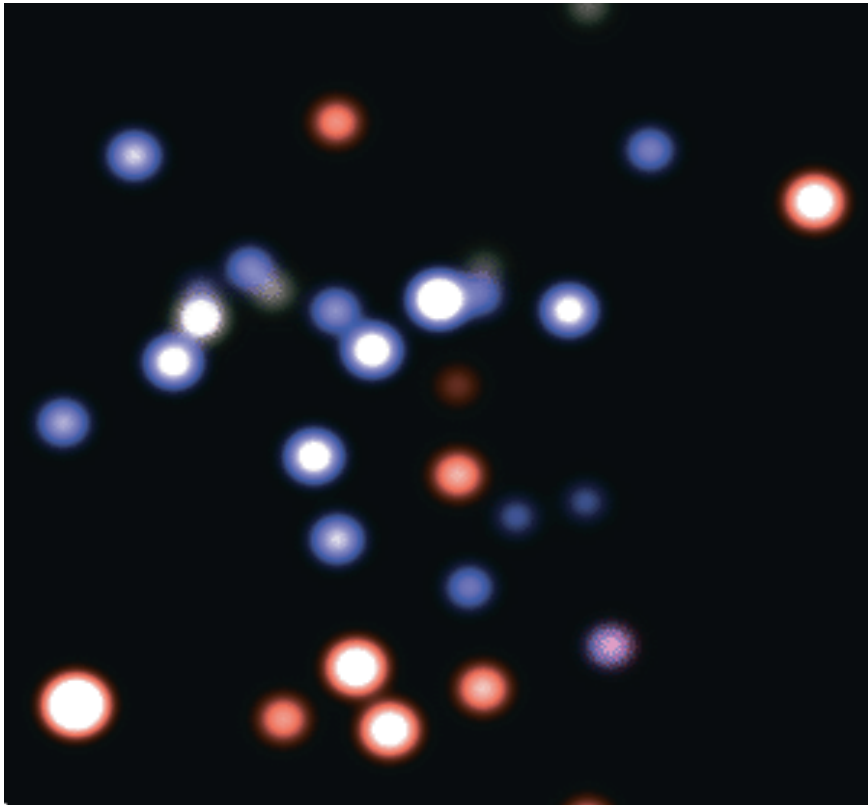
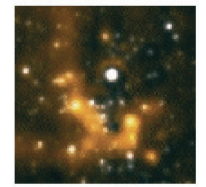


10" ( 1 light year )





# Stellar Orbits Suggest Massive Black Hole



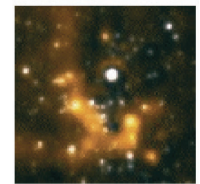
- 1996 High proper motions
  - Eckart & Genzel 1996,1997
  - Genzel et al. 1997
- 2000 First Accelerations
  - Ghez et al. 2000
- 2002 1 Stellar Orbit
  - Schödel et al. 2002
- 2005 6 Full 3D Orbits
  - Eisenhauer et al. 2005
- 2008 >25 Full 3D Orbits

$M \sim 4 \cdot 10^6 M_{\odot}$ ,  $R \sim 8$  kpc



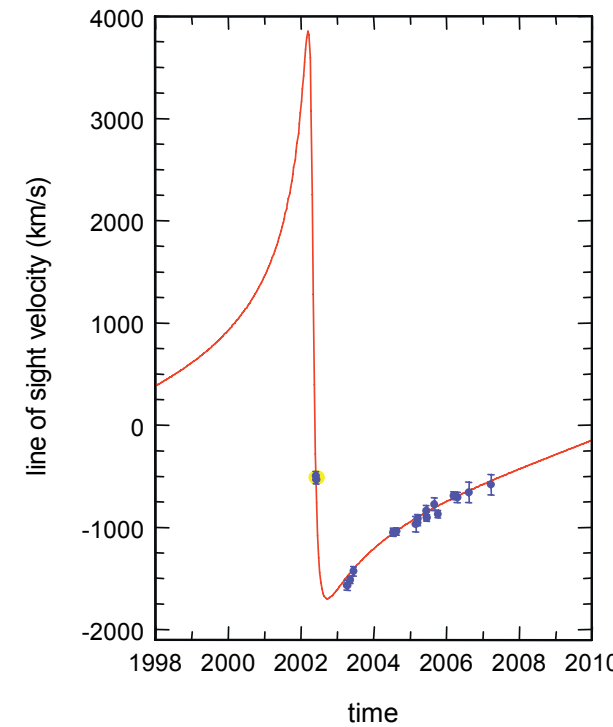
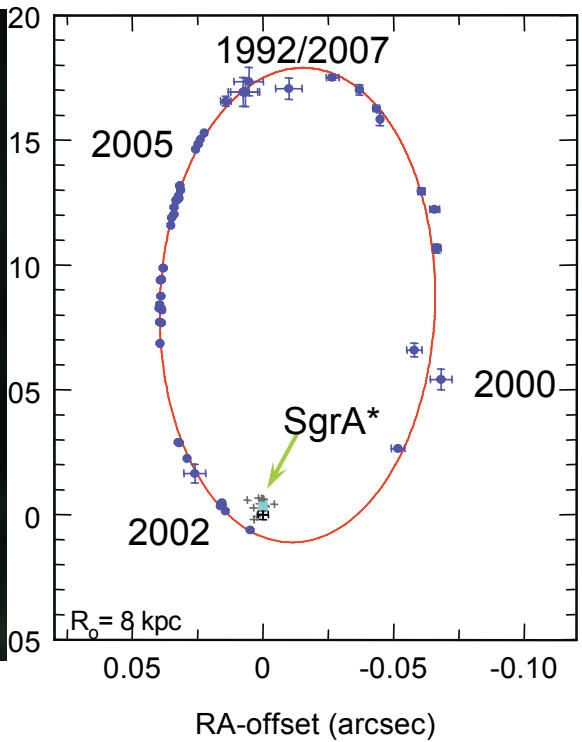
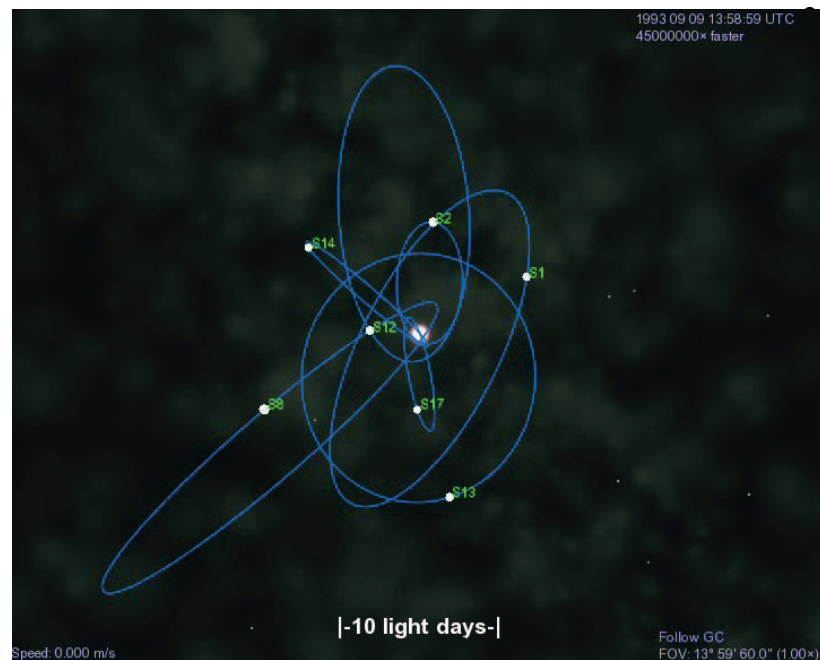


# 3D Orbits from Spectra



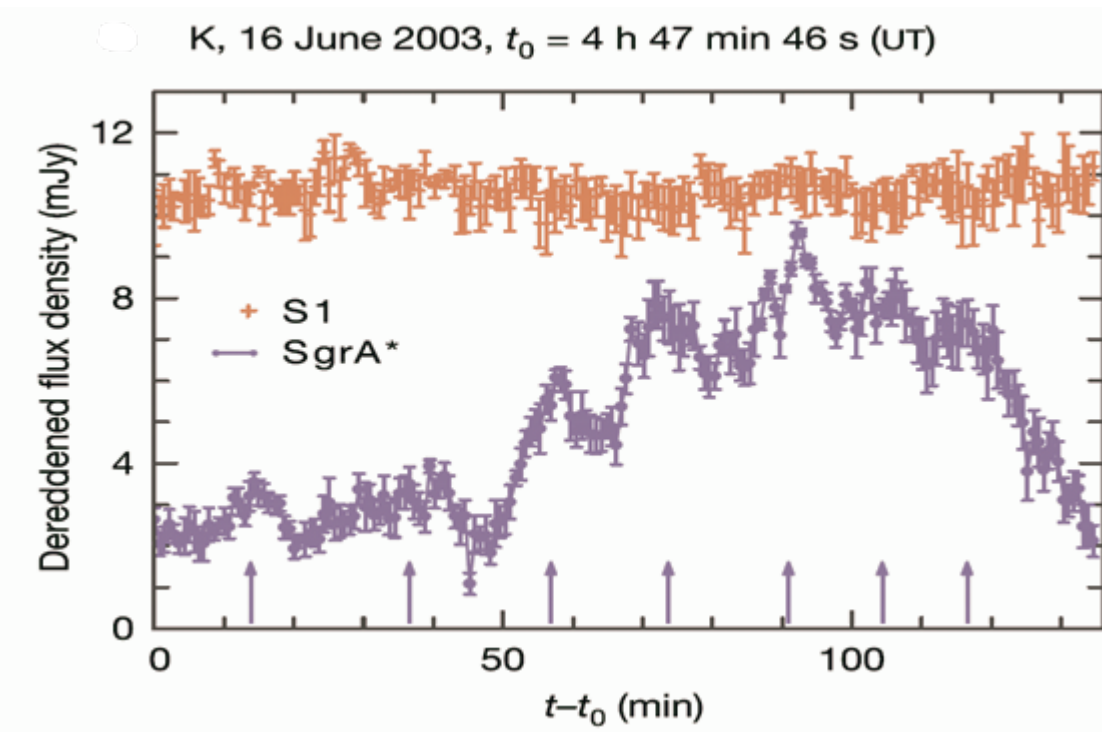
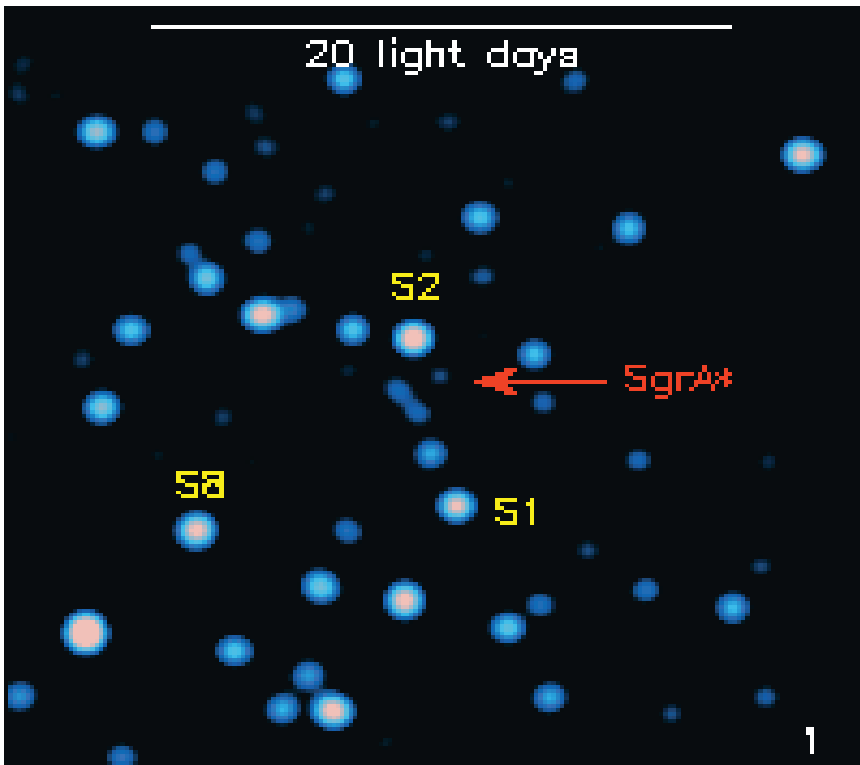
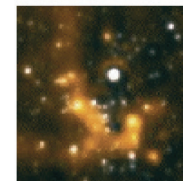
15 years of precision measurements: first full orbit

- active telescopes + adaptive optics + integral field spectroscopy
- gravitational potential dominated by  $4 \times 10^6 M_{\odot}$  central point mass





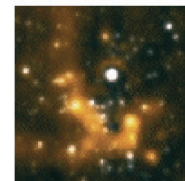
# 2003: Infrared Flares



~20 min quasi-periodicity: emission region  $\leq 20$  light minutes (few  $R_s$ )



# Argument for a Black Hole



Distance

Mass

Radius



Velocities and orbits of stars

$4 \times 10^6 M_{\text{Sun}}$

Few thousand  $R_S$

Non-motion of radio source vs. speed of stars



Few ten  $R_S$

Size of radio source

Brightness and SED variations

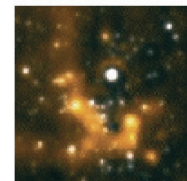
Few  $R_S$

Faintness, SED, rotation measure

Event horizon



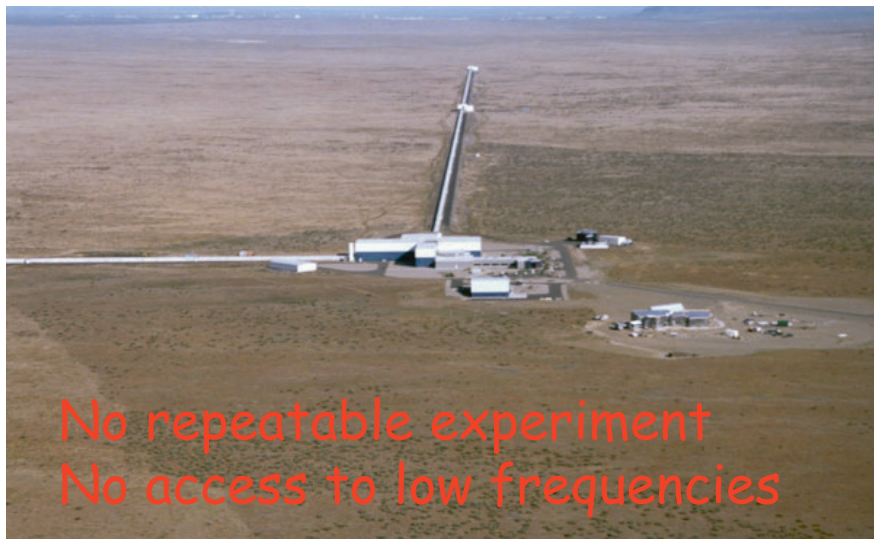
# Major Next Step: Experimental Test of GR



No experimental tests for <sup>no dynamical</sup> test

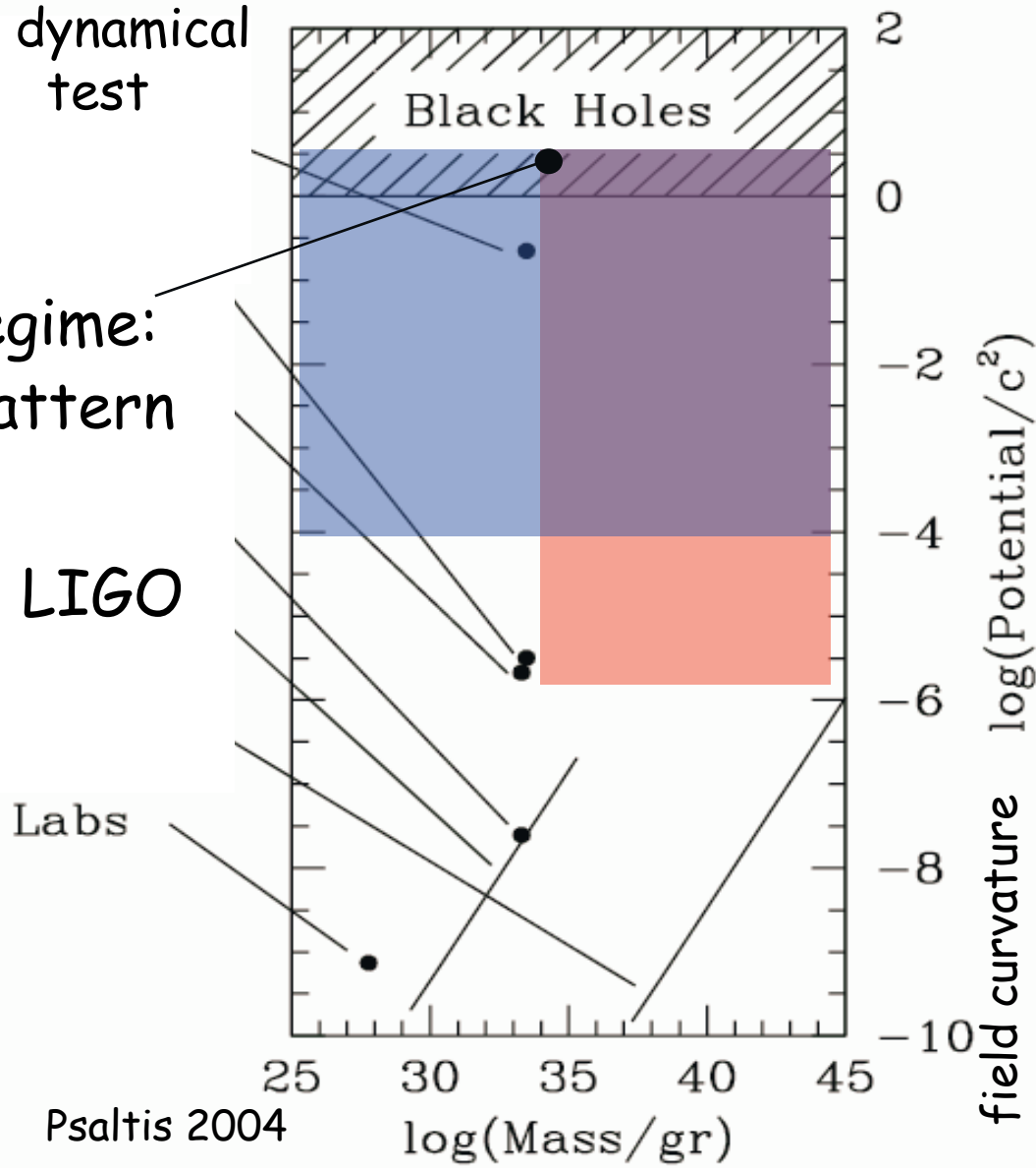
- high field curvature
- high mass

Possibility for stellar mass regime:  
Observing gravitation wave pattern  
from Supernovae



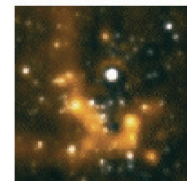
No repeatable experiment  
No access to low frequencies

2008/06/12





# Major Next Step: Experimental Test of GR



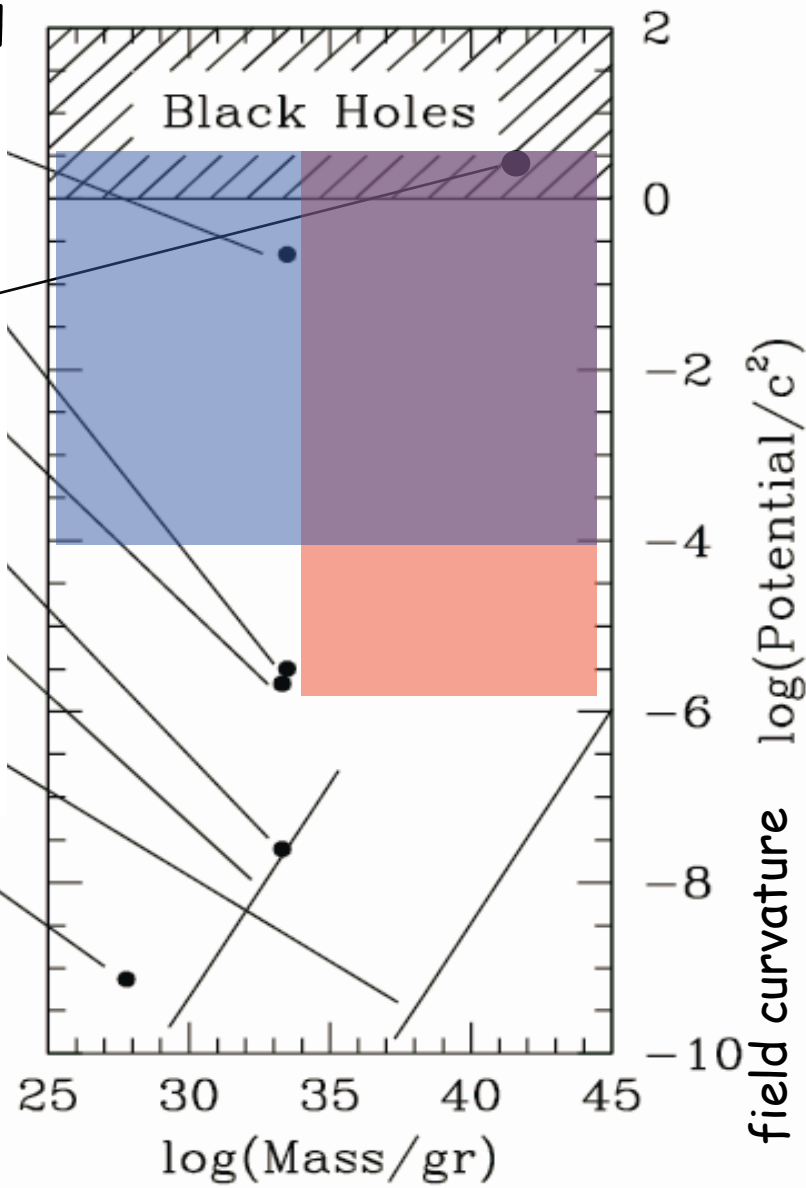
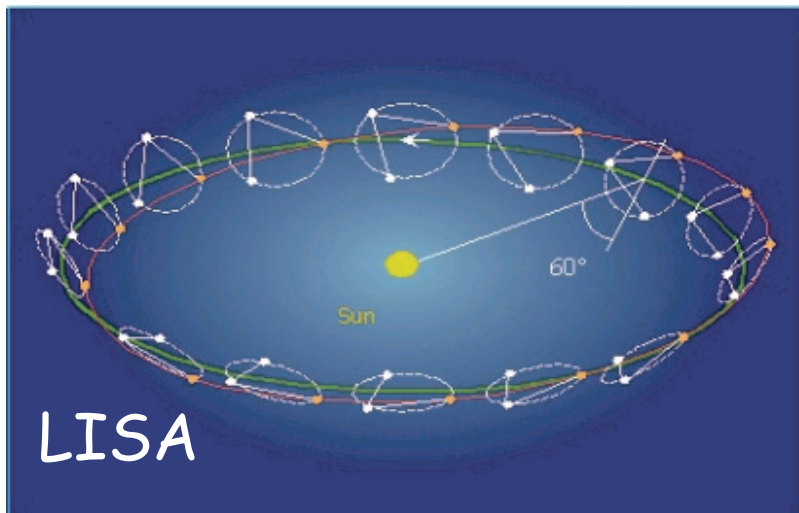
No experimental tests for <sup>no dynamical</sup> test

- high field curvature
- high mass

One possible route for supermassive black holes:

Observing gravitation wave pattern from BH merger

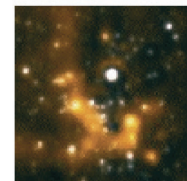
Technically extremely challenging



2008/06/12



# Major Next Step: Experimental Test of GR



No experimental tests for <sup>no dynamical</sup> test

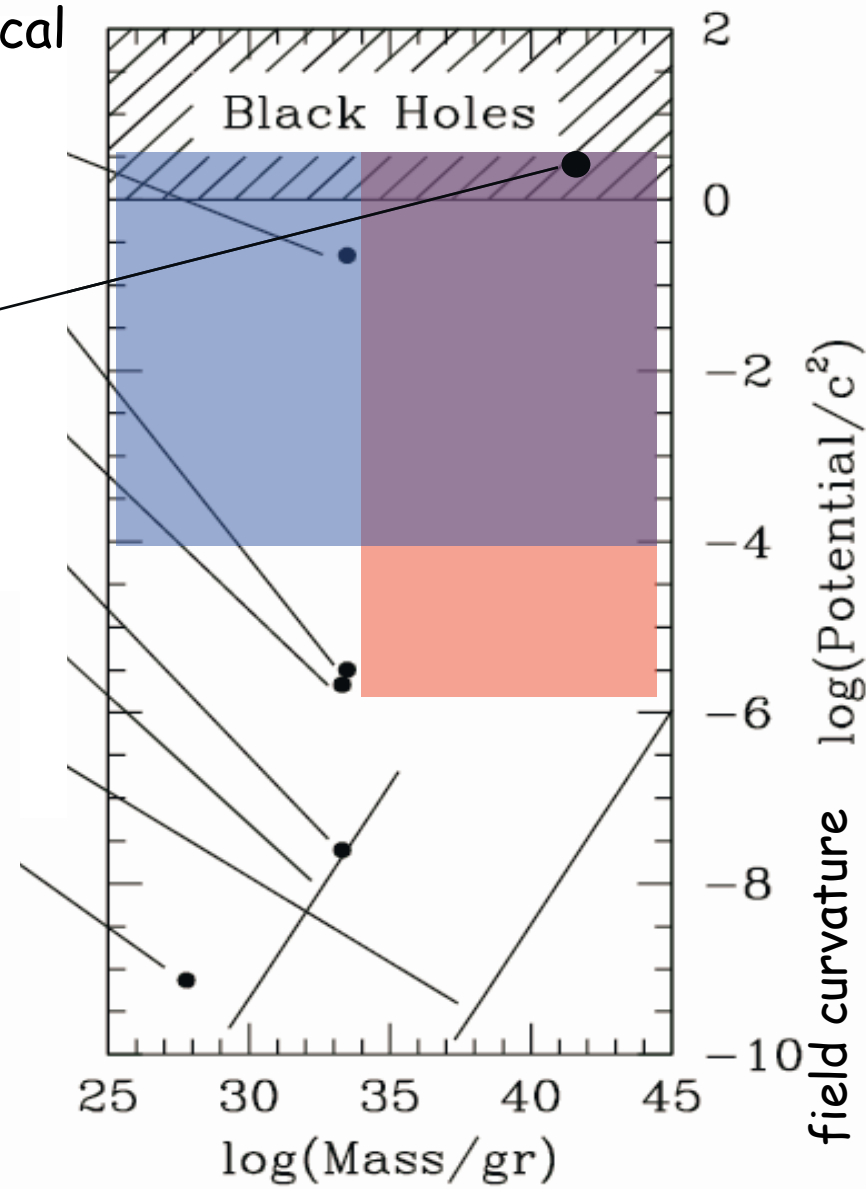
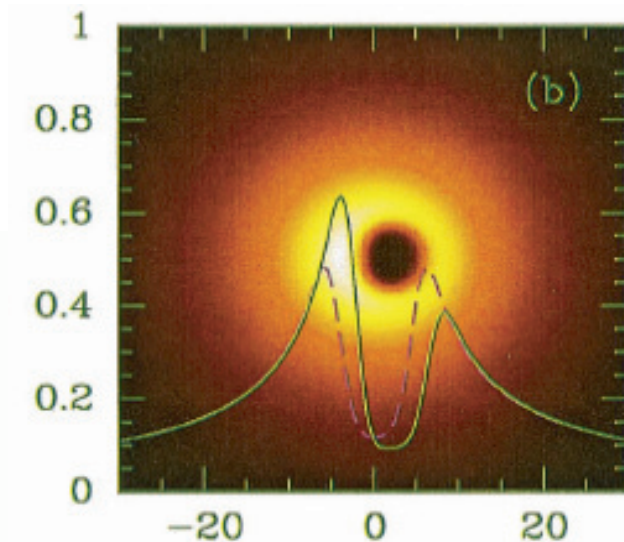
- high field curvature
- high mass

Another possible route for supermassive black holes:  
Submm VLBI

Fuzzy laboratory  
Difficult to get to  
dynamics

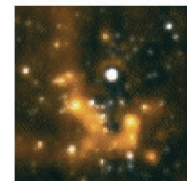
Falcke, Melia, &  
Agol 2000  
Doeleman et al.

2008/06/12





# Time-Resolved Astrometry at the VLTI: $10 \mu\text{as}$ in 5min

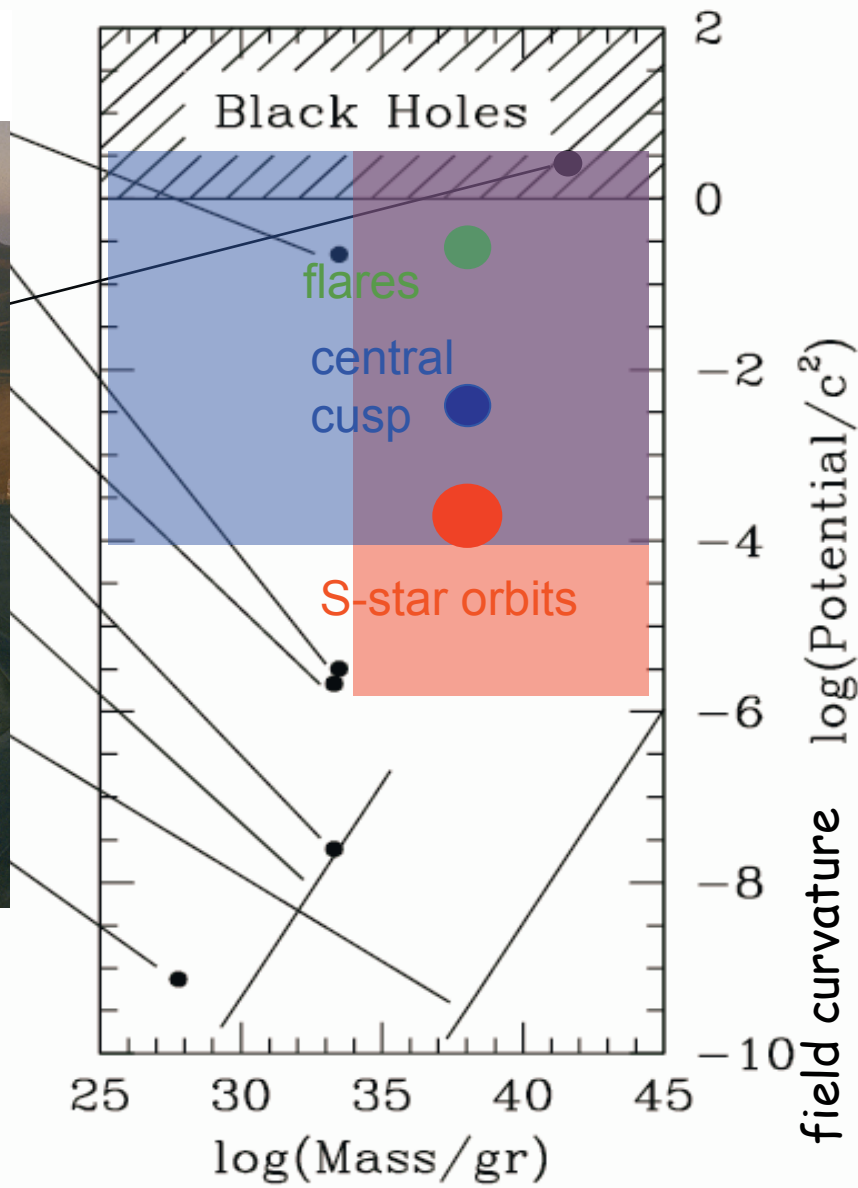


VLTI & GRAVITY



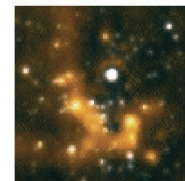
- $200 \text{ m}^2$  collecting area
- $130 \text{ m}$  equivalent resolution

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# The GRAVITY Consortium



H. Bartko, H. Baumeister, A. Boehm, W. Brandner, F. Cassaing, Y. Clenet, K. Dodds-Eden, A. Eckart, F. Eisenhauer, E. Gendron, R. Genzel, S. Gillessen, A. Gräter, C. Gueriau, N. Hamaus, X. Haubois, M. Haug, T. Henning, S. Hippler, R. Hofmann, F. Hormuth, K. Houairi, S. Kellner, P. Kervella, R. Klein, J. Kolmeder, W. Laun, P. Lena, R. Lenzen, M. Marteaud, V. Naranjo, U. Neumann, T. Paumard, G. Perrin, O. Pfuhl, S. Rabien, J.R. Ramos, J.M. Rees, D. Rouan, R.-R. Rohloff, G. Rousset, B. Ruyet, A. Sévin, C. Straubmeier, M. Thiel, J. Ziegler, D. Ziegler

= 47 physicists, engineers, technicians

MPE Munich, Observatoire de Paris Meudon, MPIA Heidelberg, Uni Köln



2008/06/12



Partenariat Haute résolution Angulaire Sol-Espace



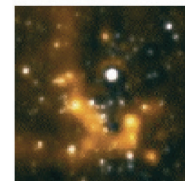
H. Bartko, MPE, Garching

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# GRAVITY - Science Cases

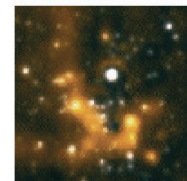


A motivation to build the ultimate NIR  
4-telescope beam combiner for the VLTI

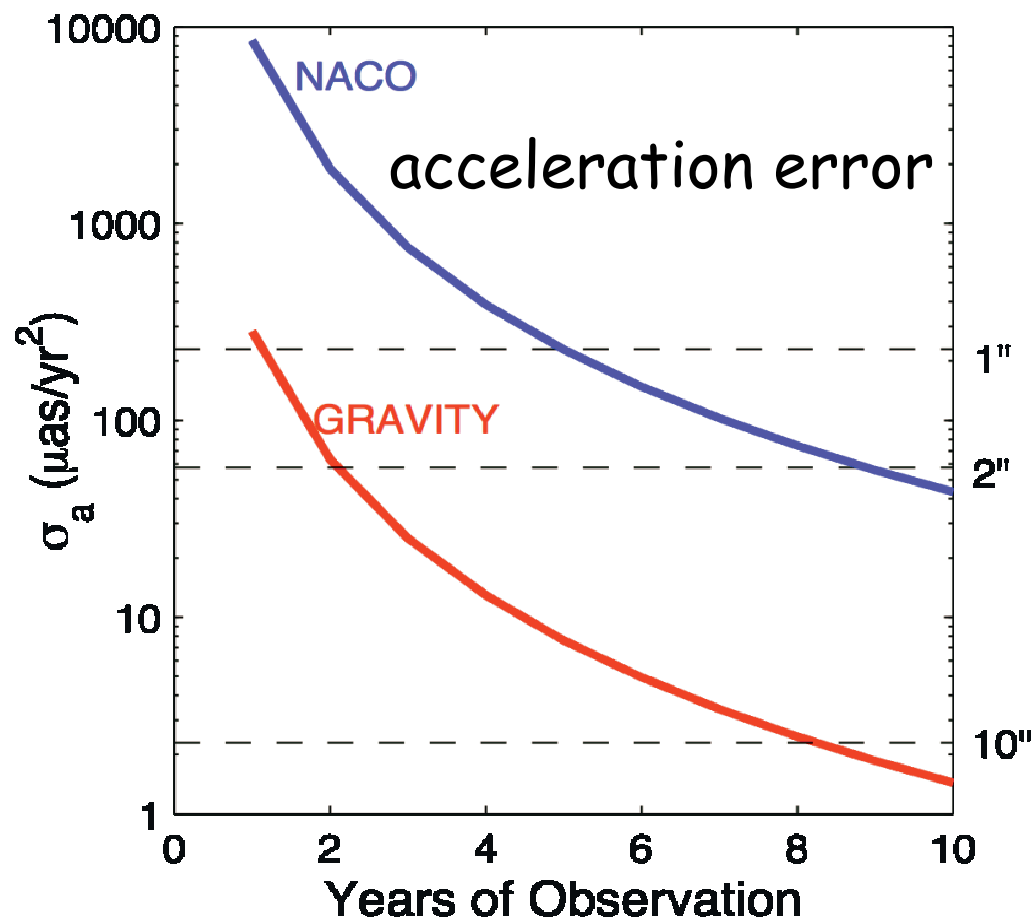
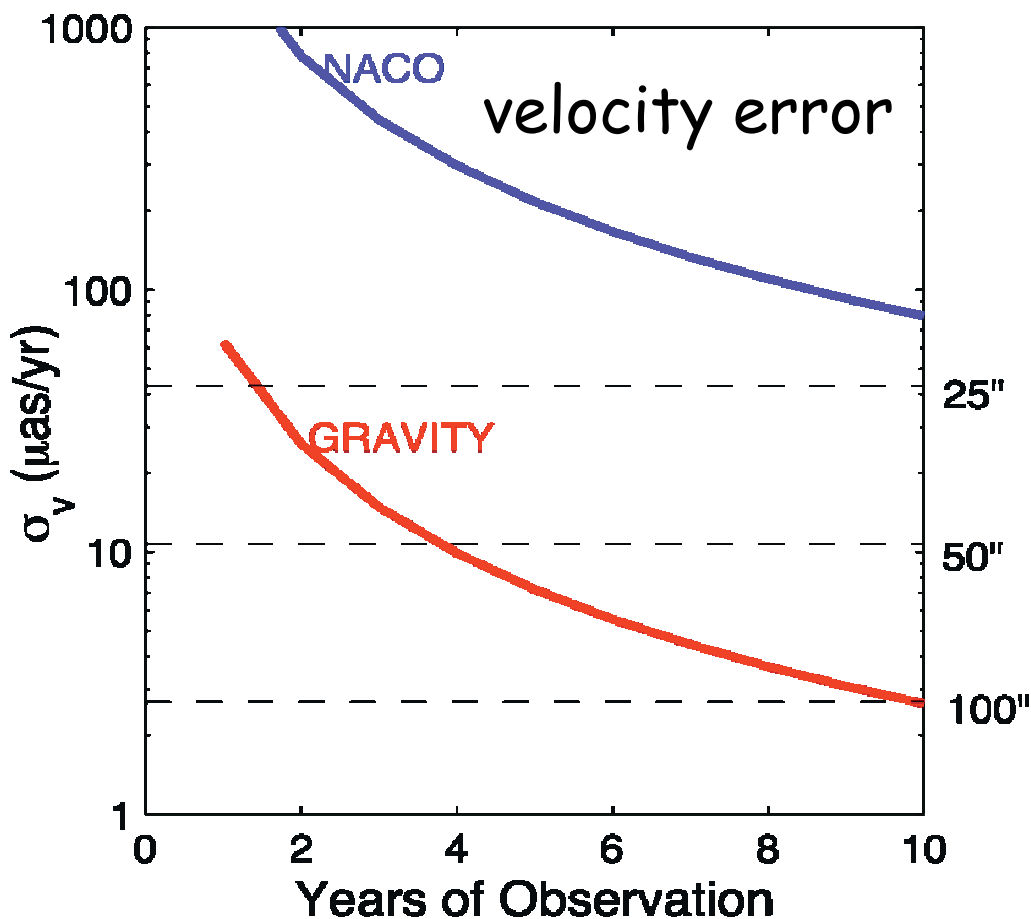




# The VLTI can do $10 \mu\text{as}$ Astrometry

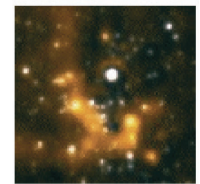


$10 \mu\text{as}$ : better than NACO by a Factor 15

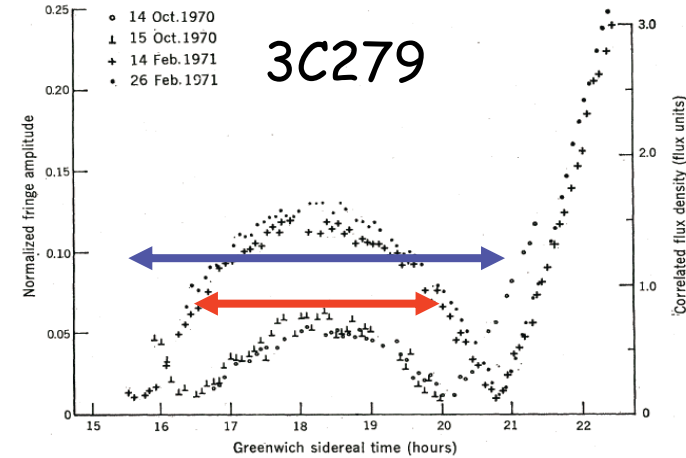
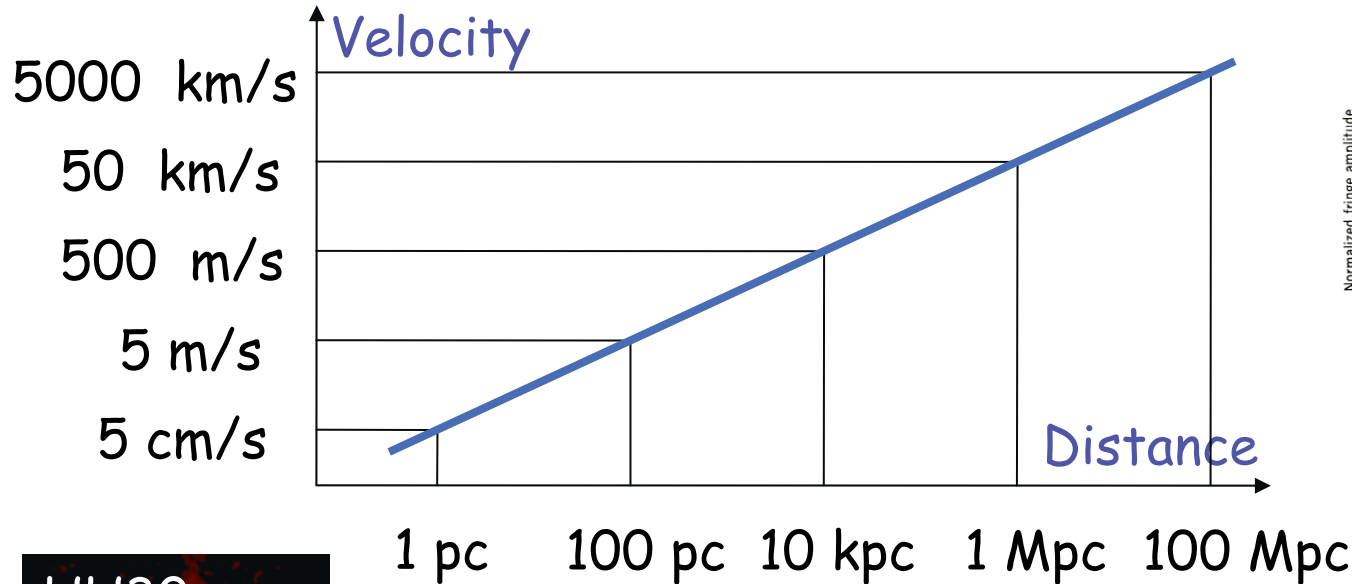




# Watch Objects Move in the Local Universe



$10 \mu\text{as/yr}$  corresponds to  $\sim 50 \text{ m/s}$  @  $1 \text{ kpc}$

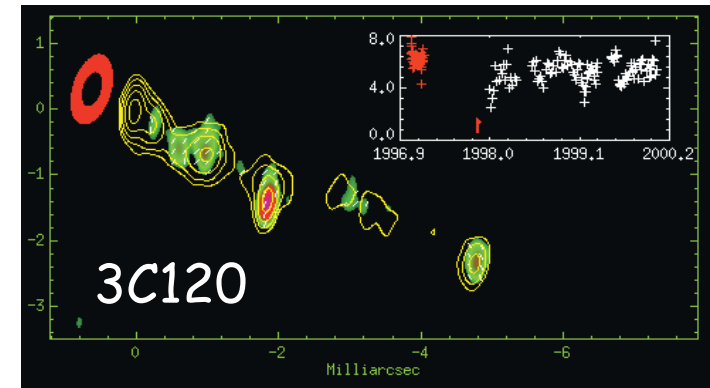
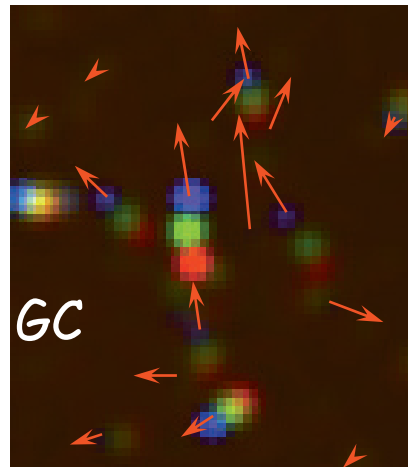


Whitney et al. 1971

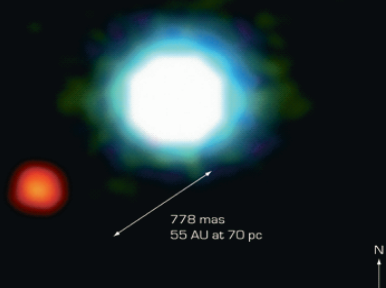
Gomez et al. 2000



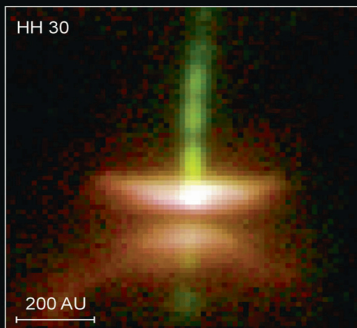
Krist et al.



planet / brown dwarf



jets/disks in young stars

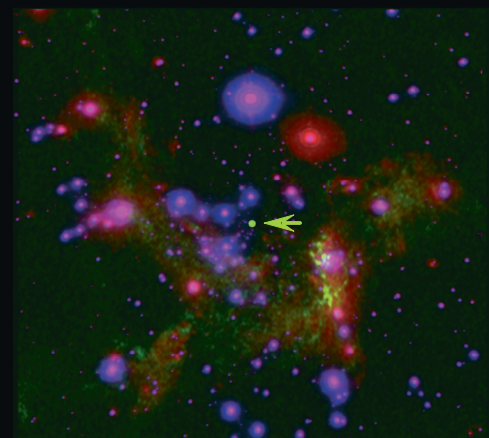


ten year large program

three year program

single season campaign

GC nuclear star cluster



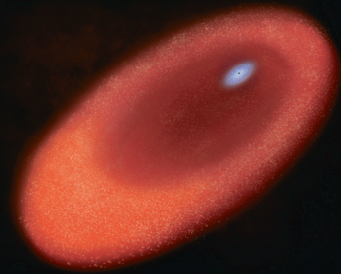
dust disk with central gap



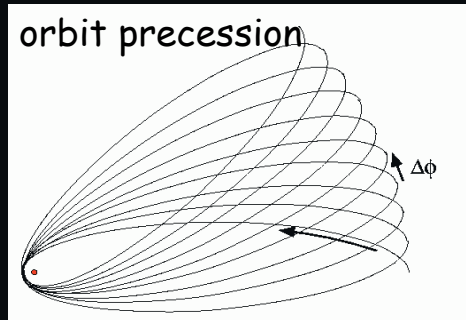
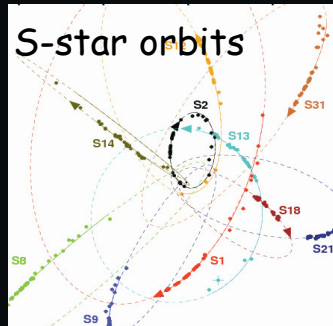
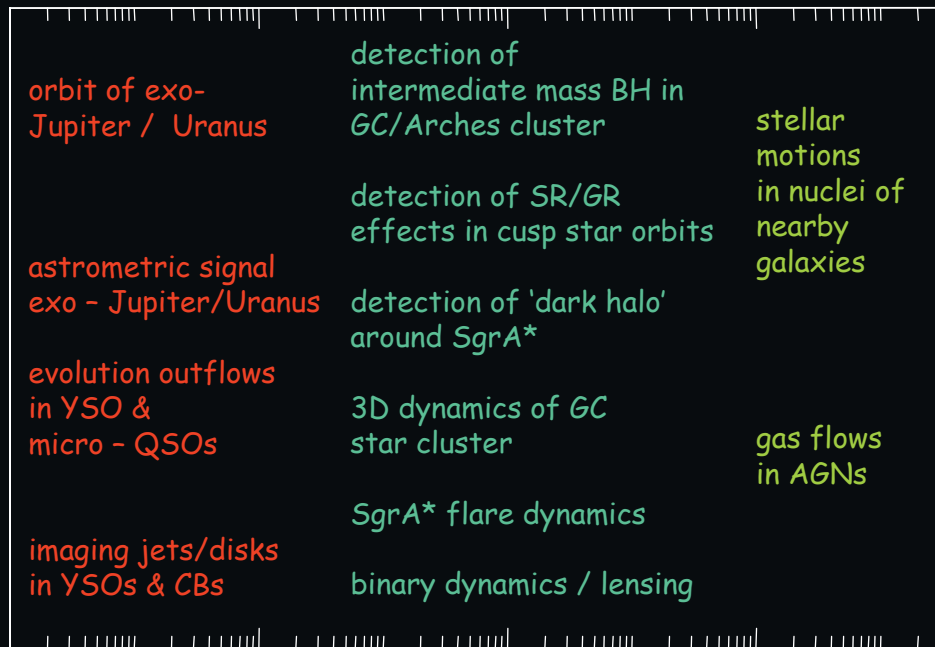
Arches cluster



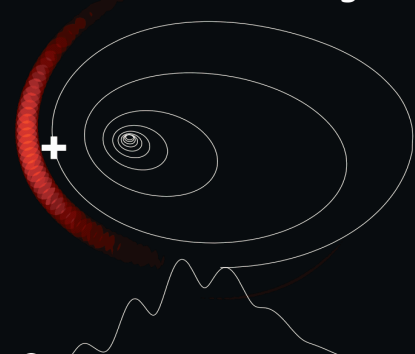
M31 star disks



NGC1068 outflow / narrow line region

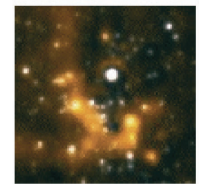


GC flare modeling

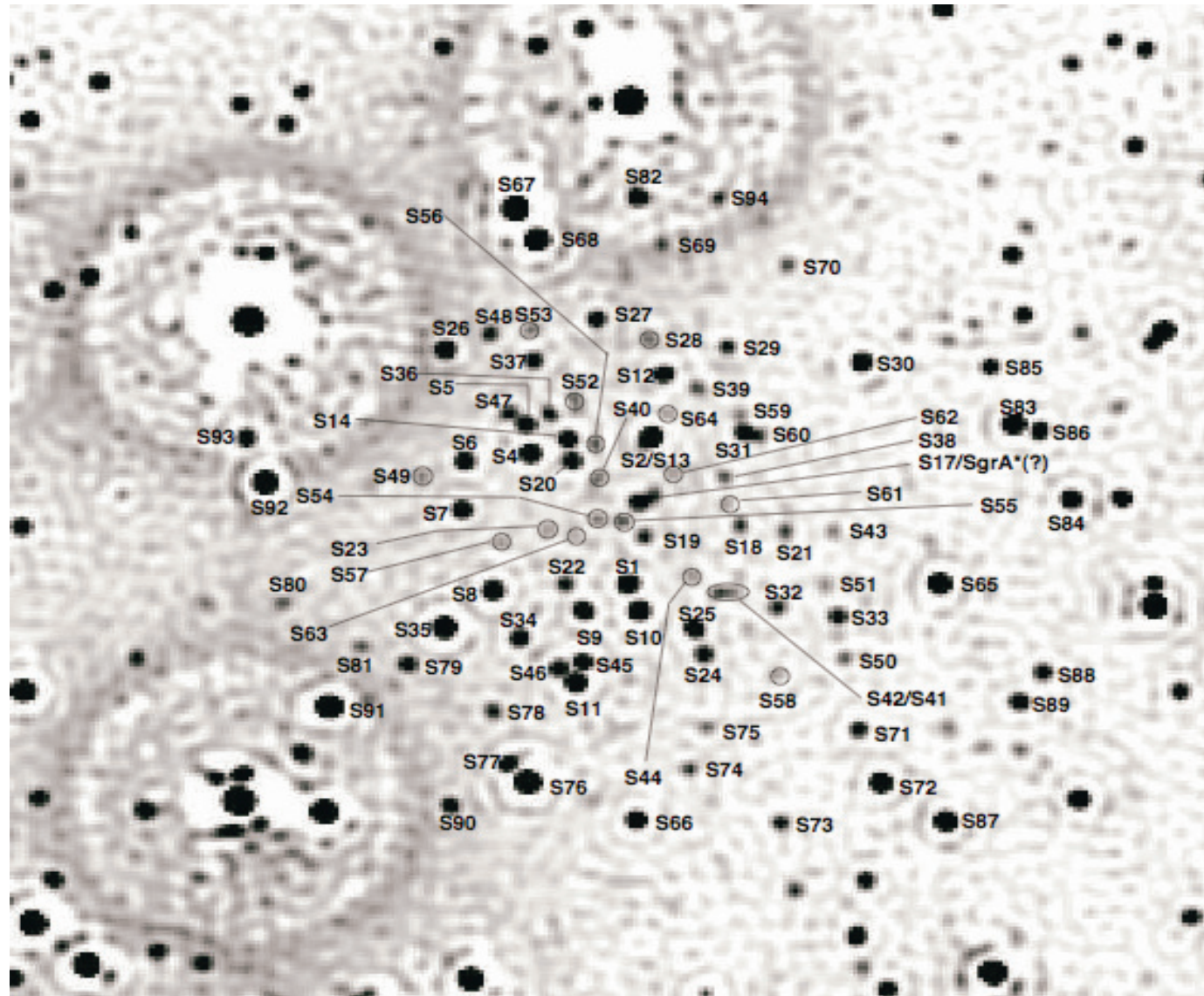




# Key Science Case 1 - Relativistic Orbits in the GC

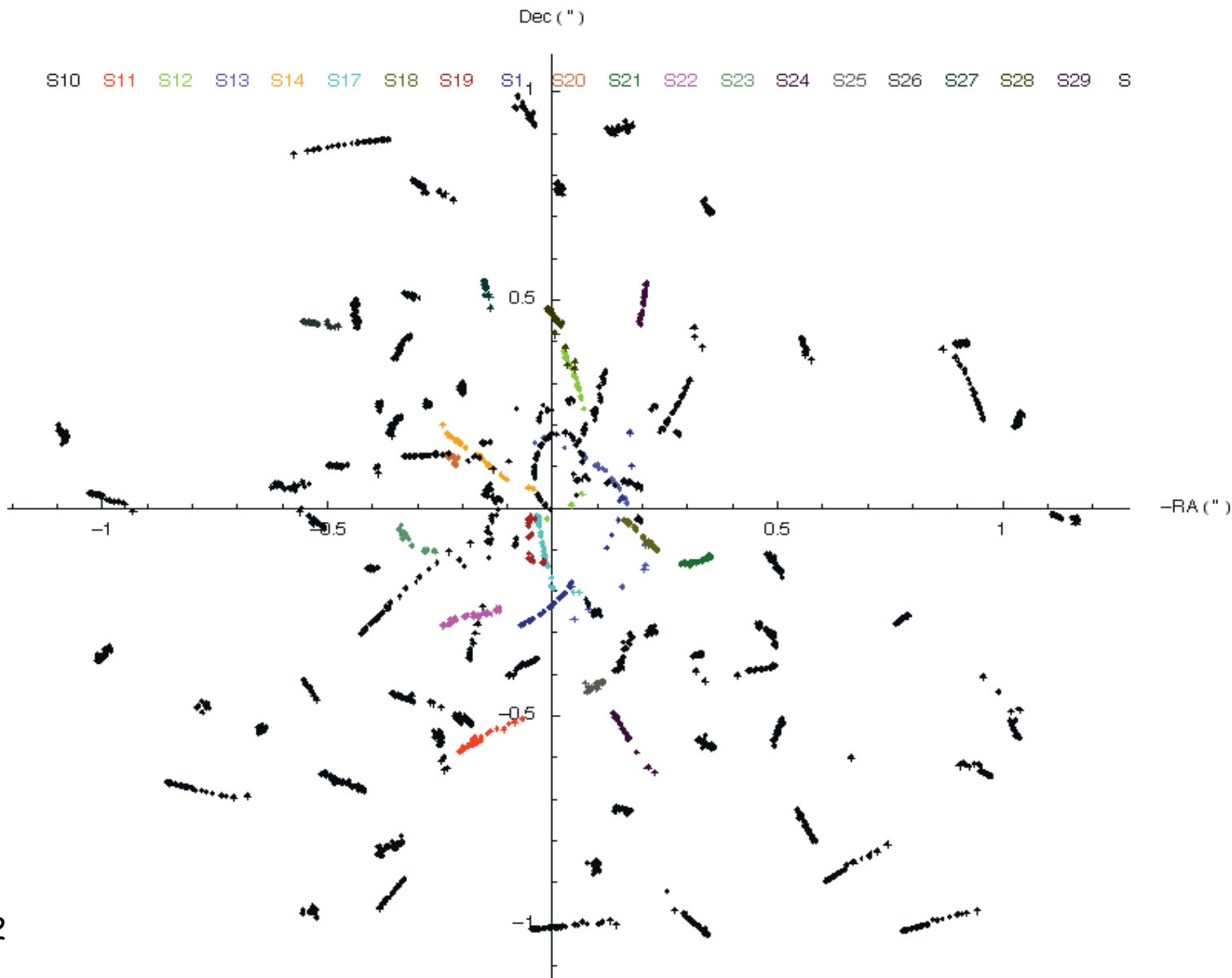
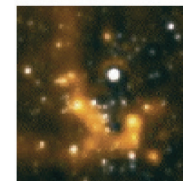


Extremely  
dense  
central cusp  
(confusion!)



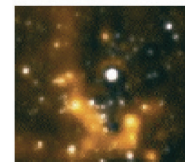


# NACO: Orbits out to 1"



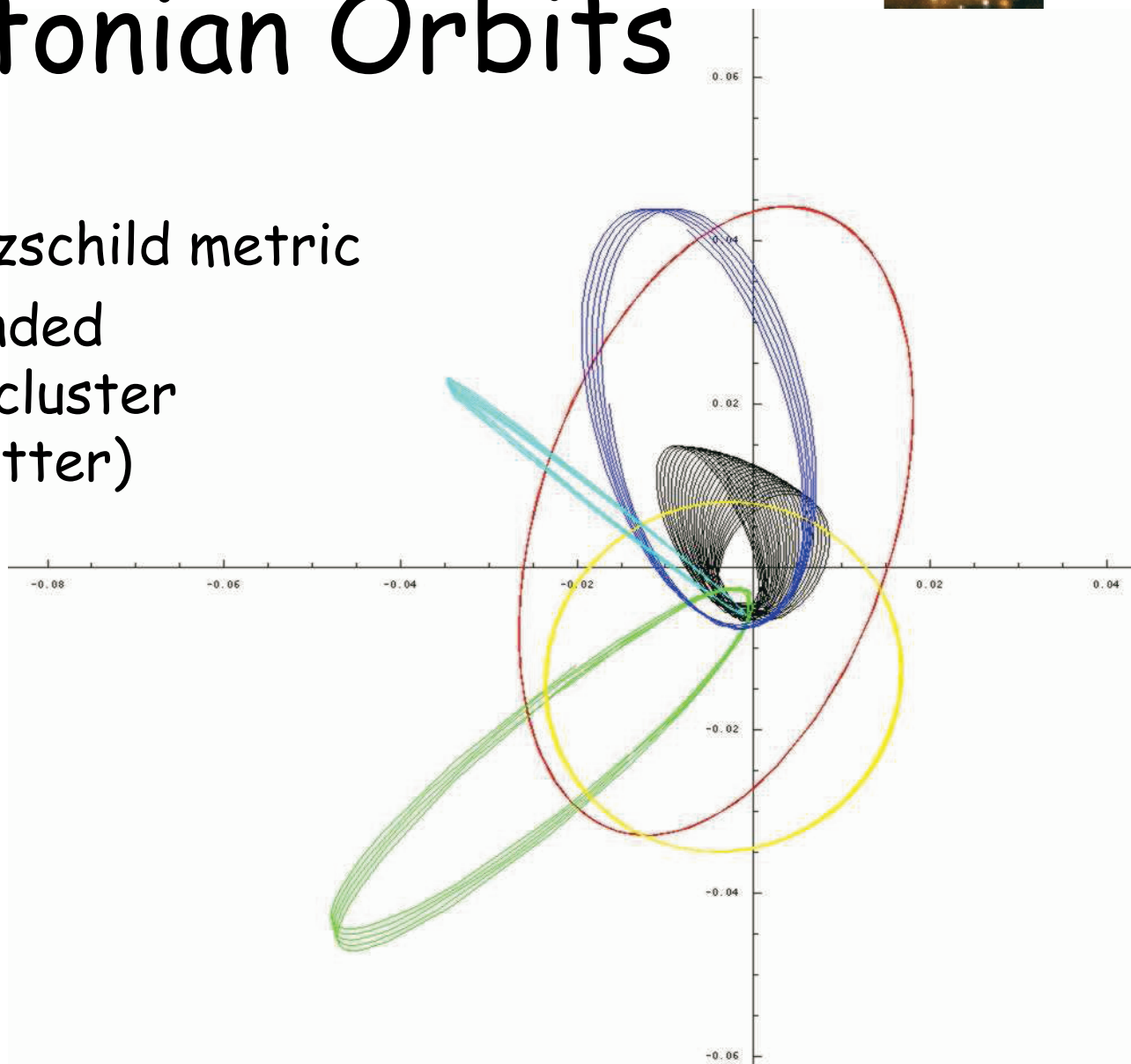


# Black Hole: Post-Newtonian Orbits



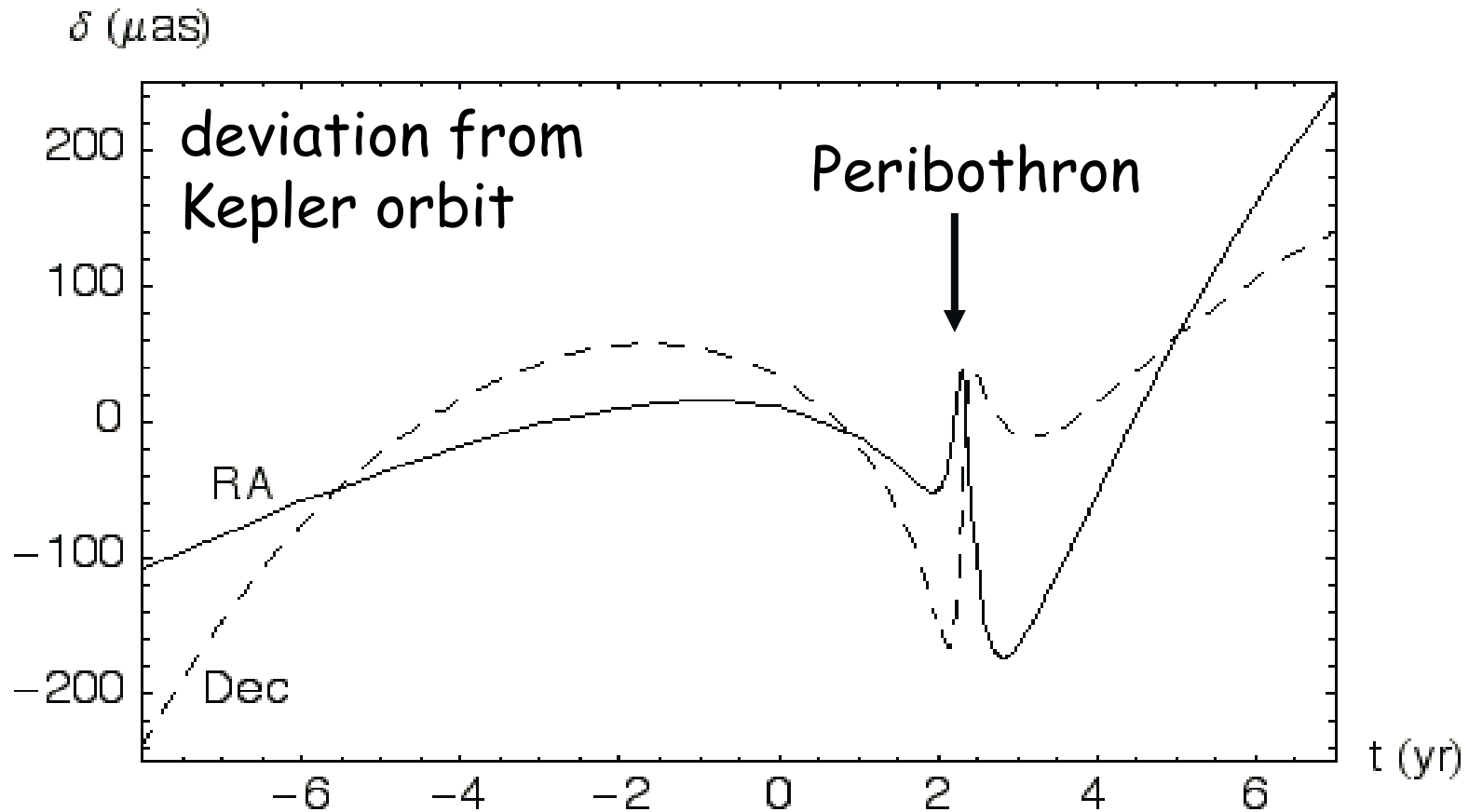
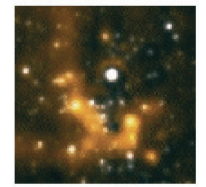
## Periastron precession

- Prograde from Schwarzschild metric
- Retrograde from extended mass distribution (e.g. cluster of black holes, dark matter)





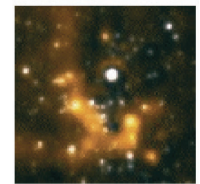
# Relativistic Effects in S2: well Measurable at $10\mu\text{as}$ Accuracy







# Further in: Relativistic Effects Visible more quickly

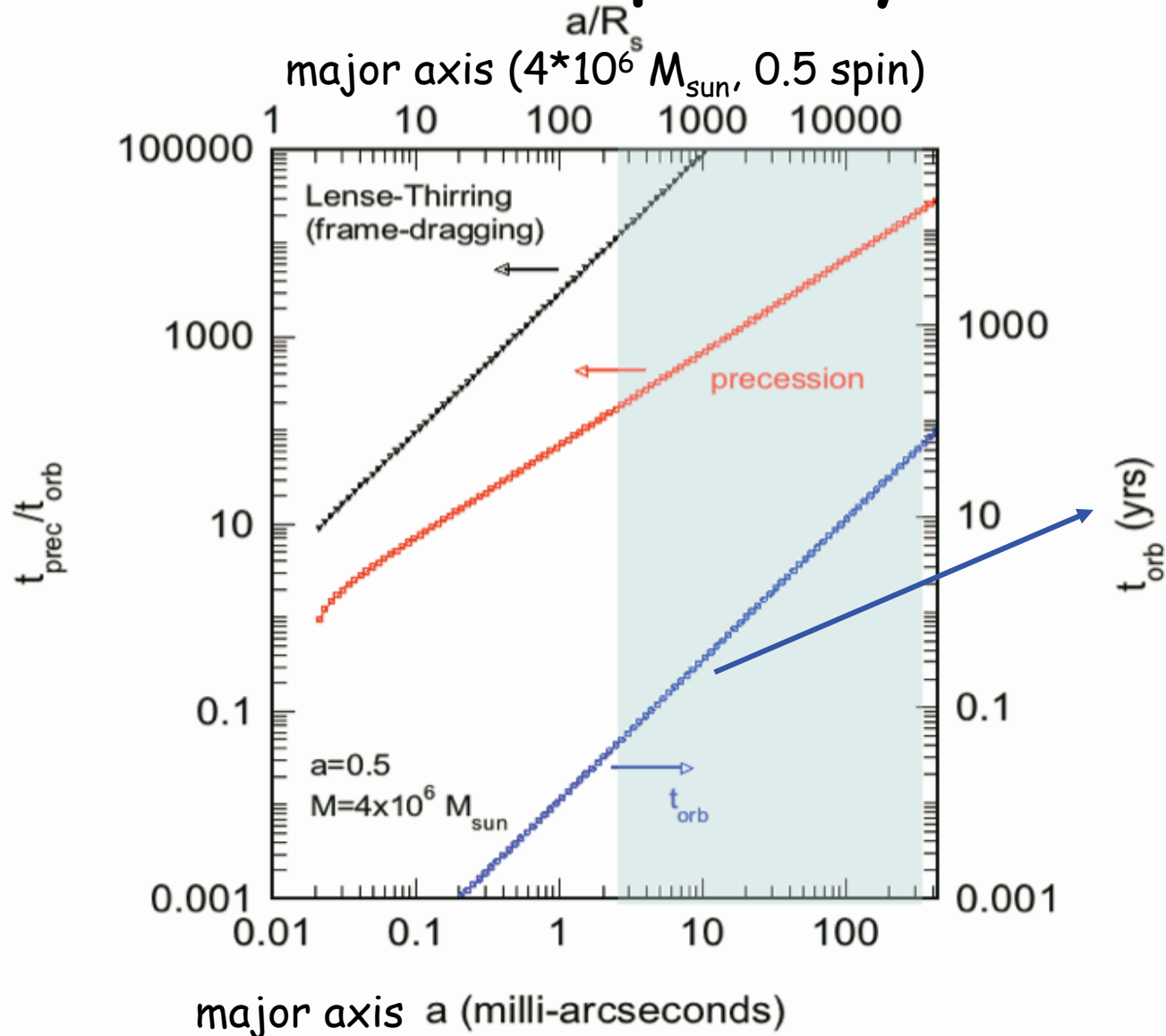


ratio of Schwarzschild precession time scale (red) and Lense-Thirring time scale (black) relative to the orbital time scale (blue)

inverse ratio: precession during a single revolution.

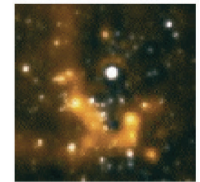
white shaded region: parameter space probed by *GRAVITY* stellar orbits in the GC.

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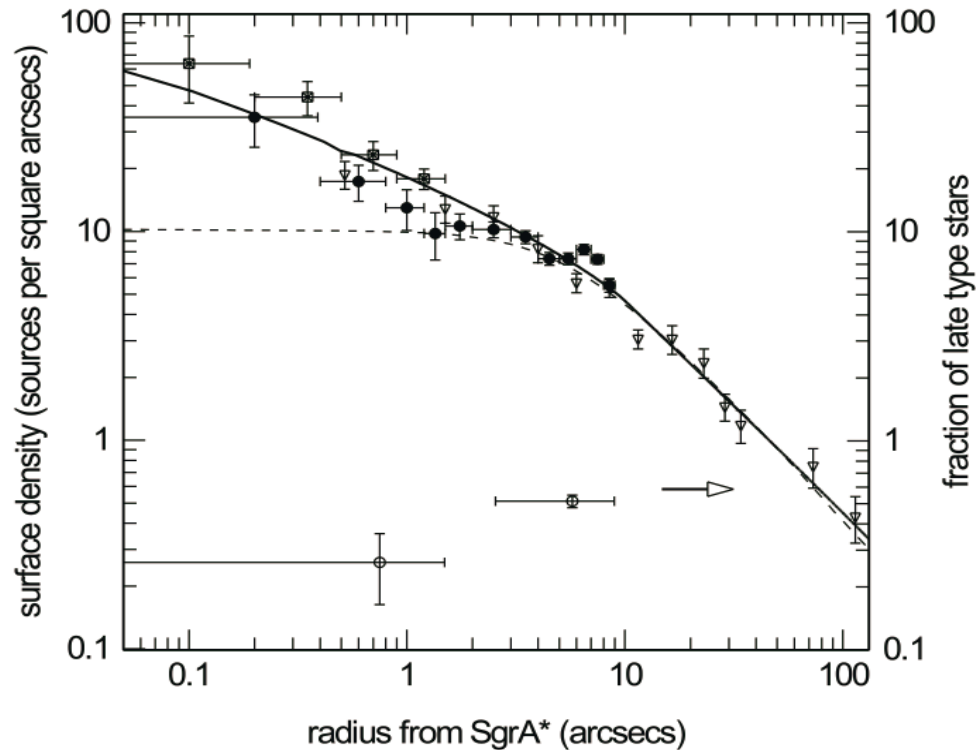
# Stars in the Central 0.1"



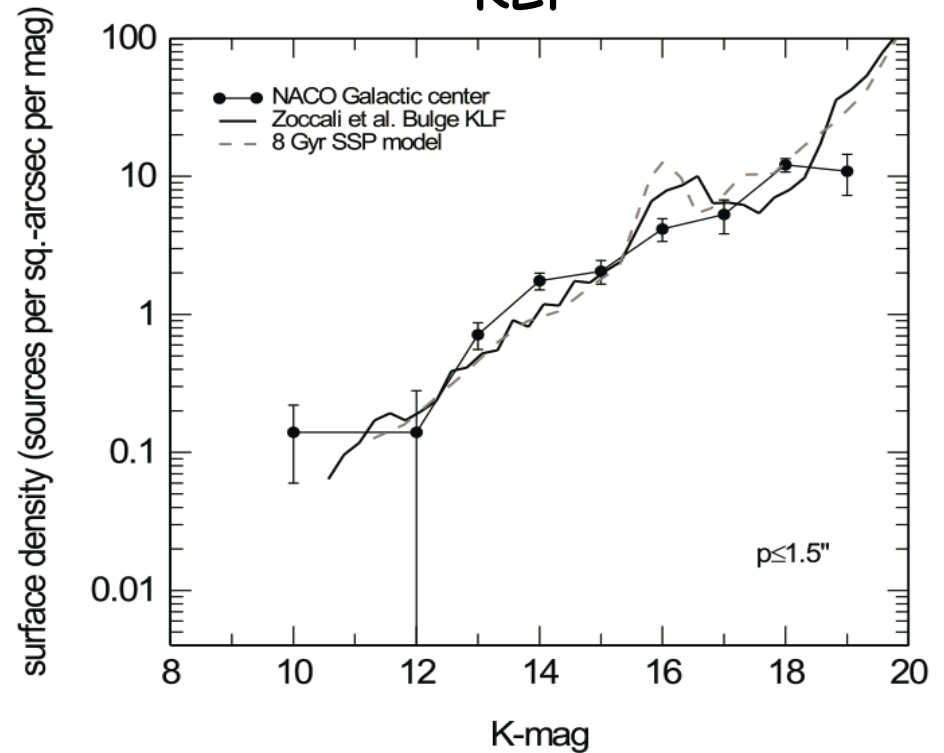
central star cluster is well characterized:

In central 100 mas should reside 2 - 10 observable stars with  $m_K = 17...19$  at any time, not yet observed due to confusion

## Density profile

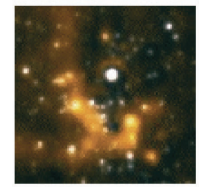


## KLF



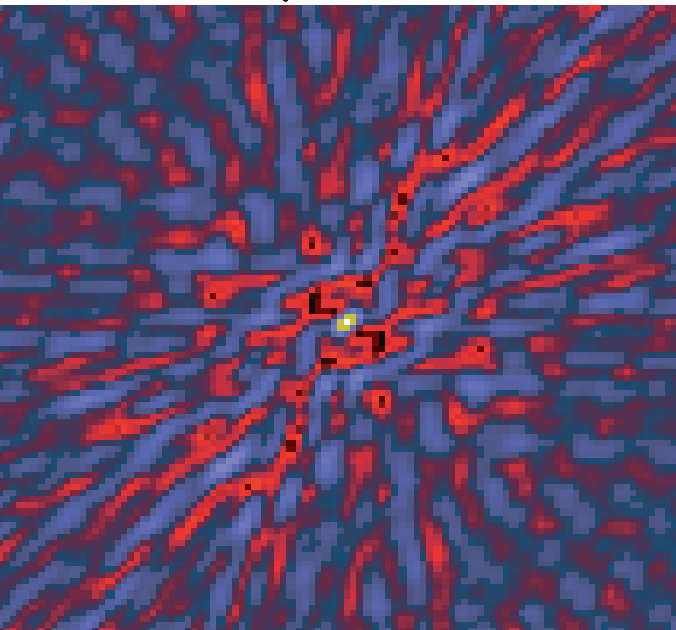


# Simulation of VLTI Observations

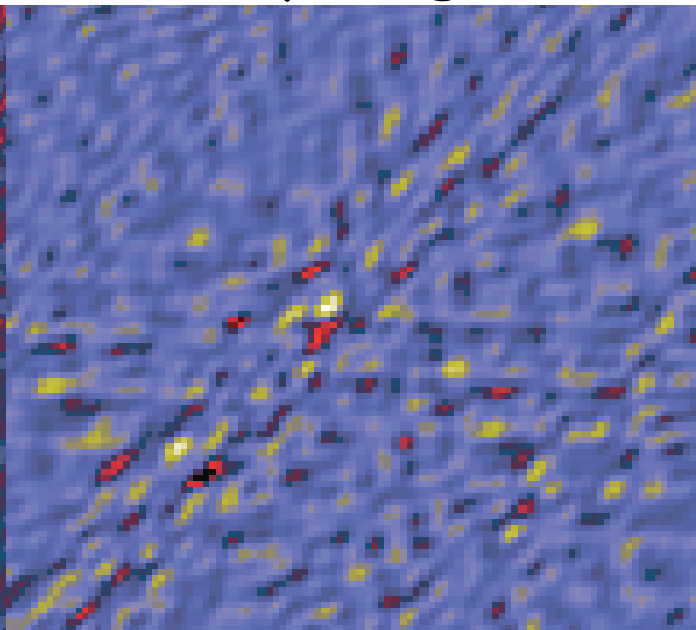


simulated 6 point sources in central  $0.1''$ ,  $mK = 17 \dots 19$ ,  
observation time = 1 night

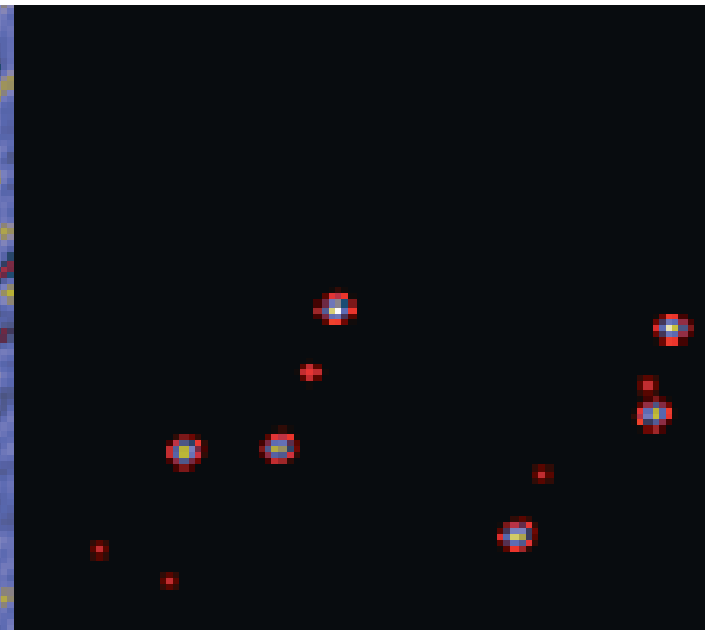
"dirty beam"



"dirty image"

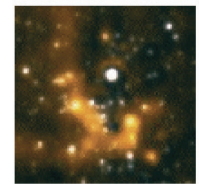


"deconvolved image"  
(CLEAN)



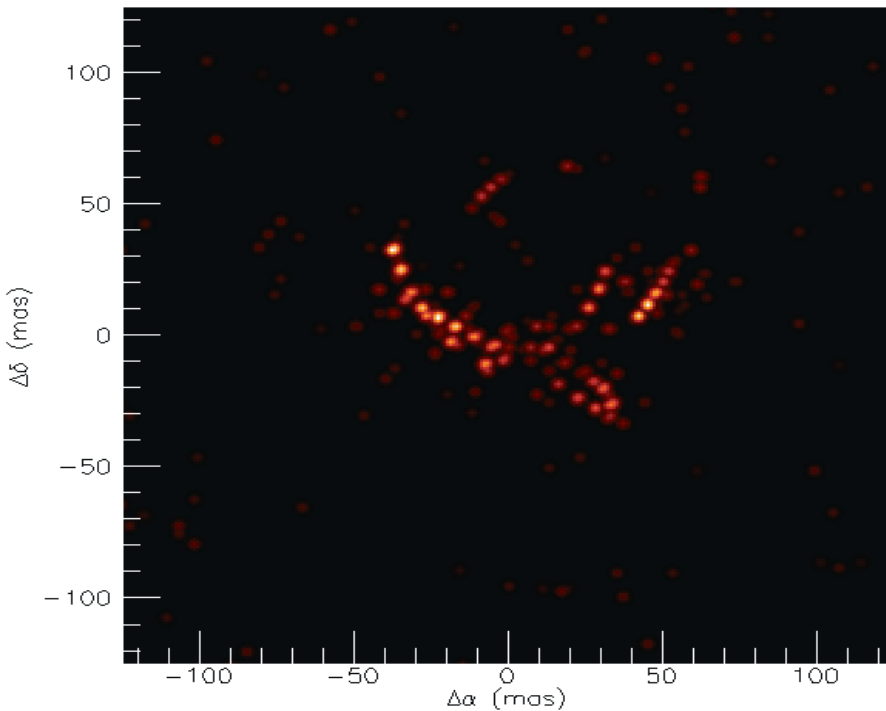


# Orbit Reconstruction

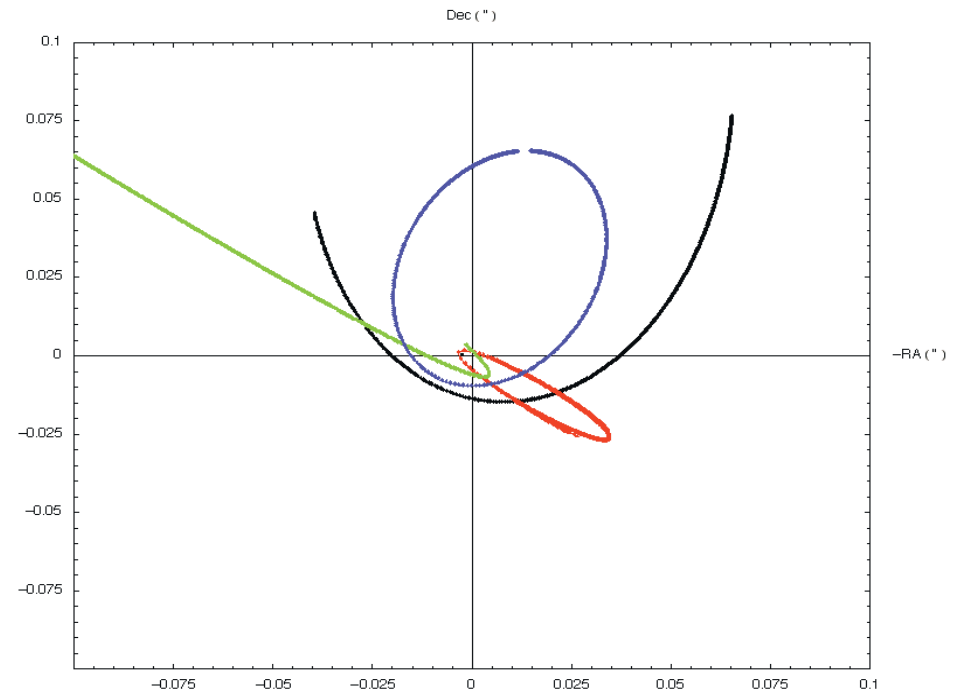


sampling a few times per year: confusion can be beaten  
individual stellar orbits reconstructed

coadded observations

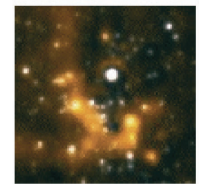


reconstructed orbits



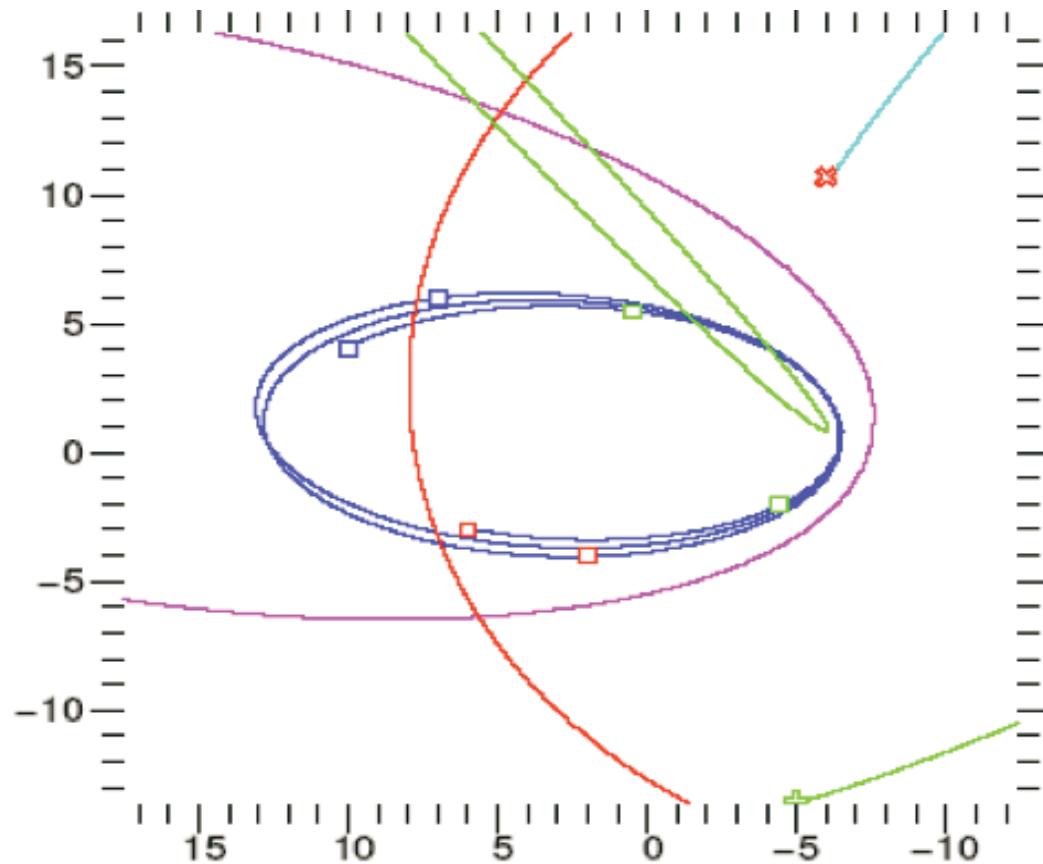


# Relativistic Precession



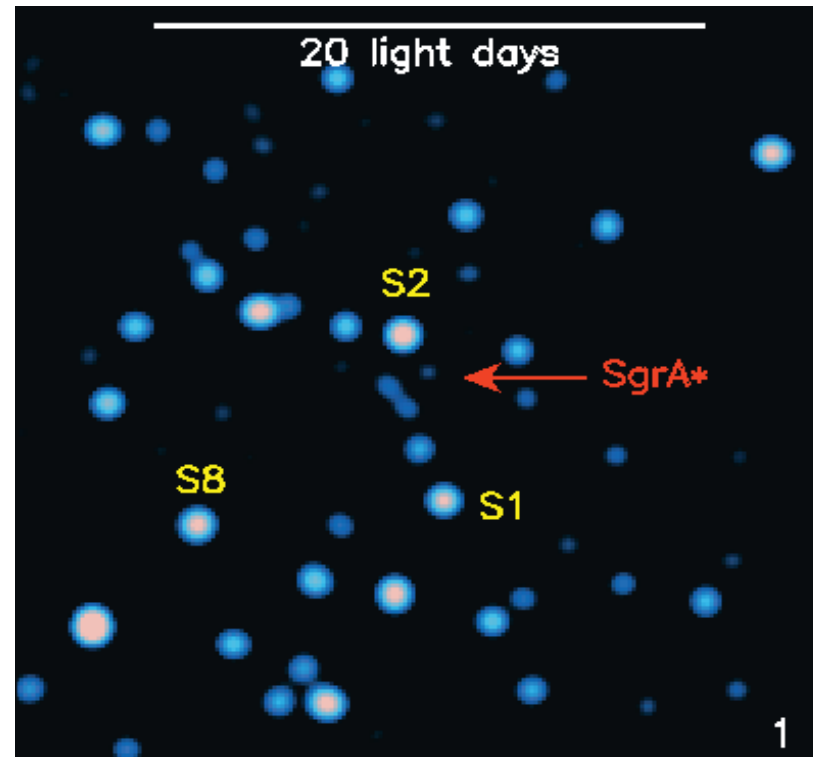
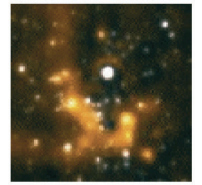
becomes visible after few revolutions

Simulation:  
2 years \* 3  
nights \* 9  
hours \* 4  
UTs



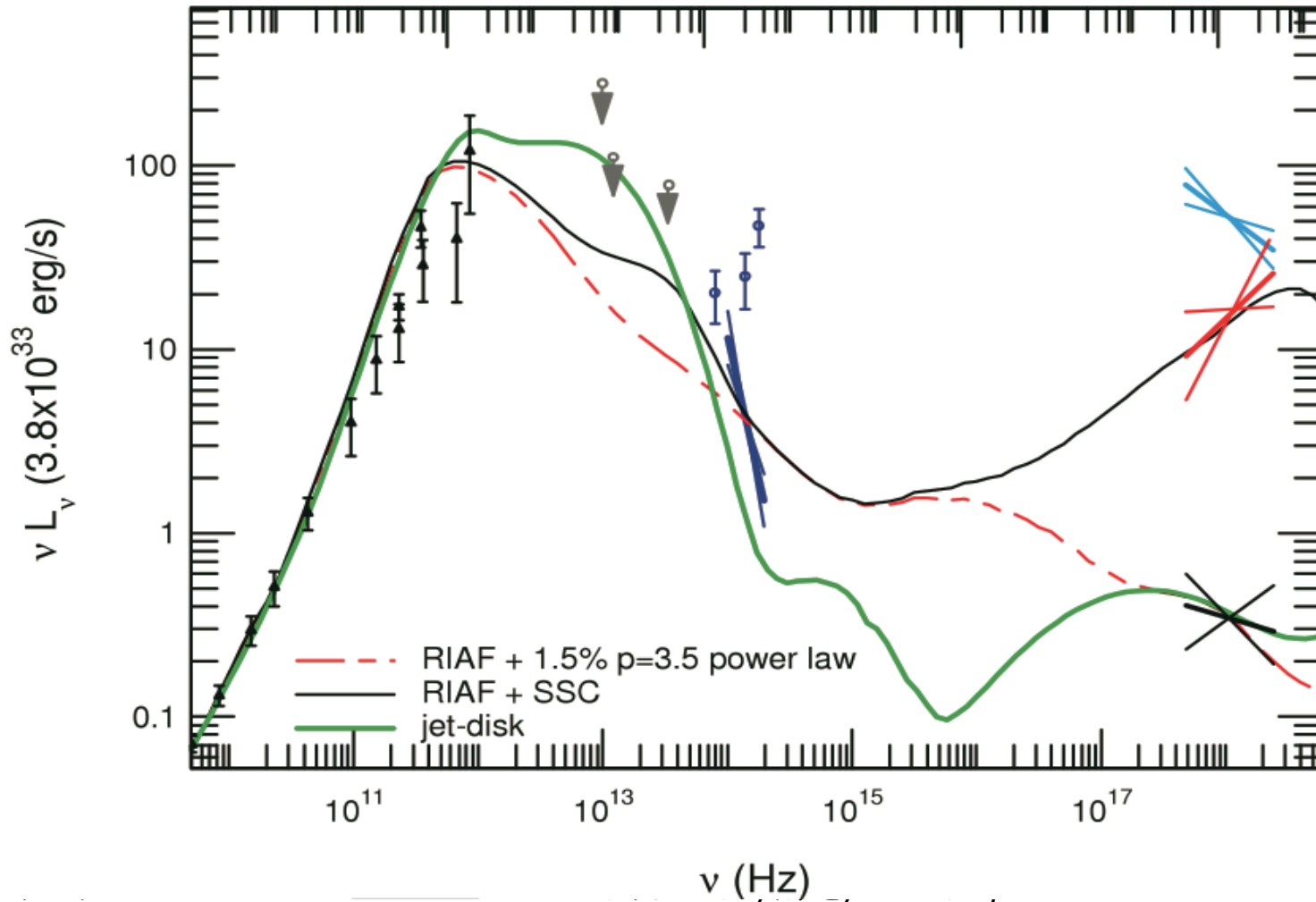
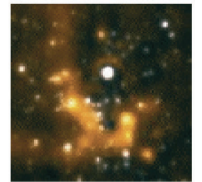


# Key Science Case 2 - NIR-Flares of Sgr A\*



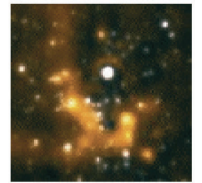


# Sgr A\*: Quiet in NIR





# NIR-Flares



Typically once per night  
Sgr A\* shines up in the  
NIR for ~1 hour

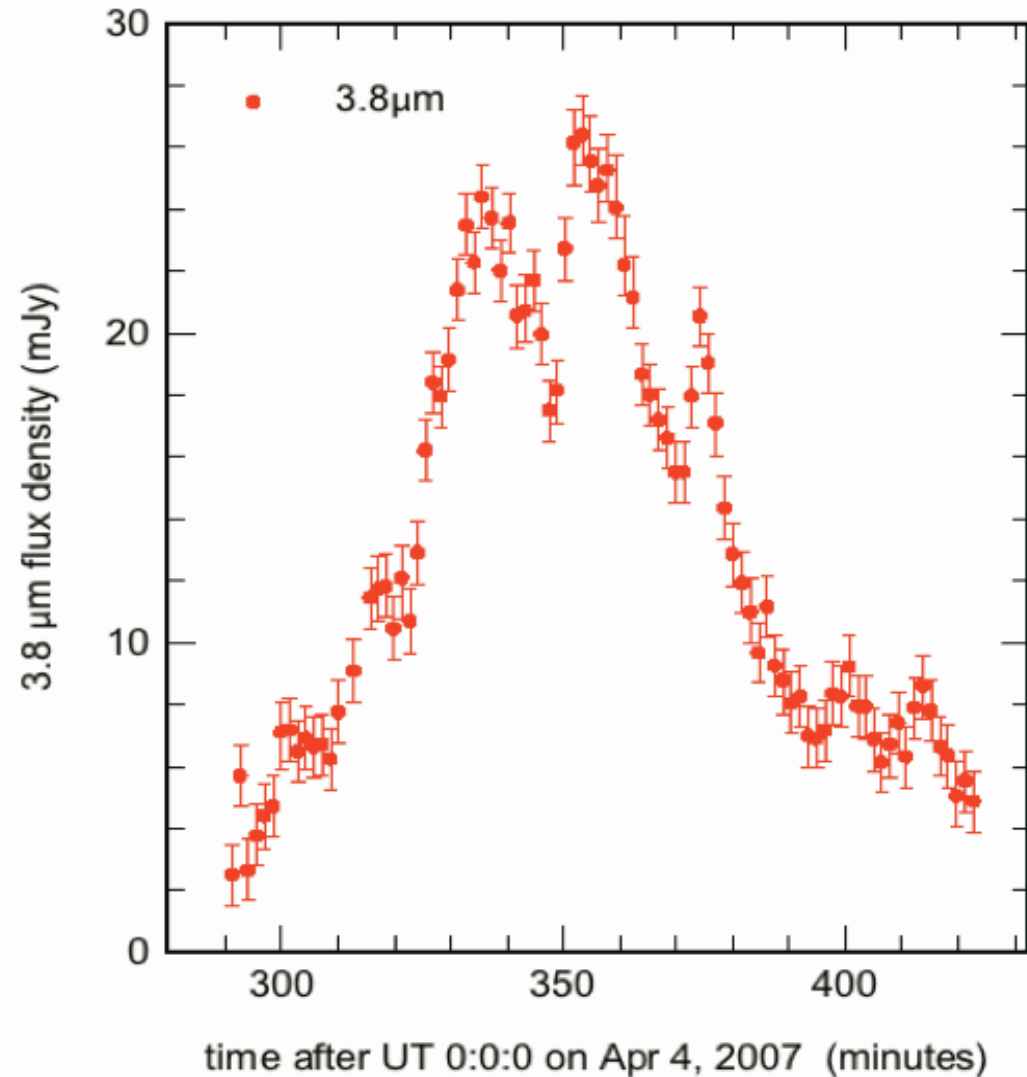
~20 min substructures

IR flare emission  
strongly polarized

simultaneous X-ray  
flares:

IR: synchrotron

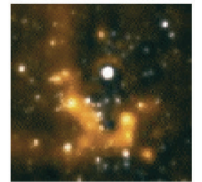
X-ray: IC/SSC emission





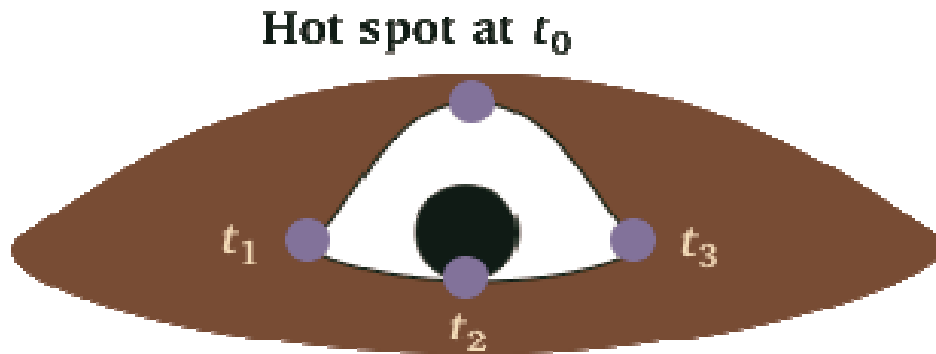


# Origin of Flares

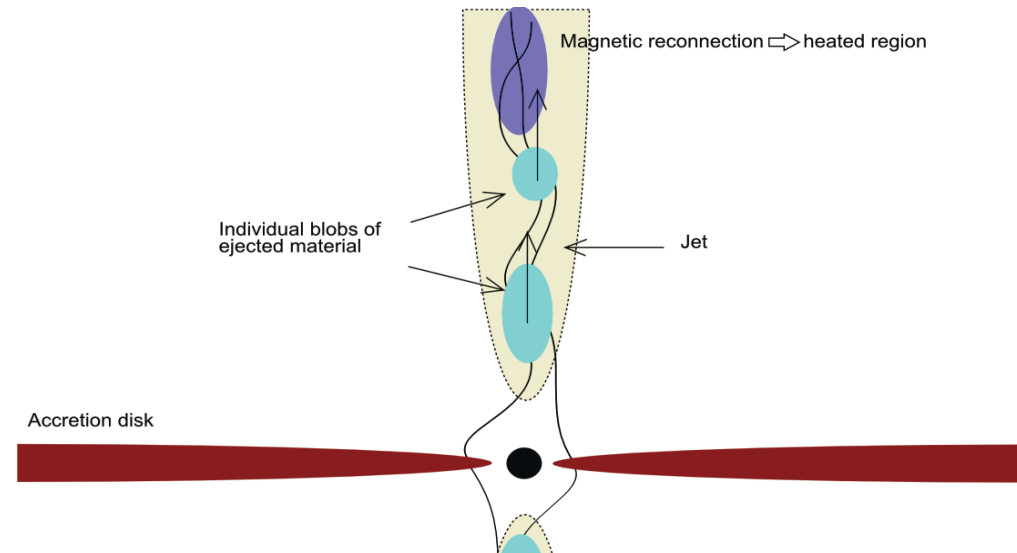


hot spots, e.g. due to magnetic reconnection in:

accretion disks

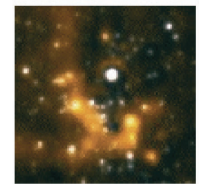


jets

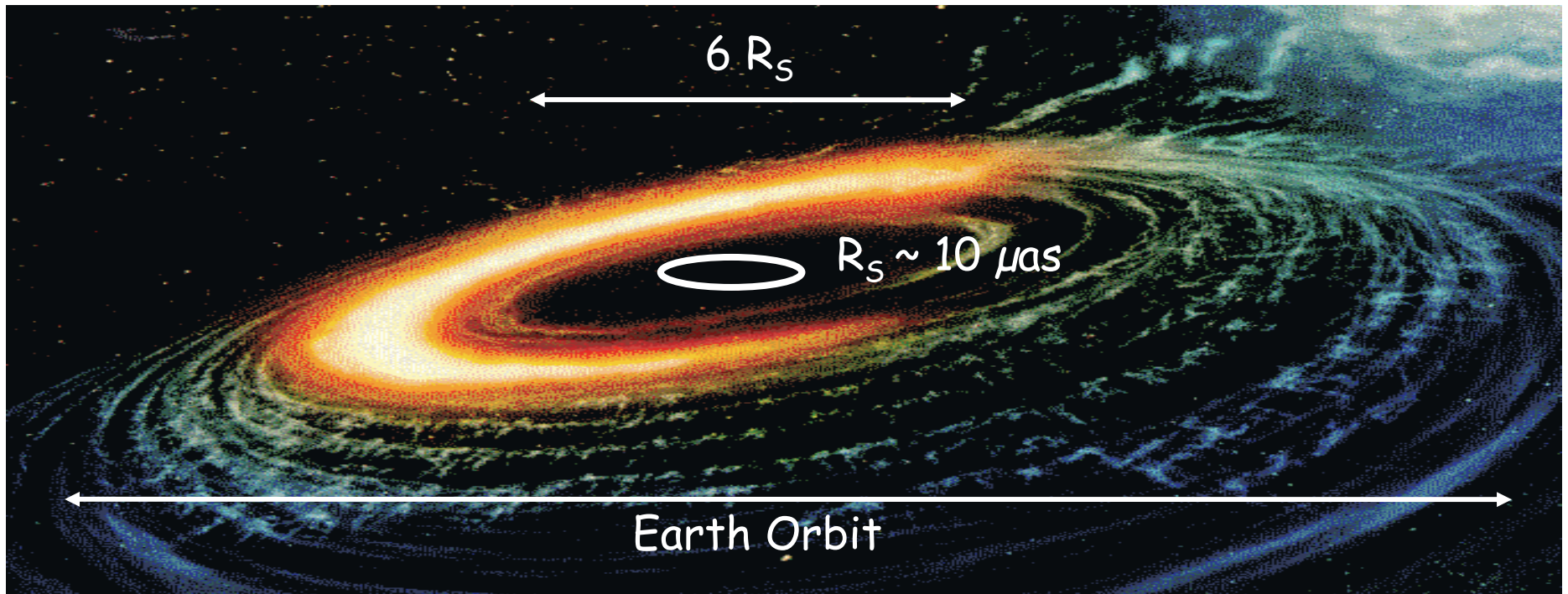




# 20 min Quasi-Periodicity: Small Emission Region

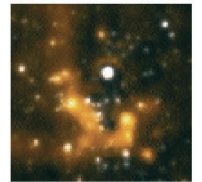


emission originates from **very close** to the **event horizon**  
velocities of 10% - 90% of the speed of light ( $15 \mu\text{as}/\text{min}$ )  
traveled path during one hour: several hundred  $\mu\text{as}$



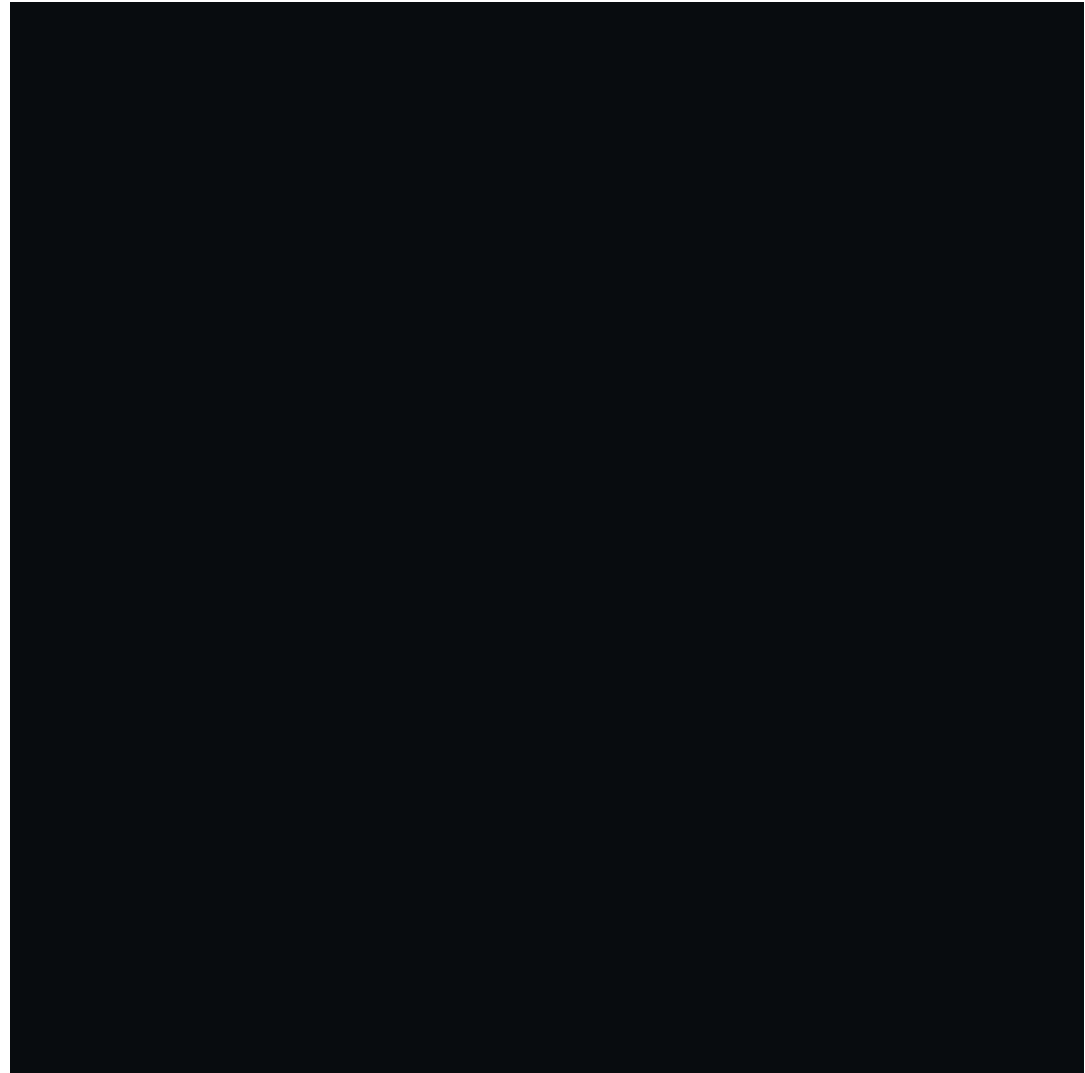


# GR Simulation of Flares



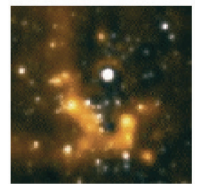
full GR simulation:

black hole spin 0.7,  
inclination = 20deg  
hot spot + shear

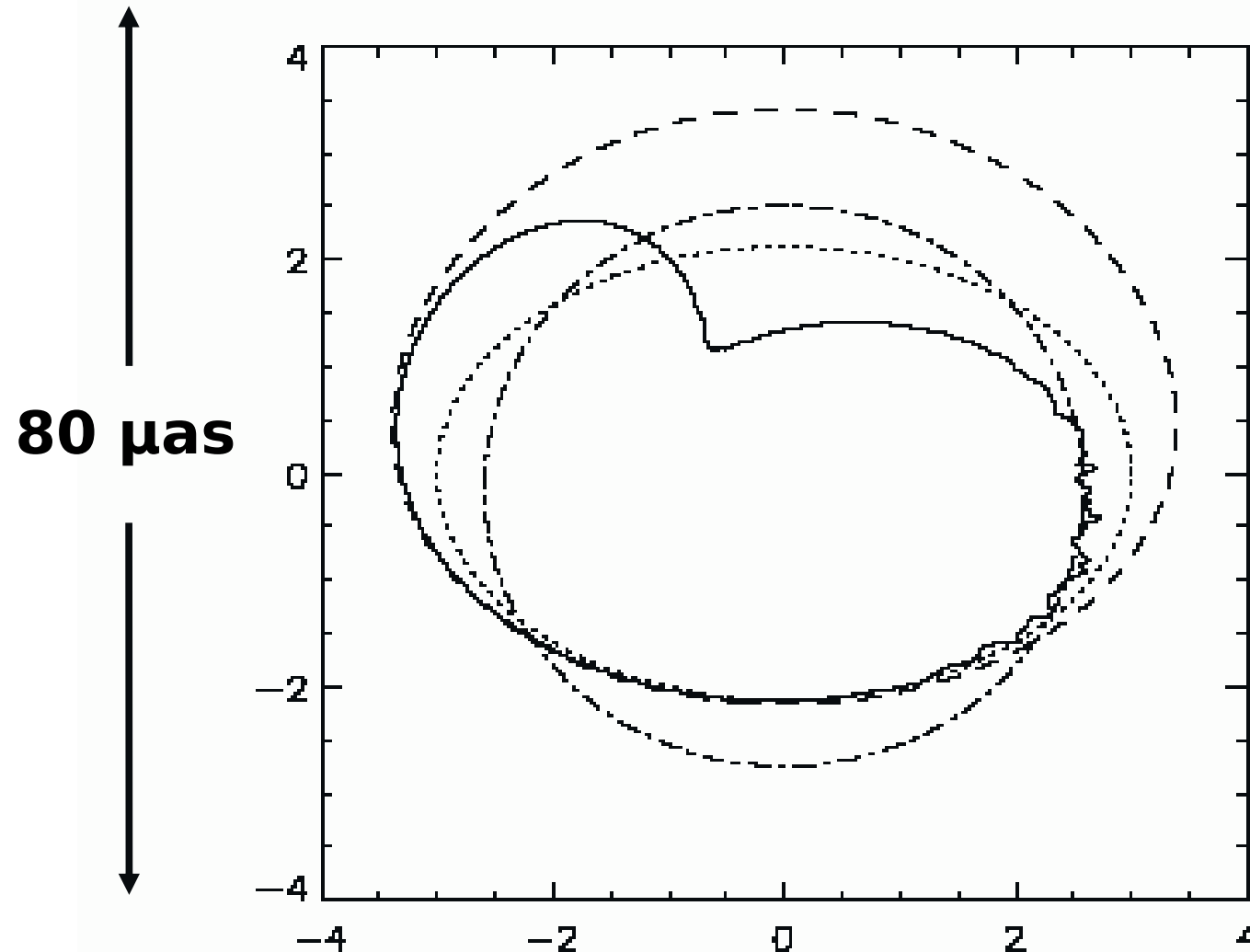




# Simulated Centroid Track



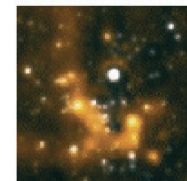
hot spots: unresolved - but centroid motion can be measured



- Multiple images (lensing)
- Beaming
- Doppler effect
- Kerr metric



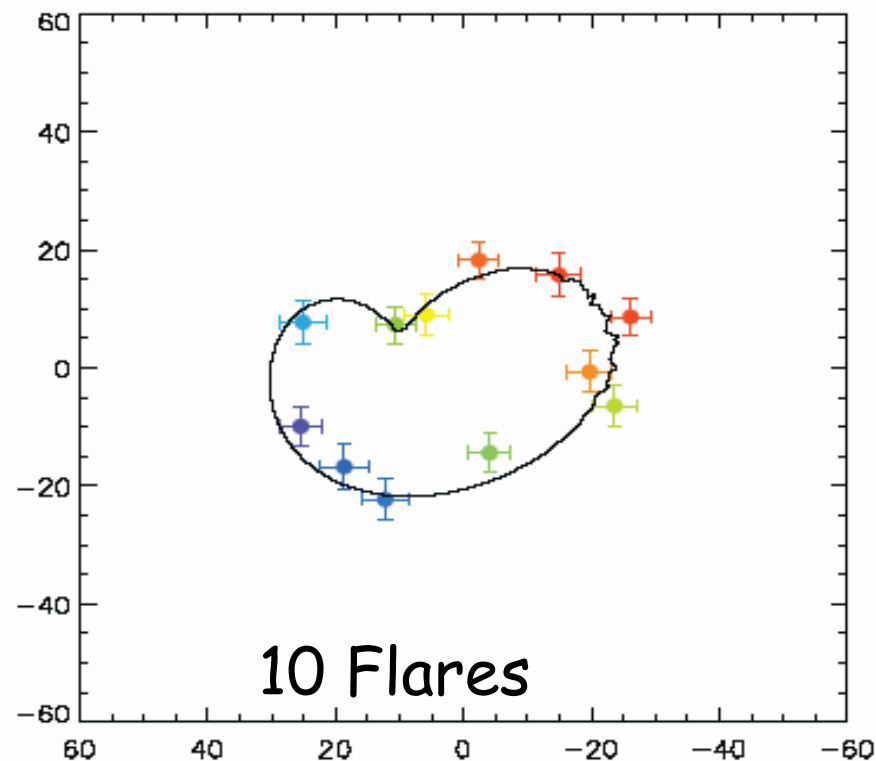
# Feasible with VLTI



- simulation of measurements (optimistic performance):  
10  $\mu\text{s}$  accuracy in 2 min  
12 positions per flare
- proves or disproves the orbital nature

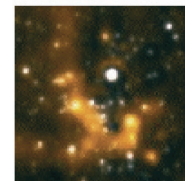


1 Flare





# Determination of Model Parameters



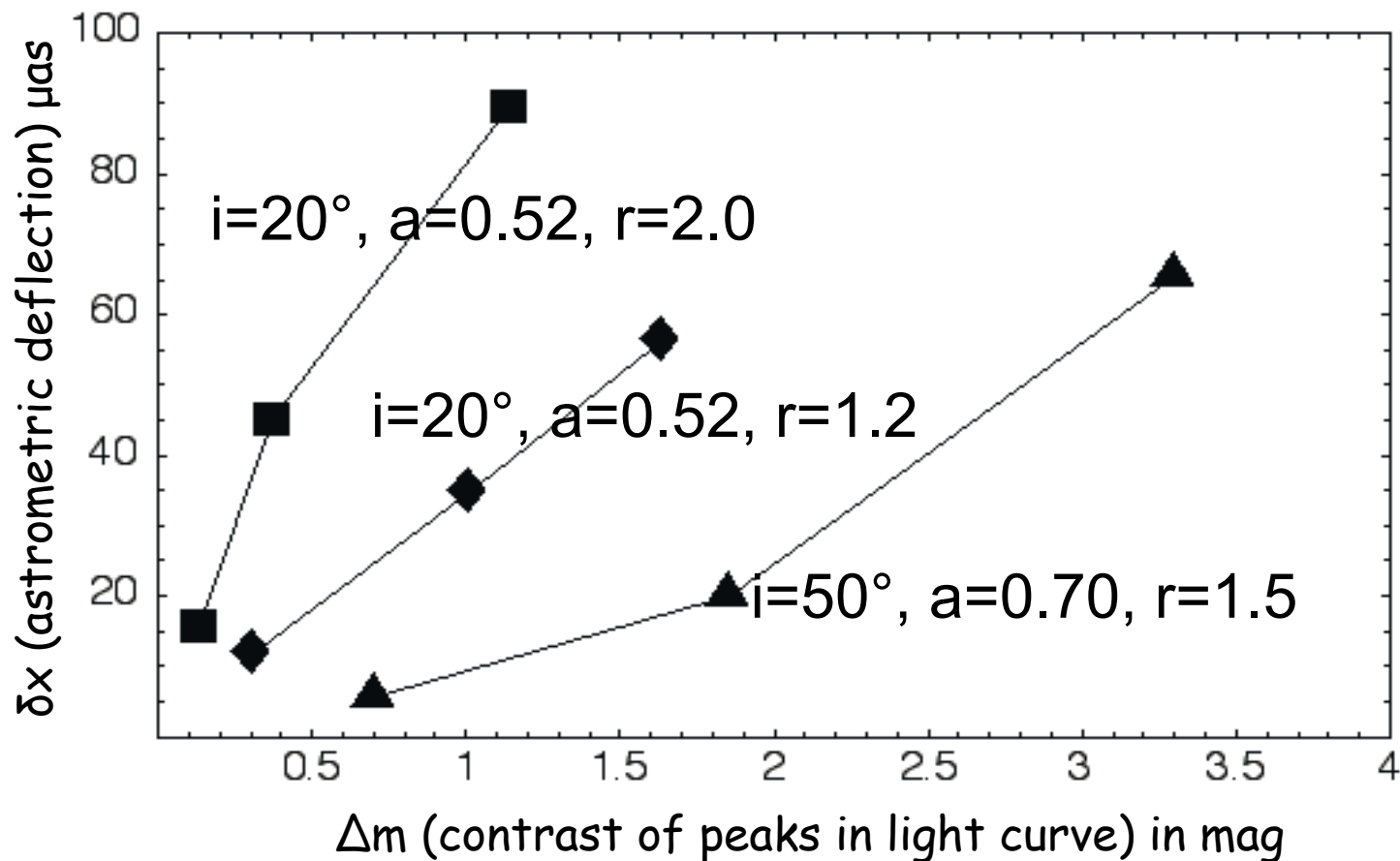
Measuring lightcurves + astrometry allows to disentangle inclination, spin & radius

$\Delta m$ : magnitude difference between peak + following minimum.

$\delta x$  respective astrometric deflection of observable centroid

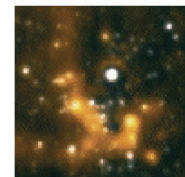
Each model starts with high deflection and high contrast, and both values decrease during the flare.

models sufficiently different, can be discriminated

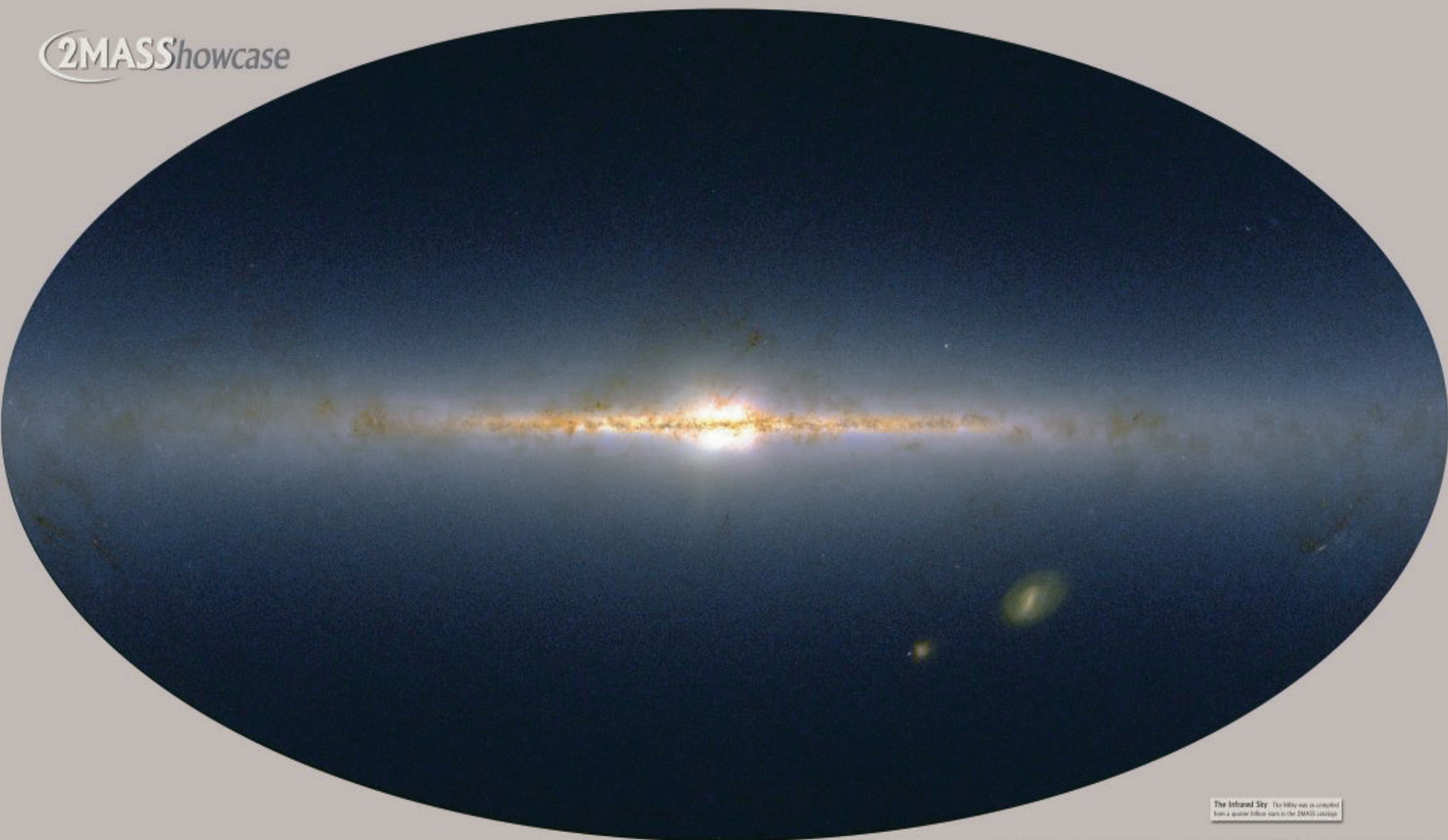




# Key Science beyond the GC



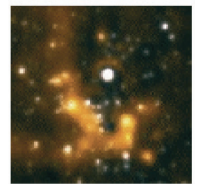
2MASS Showcase



The Infrared Sky - This image was constructed from a quarter billion stars in the 2MASS catalogs



# Repeat GC Experiment with other SMBH



- M31 (northern sky)
  - $1.4 \times 10^8 M_{\text{sun}}$  SMBH
  - disk of young stars
  - 10 in reach of VLTI
- Few years of VLTI
  - $10^7 M_{\text{sun}}$  @ 10 Mpc
  - $10^8 M_{\text{sun}}$  @ 30 Mpc

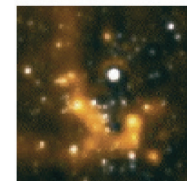


- use interferometric gain to probe higher mass further out

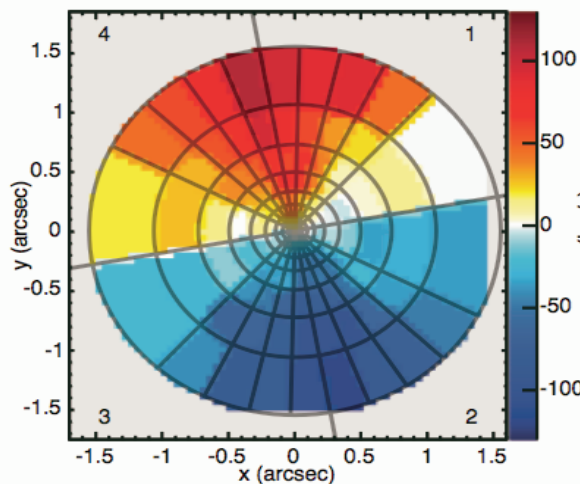




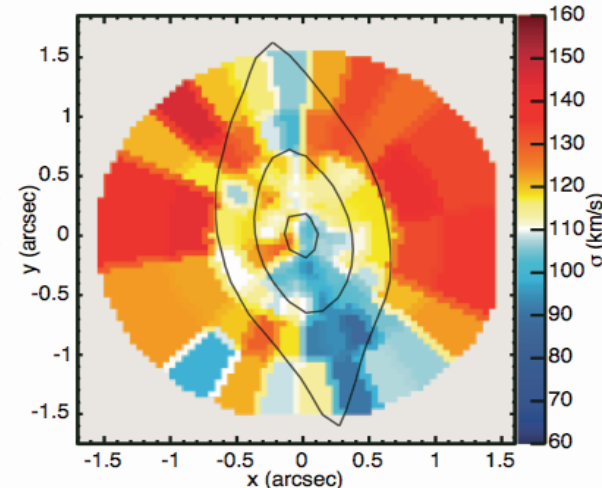
# Black Hole Masses from Stellar Dynamics



- Spatially resolved spectroscopy with GRAVITY: Similar to work with SINFONI: spatially resolved rotation patterns
- $10^7 M_{\text{sun}}$  black hole: sphere of influence of 4 pc.
- with 4 mas resolution: resolved out to 200 Mpc.
- Less biased by extended mass components due to higher resolution



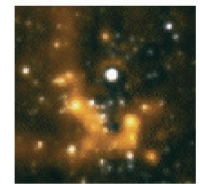
NGC 4486



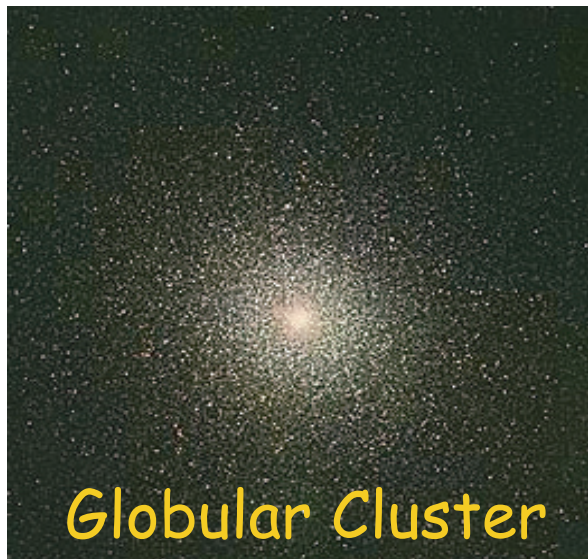
Nowak et al.



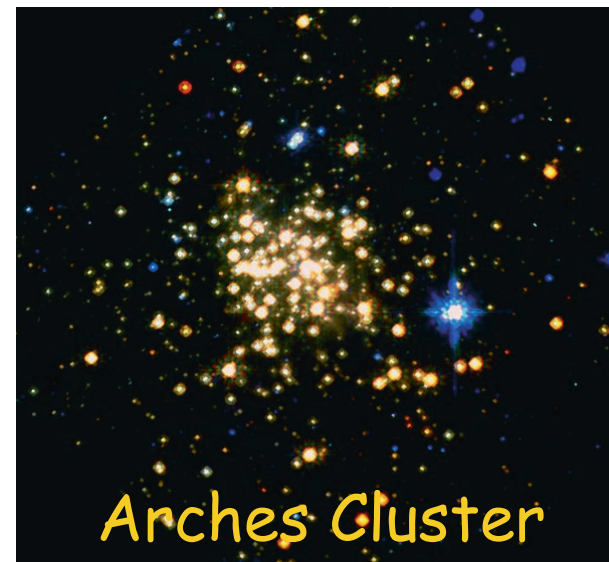
# Intermediate Mass Black Holes



- Seeds for SMBHs ?
- formed through core collapse of Pop III stars at  $z = 10$ ?
- Compelling cases: Globular Clusters, IRS 13 (close to GC)
- Use interferometric gain to see lower masses in Galaxy  
from unambiguous stellar orbits  
rather than velocity dispersion within sphere of influence



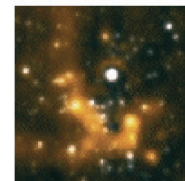
Globular Cluster



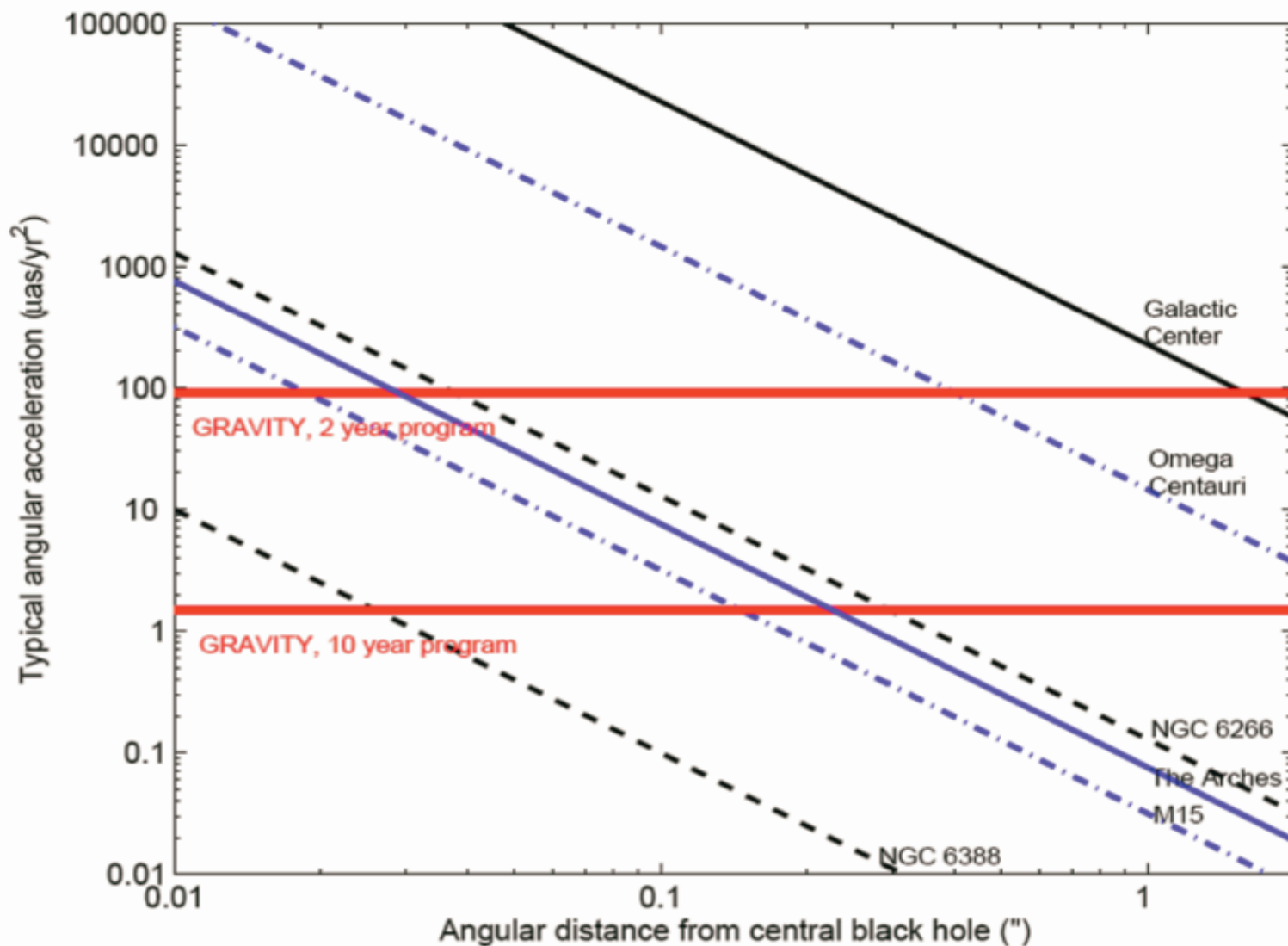
Arches Cluster



# Observation Time

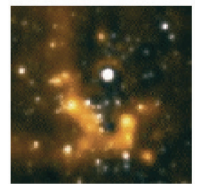


need several years of observations

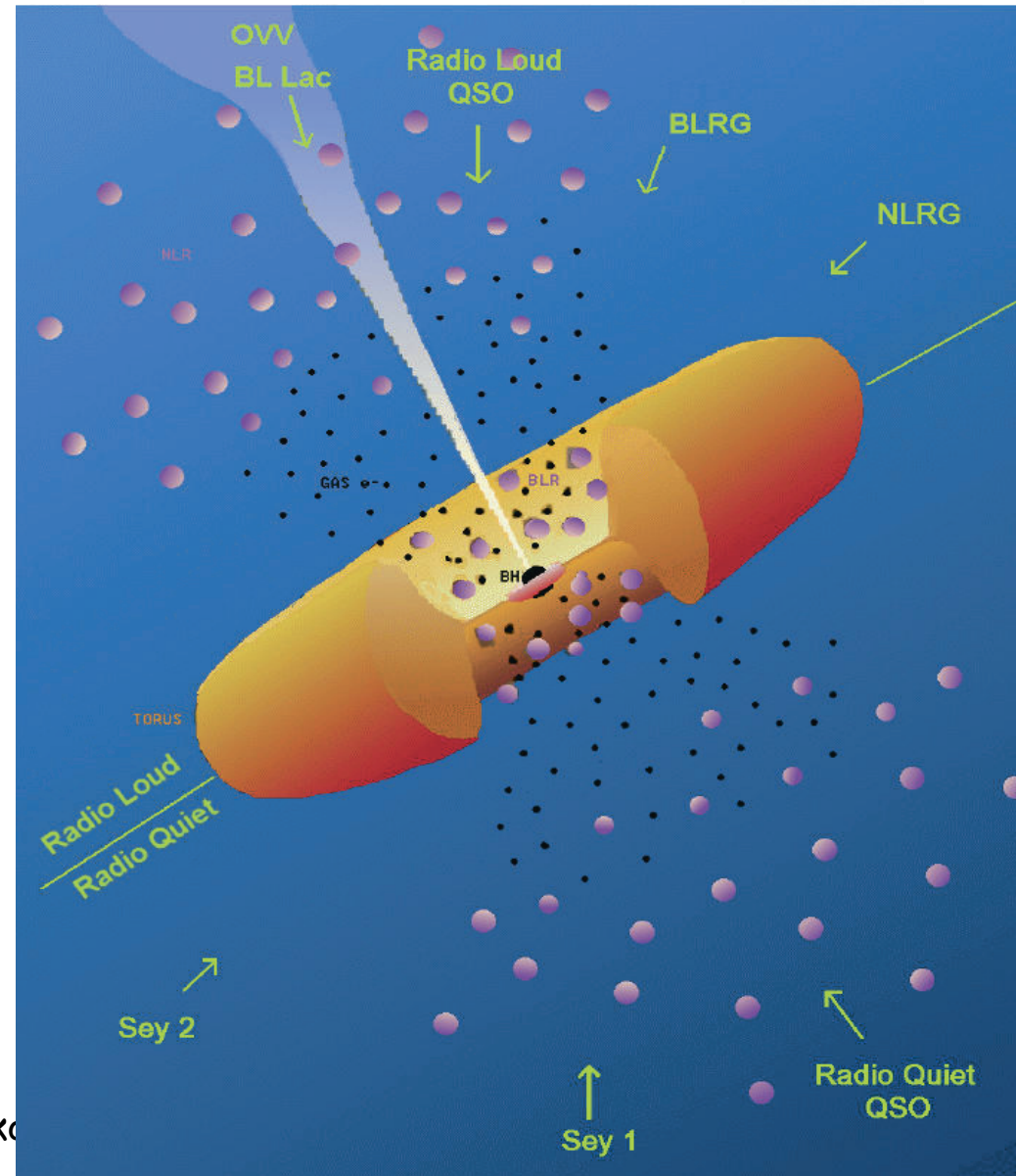




# AGN with GRAVITY

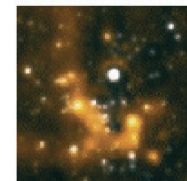


- close AGN ( $< 20$  Mpc):  
spatial scales accessible  
similar to seeing limited  
observations of the GC
- questions:  
dust emission: torus or  
NLR?  
maser disk, AGN jet and  
BH accretion  
BLR sizes, nuclear star  
cluster, gas motions



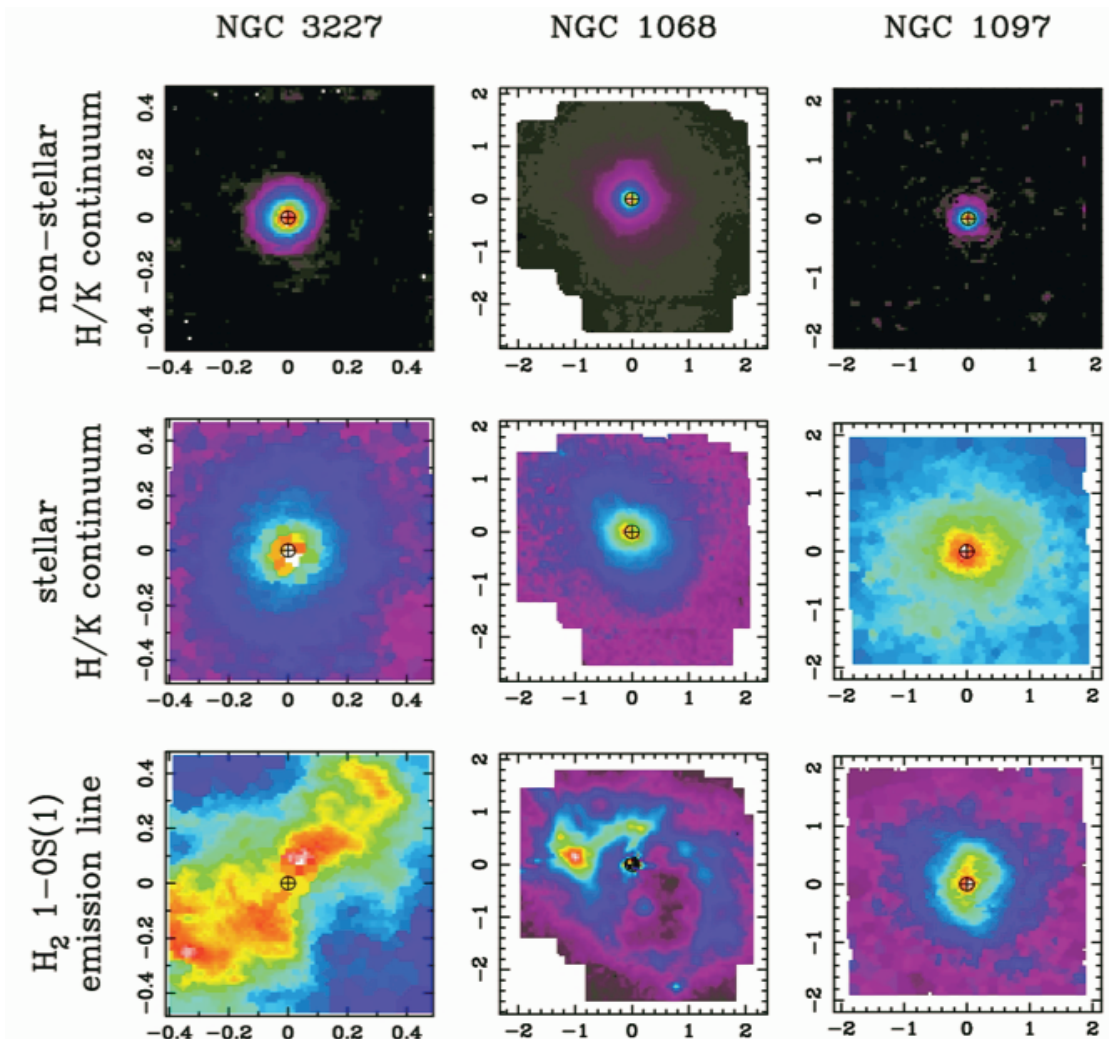


# Star Formation in AGN



GRAVITY probes star formation in AGN on 1 pc scales

- How close in can stars still exist?
- What is  $LF(r)$  for very small  $r$ ?
- Do stars exist inside the torus?

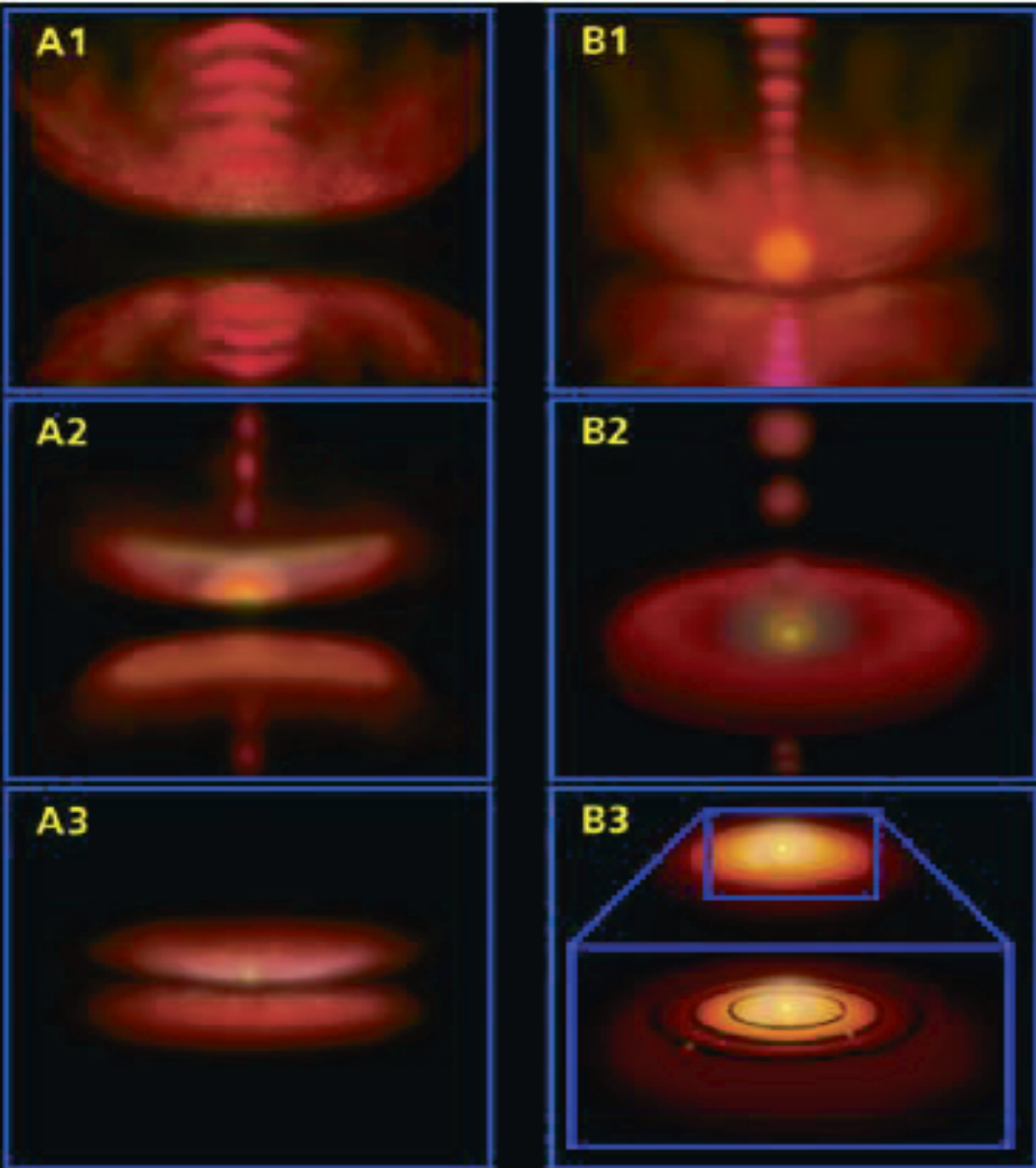
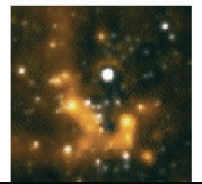


2008/06/12

SINFONI  
Davies et al.

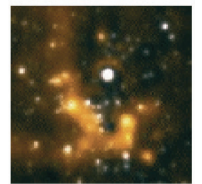


# Stellar Size Systems





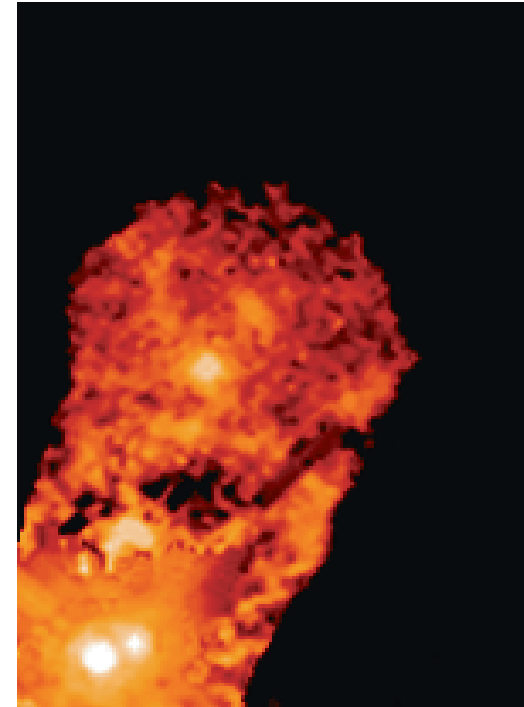
# The Jet Engine in T Tauri Stars



Most young stars have disks and bipolar outflows.

distance of Taurus (150 pc):  
4 mas correspond to 0.6 A.U.

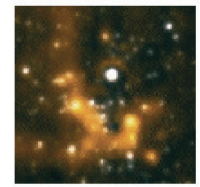
GRAVITY: trace jets from T Tauri stars in real time (i.e. on the time frame of ~weeks)



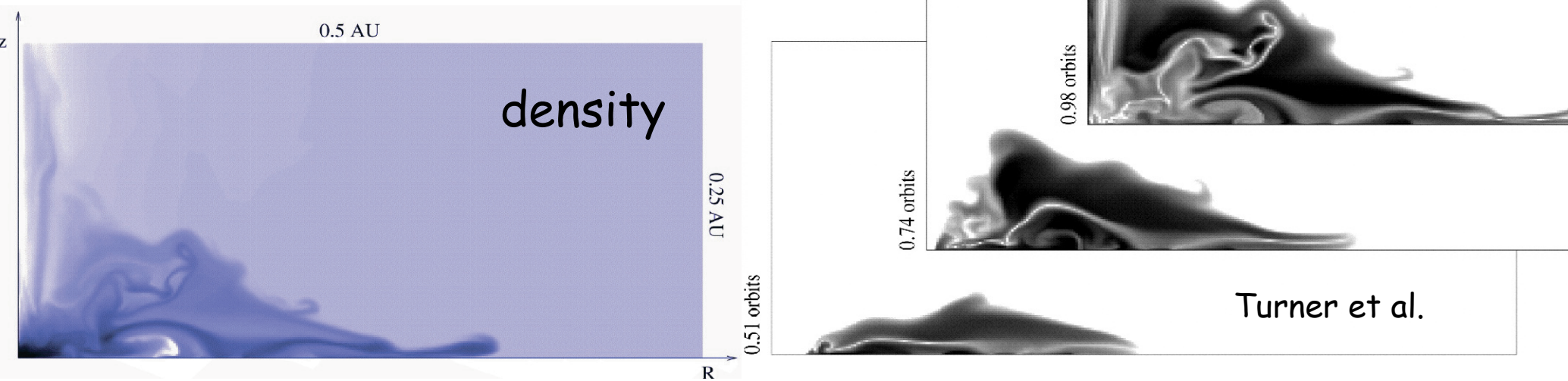
HST monitoring of HH30 and XZ Tau (Krist et al.)  
FoV: 3" x 6" (300 A.U. x 600 A.U.)  
Time base: 5 yr



# The Jet Engine in T Tauri Stars



MHD simulation of jet formation  
(time sequence)

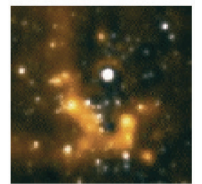


GRAVITY will address the question if jets originate in disk winds, or are driven by a central engine  
-> test models of jet formation and the role of magnetic fields





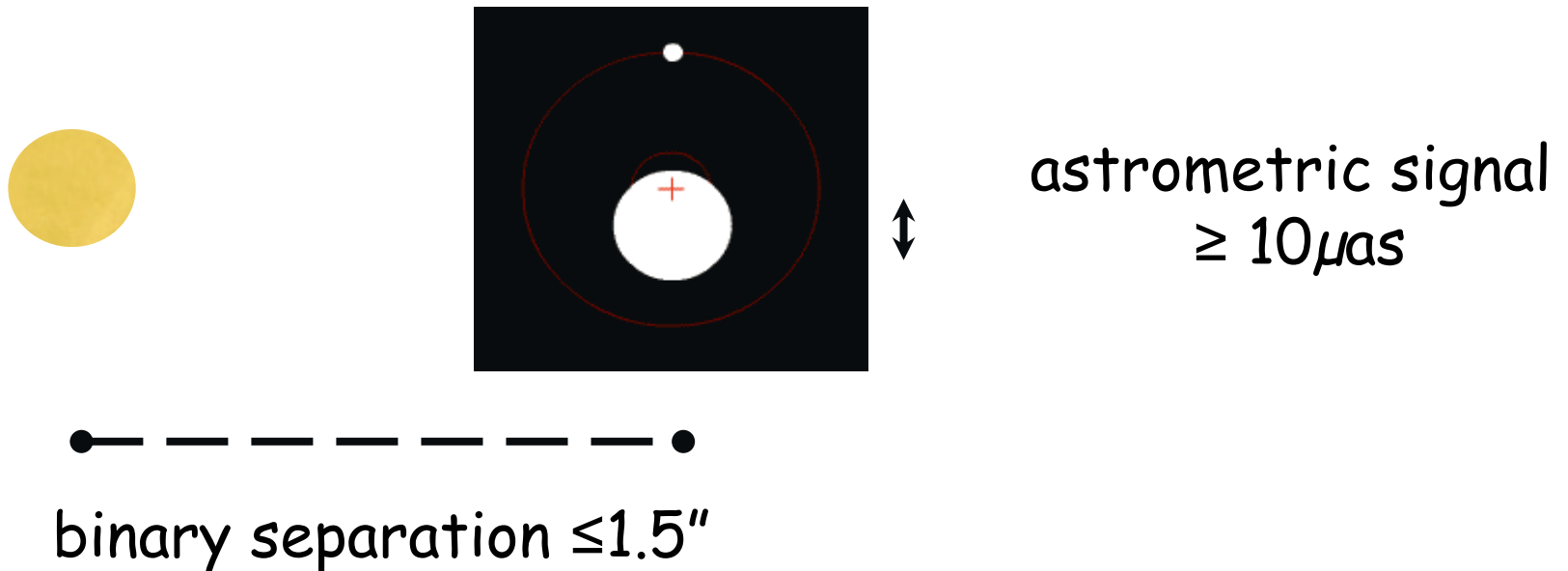
# Exo-Jupiters & -Neptunes in Binary Systems



Example:

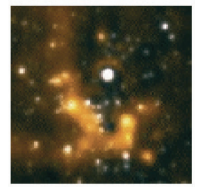
astrometric signal of Neptune-mass exoplanet in 2 A.U. orbit  
around M5V star ( $m^*/m_{\text{pl}} = 4000$ ) at distance of 10 pc:

astrometric-wobble:  $\pm 50 \mu\text{as}$ , orbital period: 6.3 yr

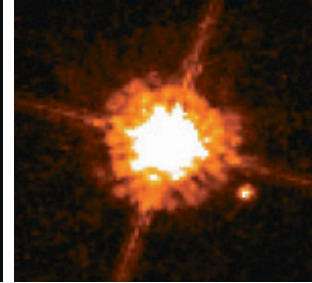
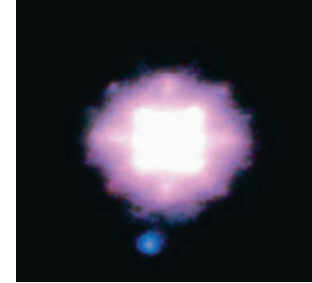
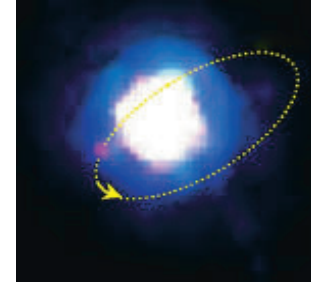




# Exo-Jupiters & -Neptunes in Binary Systems

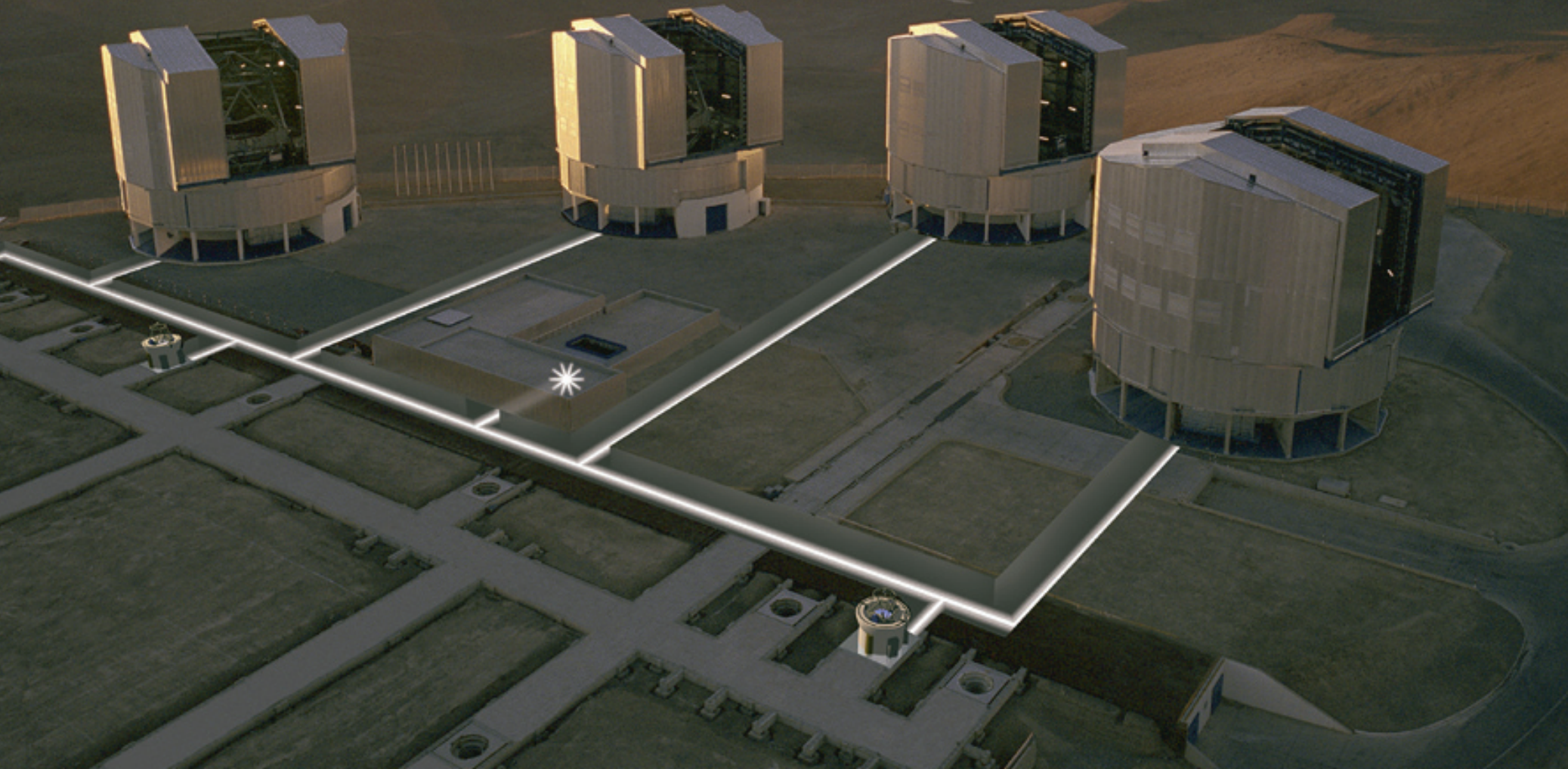


GRAVITY discovery space :



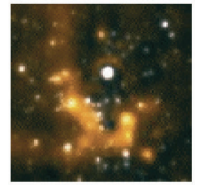
Host star	max dist (mK=10 mag)	planet mass
G2V (sun)	200 pc	Exo-Jupiter
M5V	25 pc	Exo-Neptunes

# $\mu$ as Astrometry with GRAVITY - in the GC and elsewhere



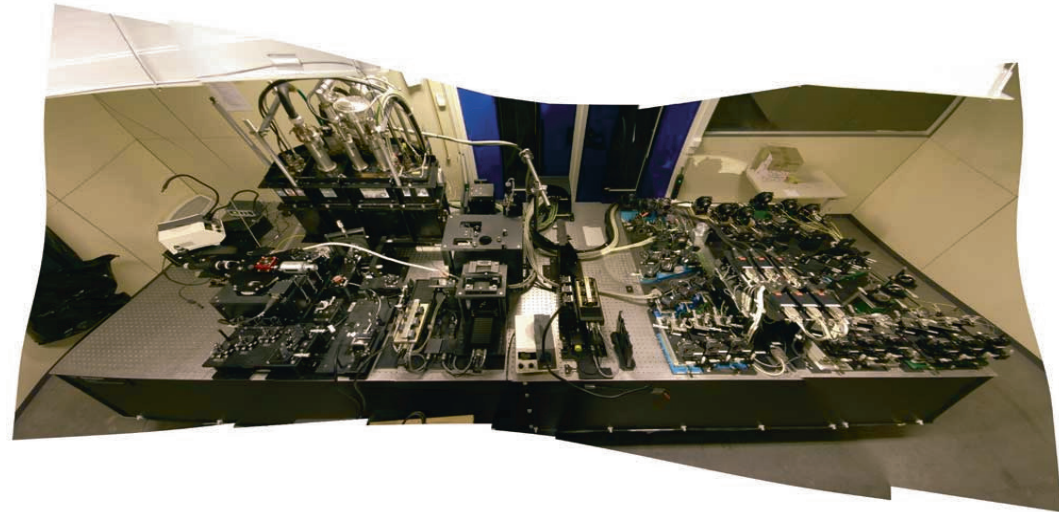


# 1<sup>st</sup> VLTI Generation



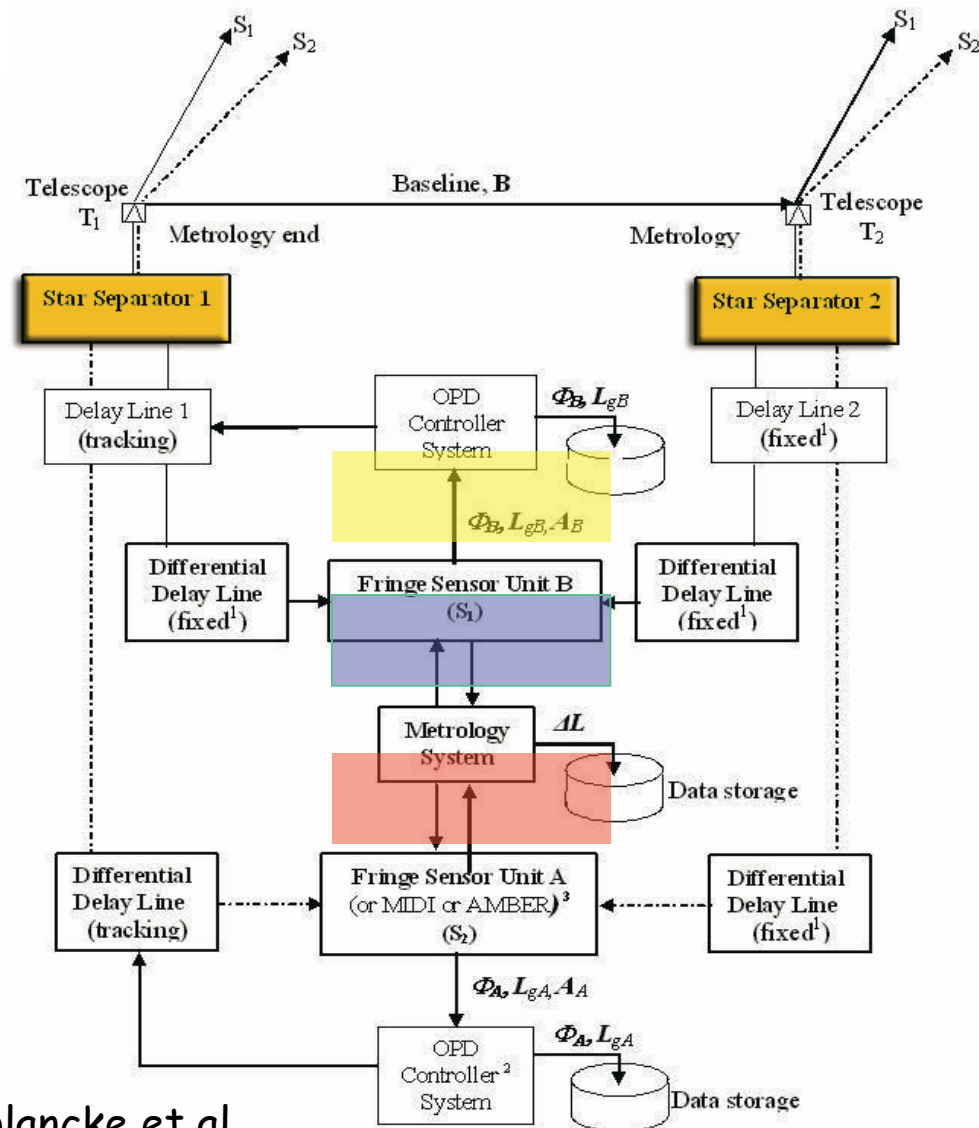
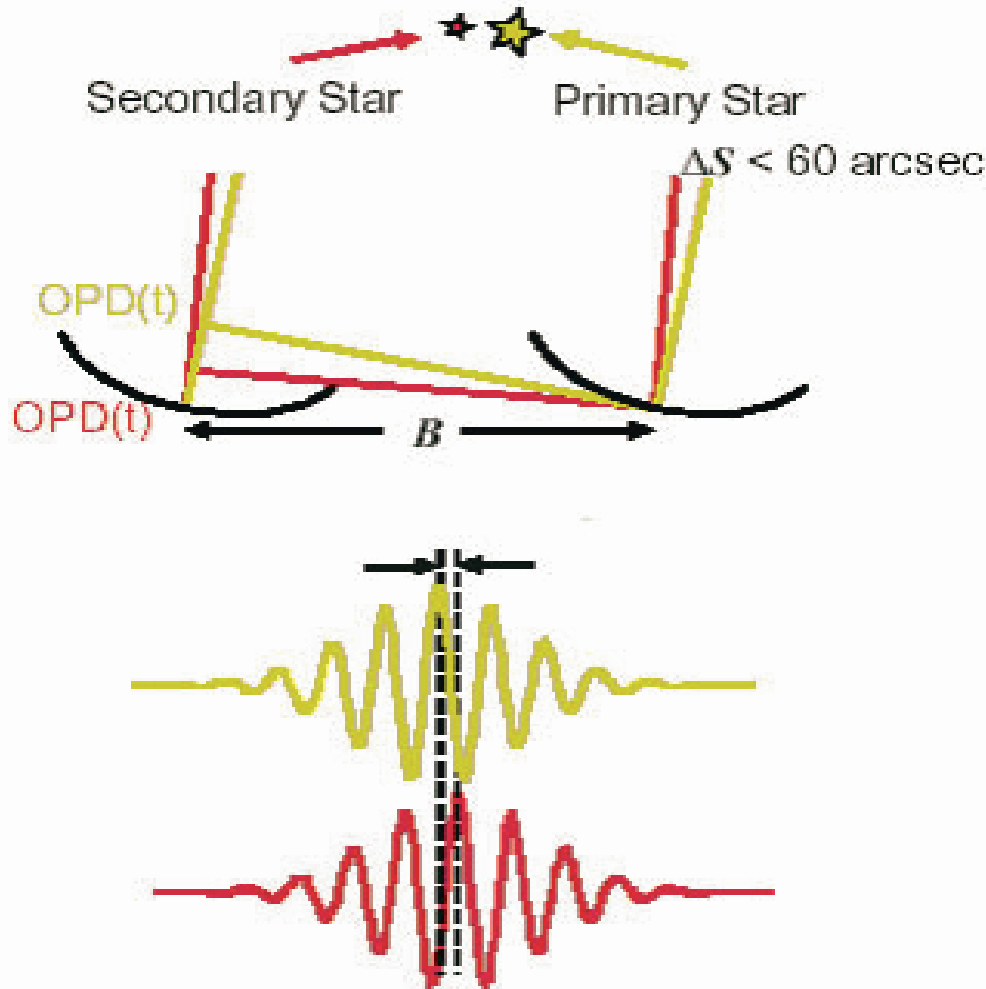
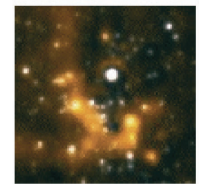
Optimized for different science

- not sensitive enough
- at most 3 UTs
- no IR-WFS





# Key to $\mu$ as Astrometry: Phase Referencing

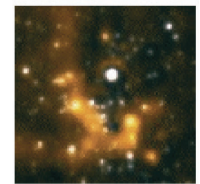


Measure relative phase

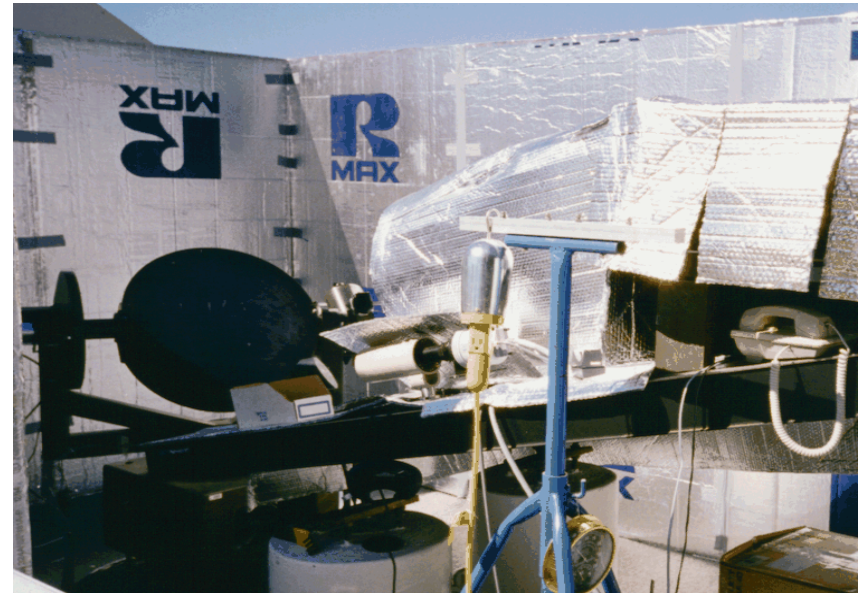
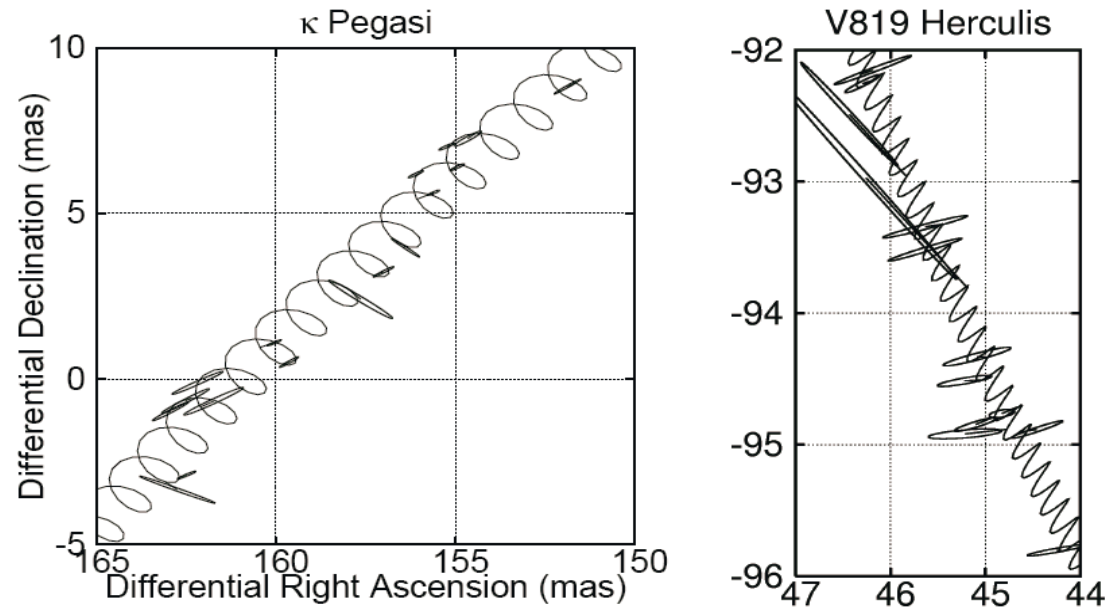
PRIMA: Delplancke et al.



# PTI: Ten $\mu\text{s}$ Astrometry



Search for **giant planets** orbiting in binary systems



Muterspaugh et al. 2006: "... at the  $20\mu\text{s}$  level has been demonstrated ..."

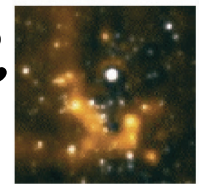
V819 Herculis

$K_{\text{Primary/Secondary}} = 4.4 / 5.8 \text{ mag}$

Palomar Testbed Interferometer  
110 m / 87 m baseline  
40 cm Aperture

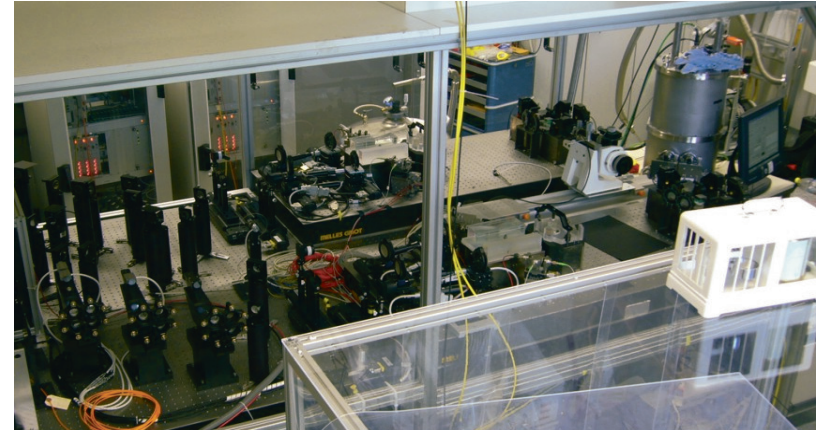


# Interferometry with Large Telescopes



## PRIMA @ VLTI

- Up to 200 m baseline
- 2 telescopes
- 10-100  $\mu\text{as}$  astrometry
- Installation 2008/9



PRIMA Testbed at MPE

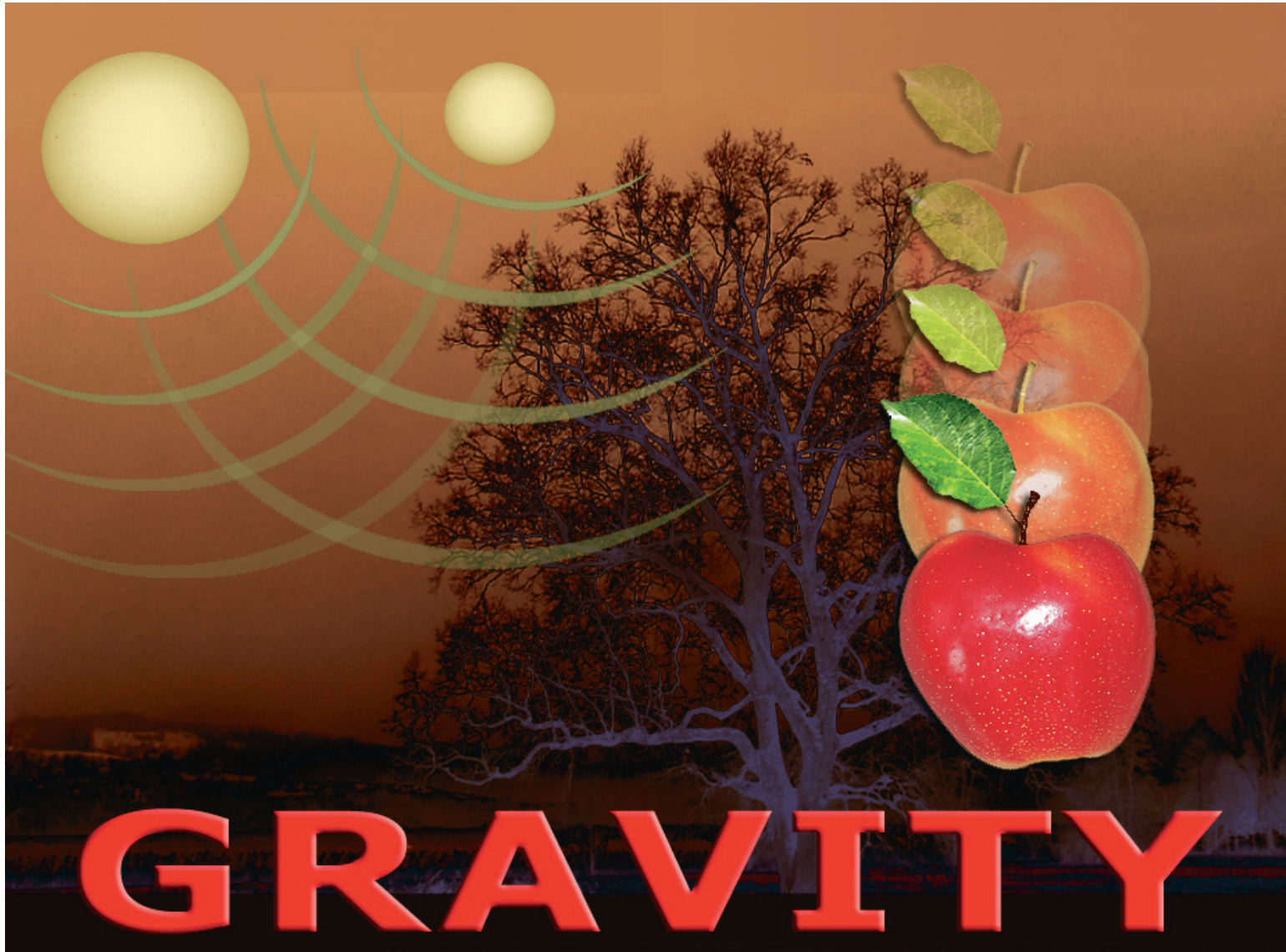
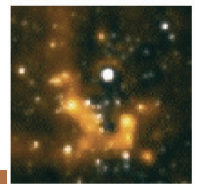
## Keck interferometer upgrade

- 85 m baseline
- 30  $\mu\text{as}$  astrometry
- Installation 2008-10





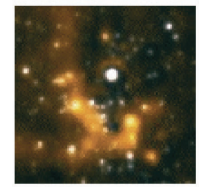
# The GRAVITY Instrument







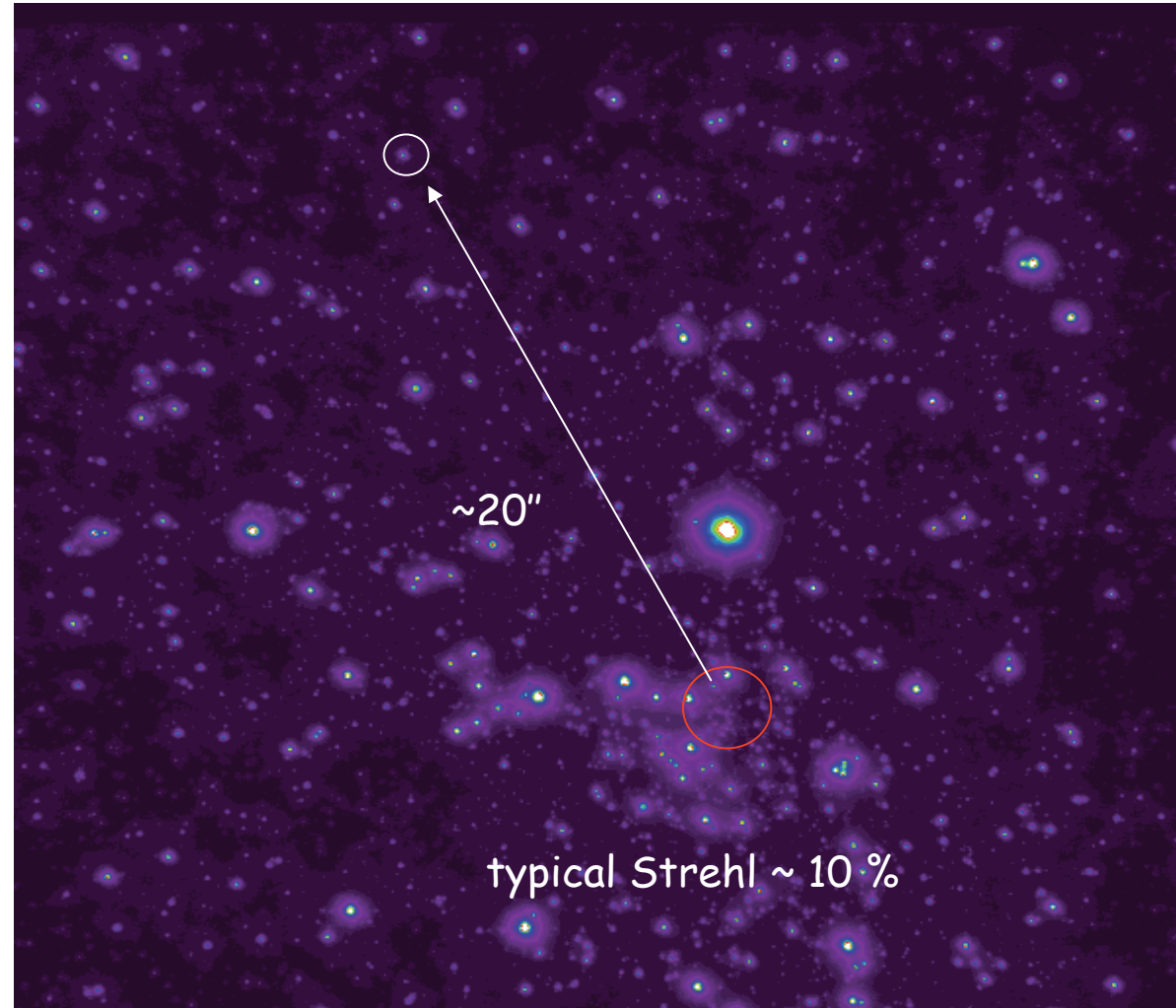
# IR Wavefront Sensing: Key to GC



Optical AO guide  
star 20" away  
( $>$  isoplanatic angle)

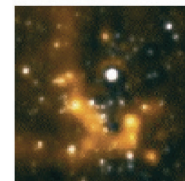
Strehl ratio loss  
factor 5

But: Bright IR source  
6" North





# AO Star $\neq$ Fringe Tracking Star



'Standard' case:

AO star = fringe tracking star

WFS on phase reference

Galactic Center case:

FoV:  $2'' <$  distance to AO star

2 Beams:

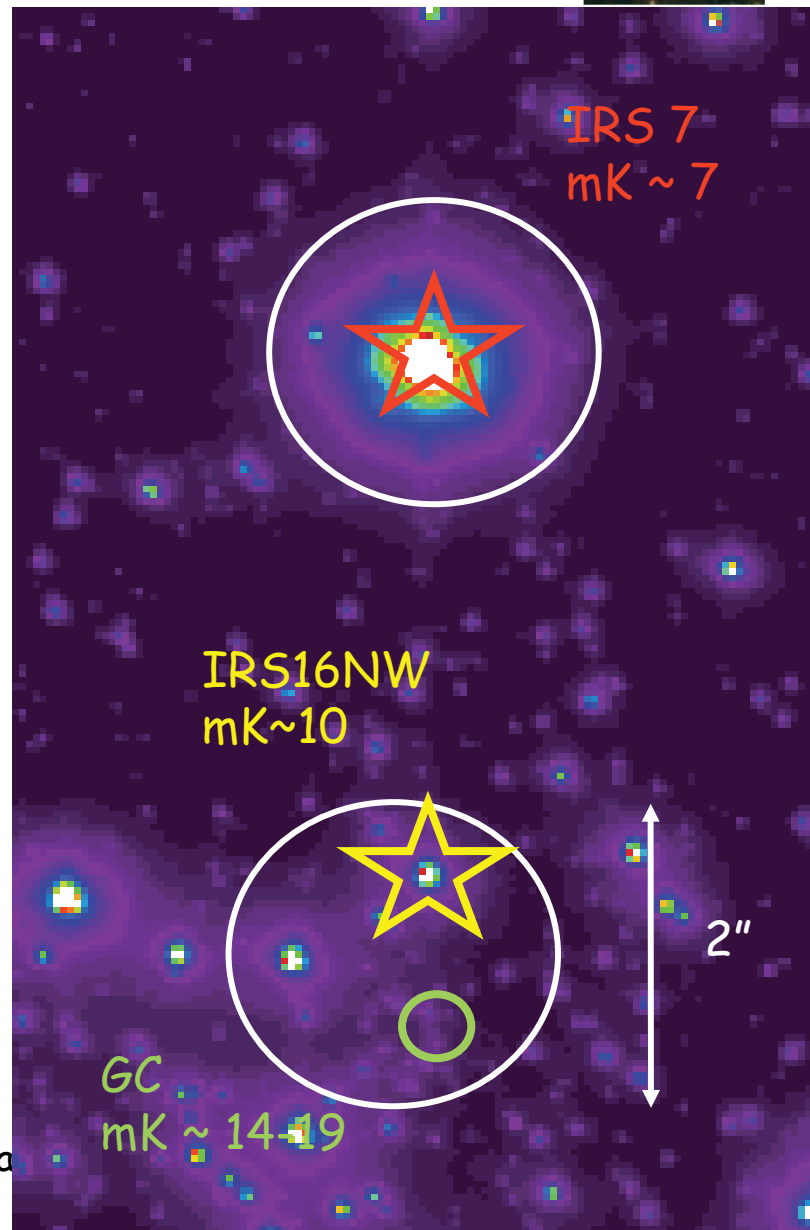
a) Object / Phase Reference

b) AO / WFS

Note: Suitable stars exist!

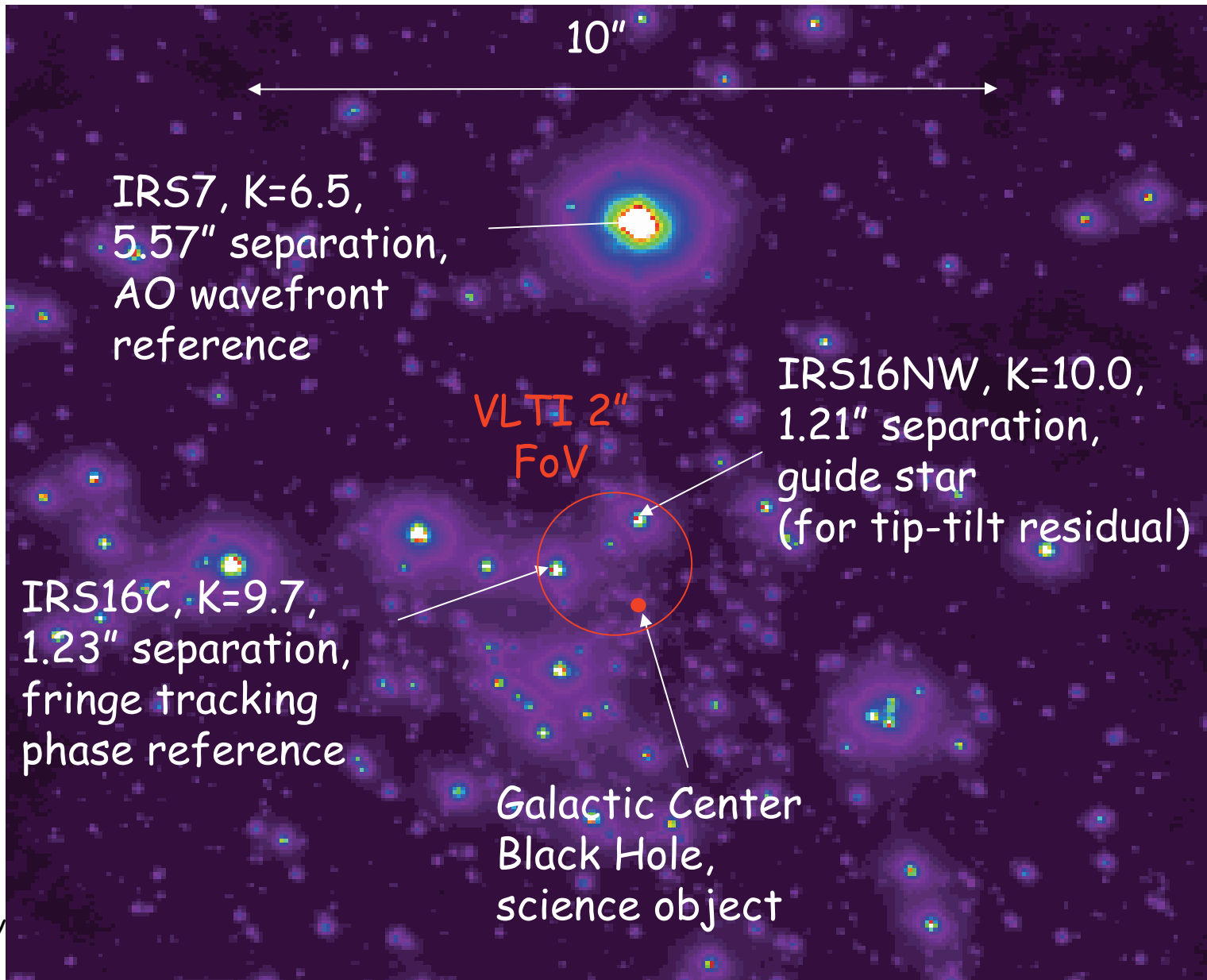
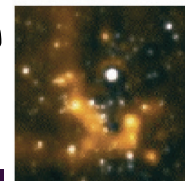
a) IRS 16 NW: fringe-tracking

b) IRS 7: WFS



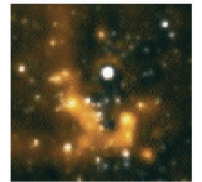


# GRAVITY: Optimized for GC





# Top Level Requirements



## Science Requirements:

- 4 UTs, 6 baselines
- K-band, low spectral resolution (up to 500)
- 50% Strehl ratio for  $m_K \sim 6$ , 6" away
- on-axis ( $< 2''$ ) phase referencing on  $m_K \leq 10$  star
- 10  $\mu\text{as}$  in 5 min for  $m_K \geq 15$
- imaging to  $K \sim 19$

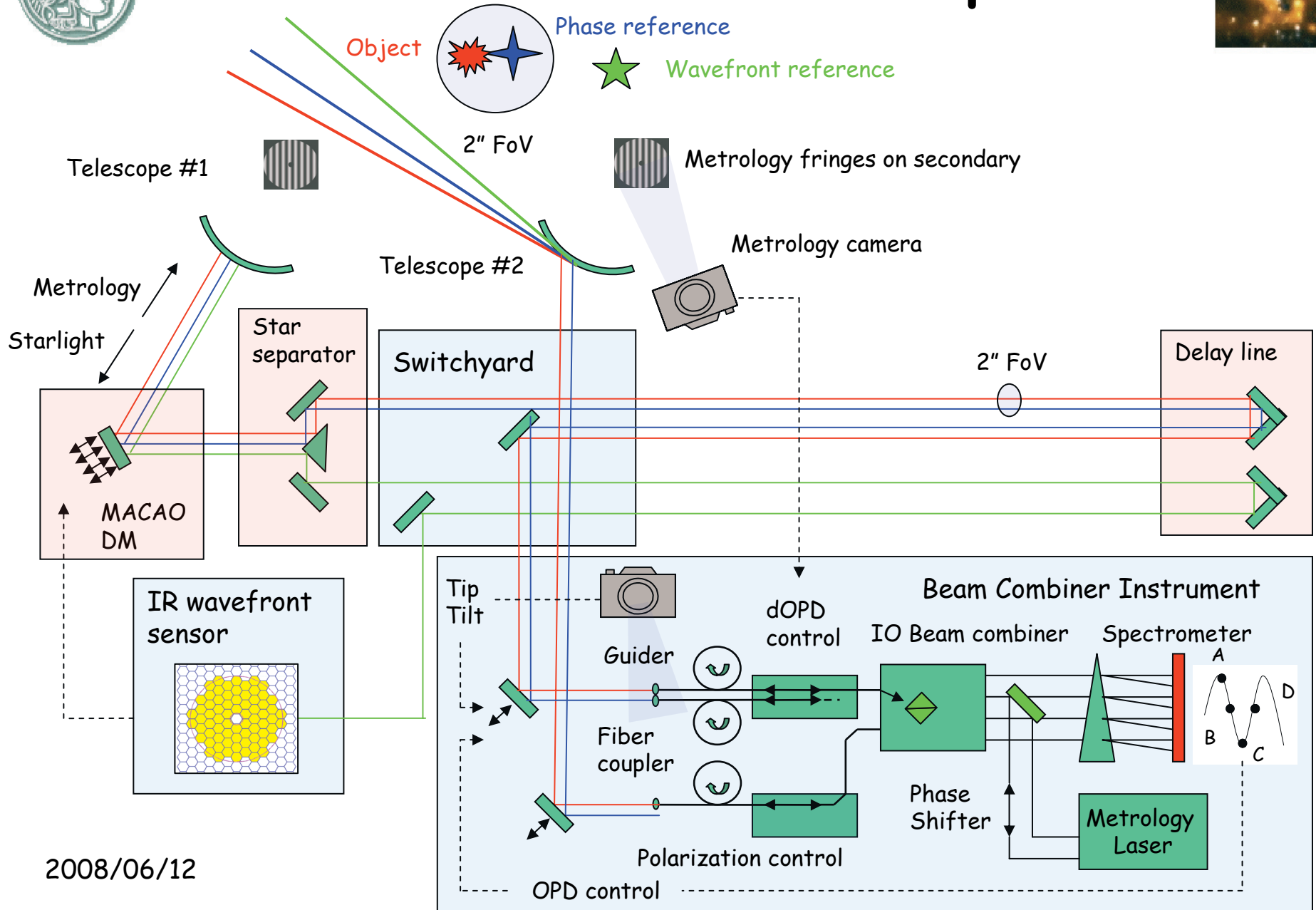
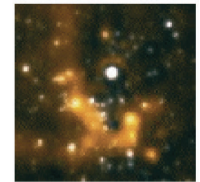
## IR wavefront sensing down to $m_K \sim 10$

- off axis (e.g. GC)
- on axis (e.g. stars)

high stability: integrated (fiber) optics beam combiner-operation in cryostat



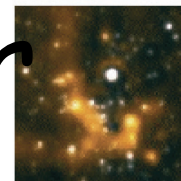
# GRAVITY Concept



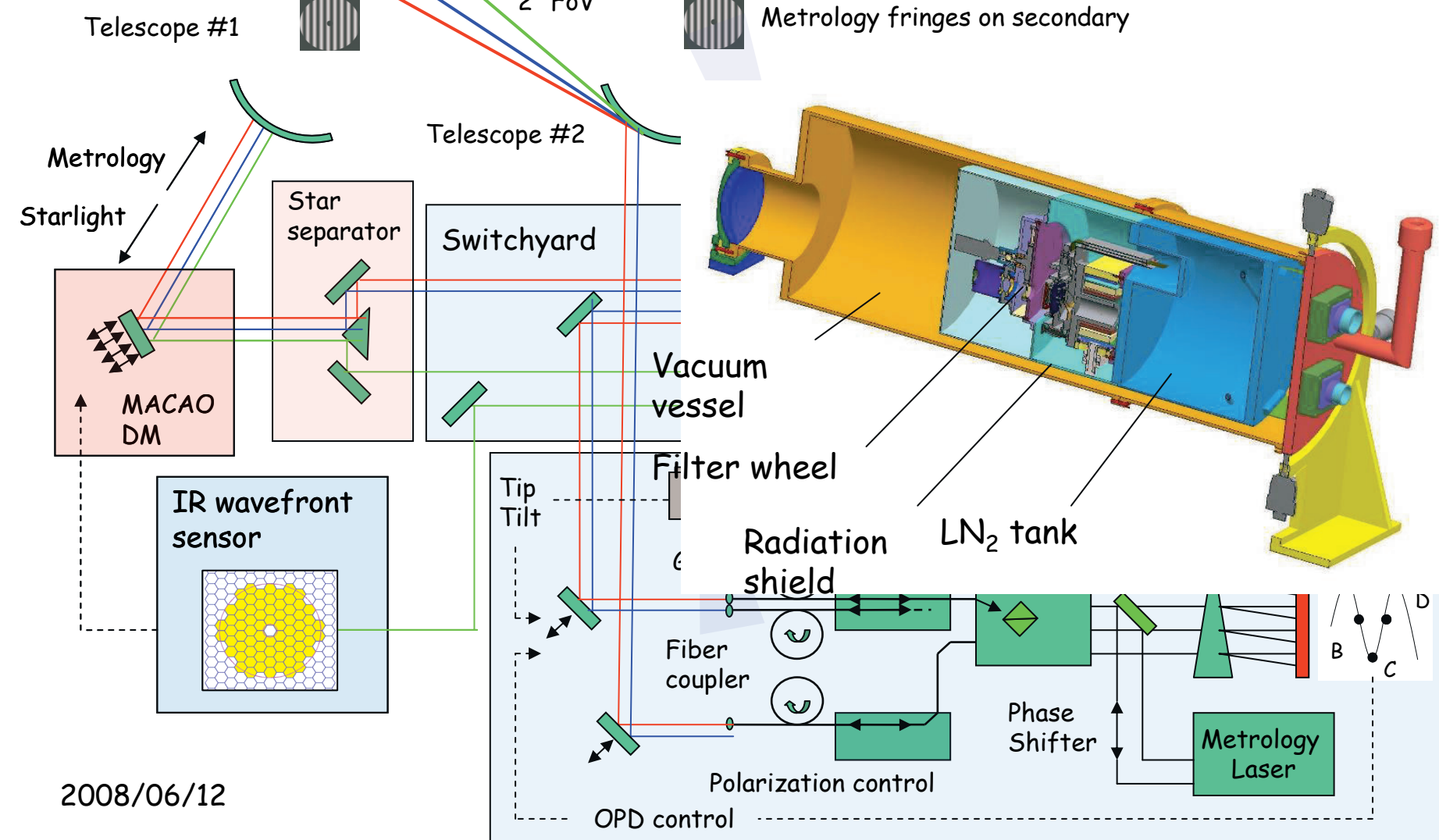
2008/06/12



# Infrared Wavefront Sensor



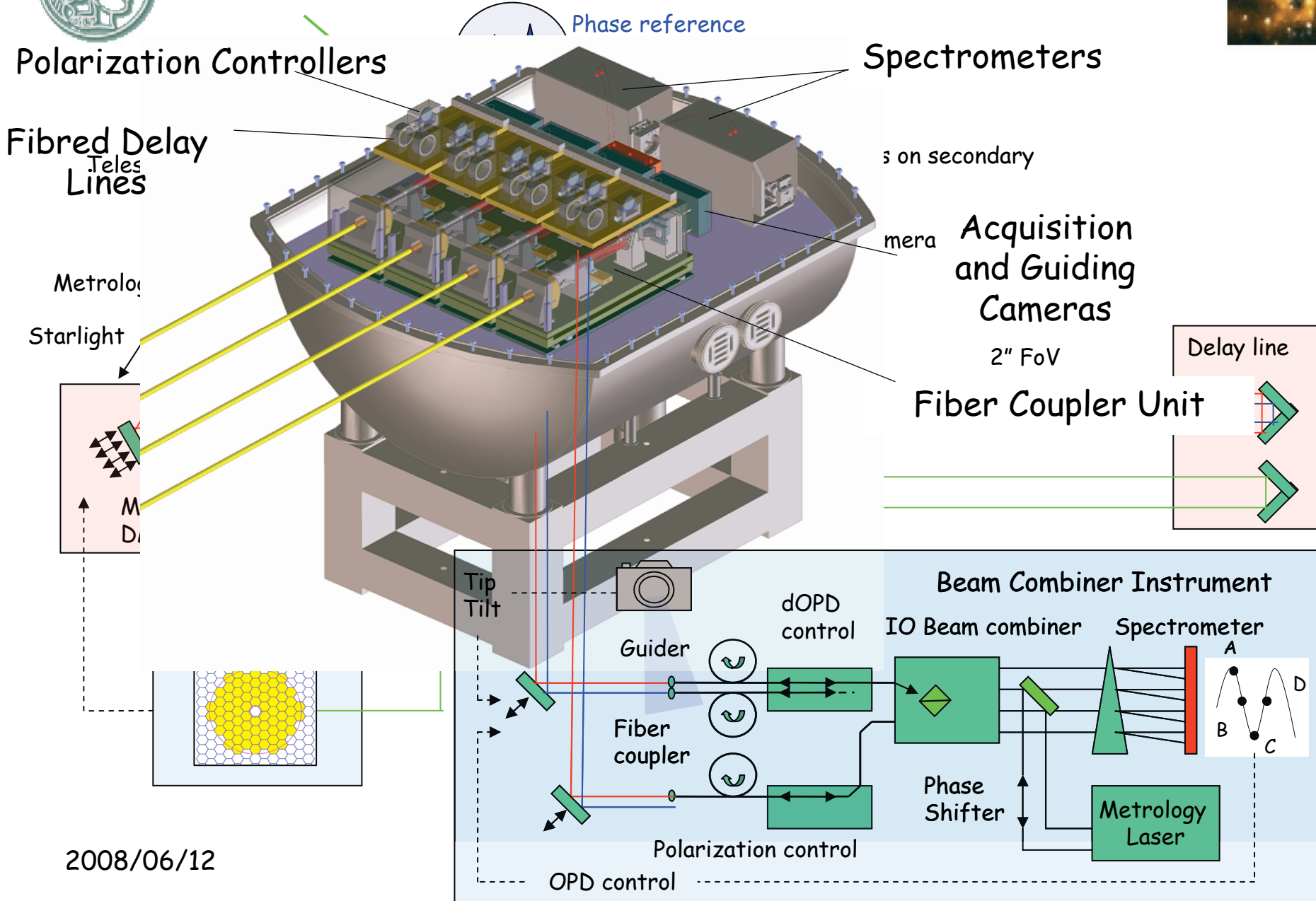
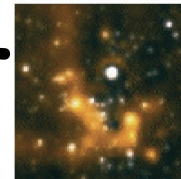
## Shack Hartmann design driving MACAO deformable mirrors



2008/06/12



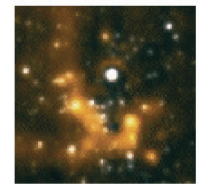
# Beam Combiner Instrument



2008/06/12

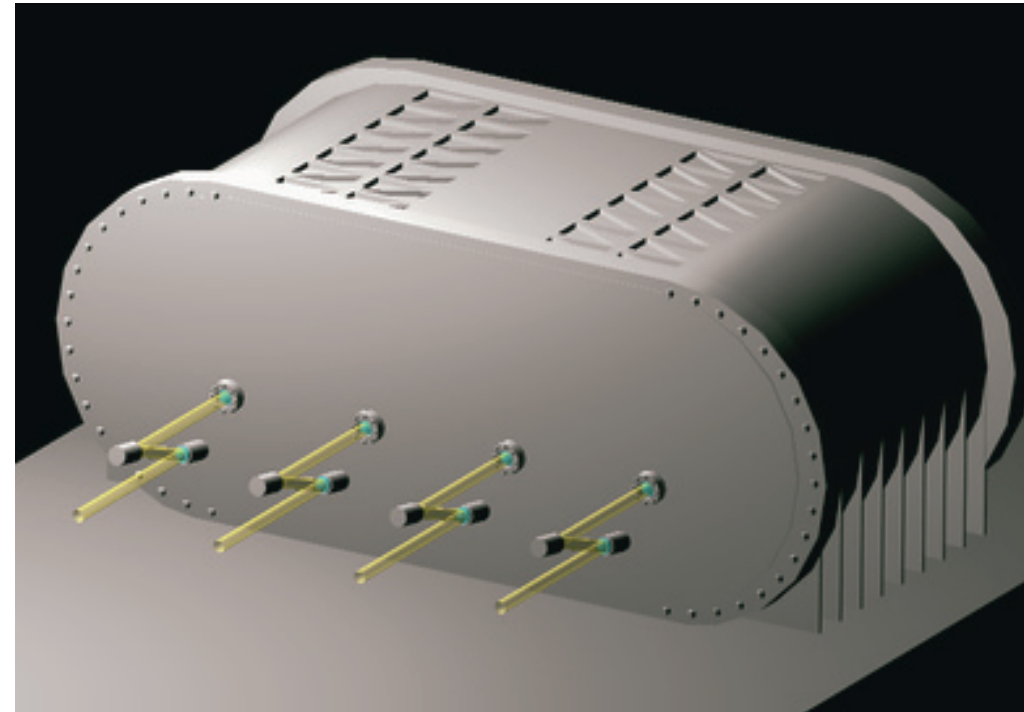


# Cryogenic Instrument



- long term **stability**
  - mechanical
  - thermal
- **no turbulence** (vacuum)
- High **transmission**  
(dust is the main reason for light loss after some time)
- suppression of instrument **thermal background**
- technology **well established**

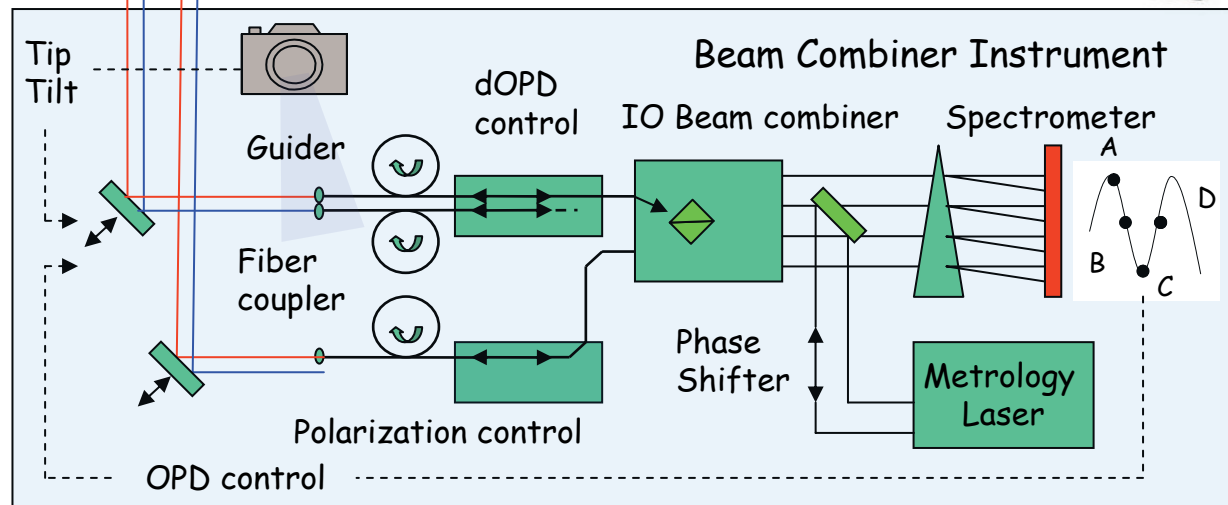
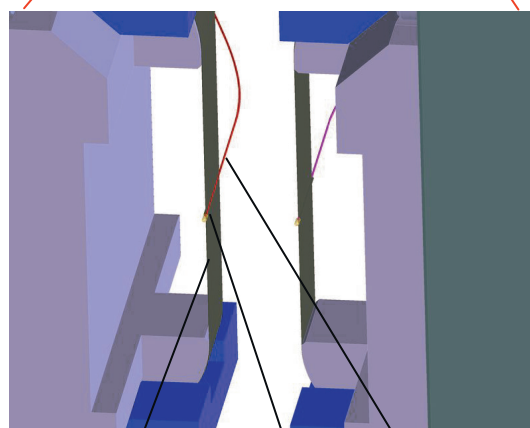
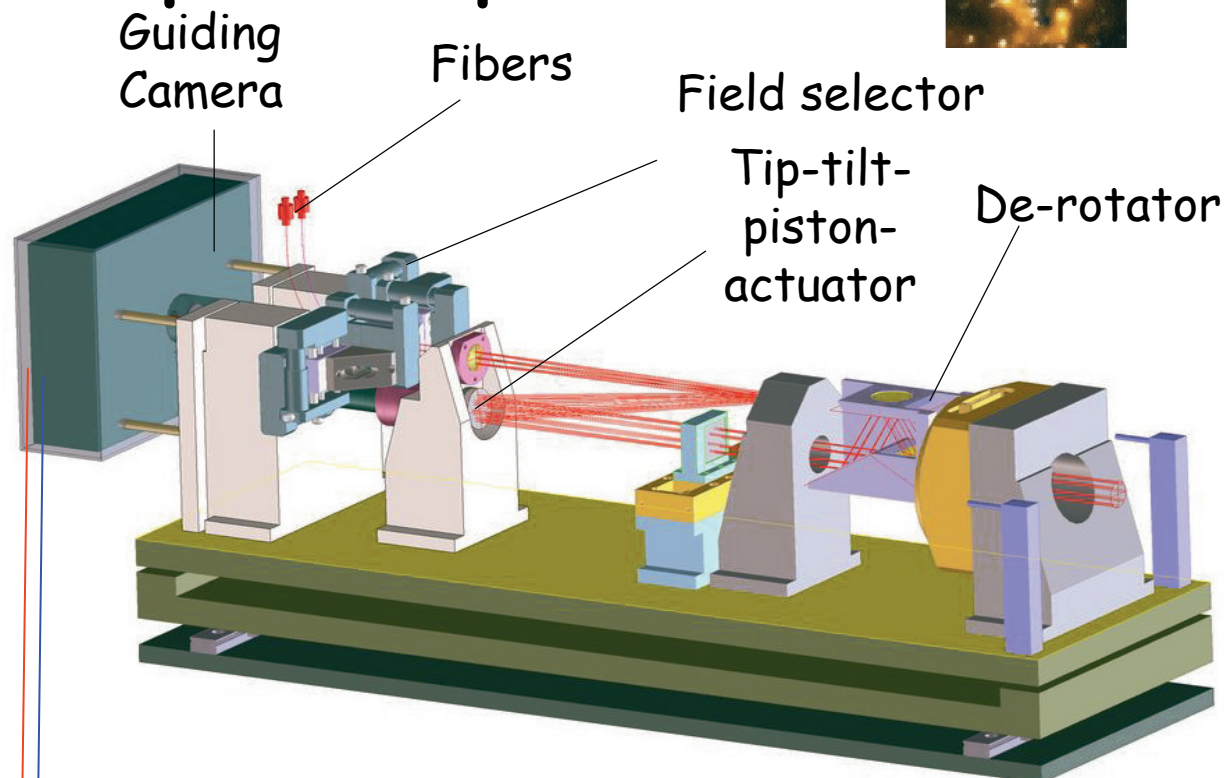
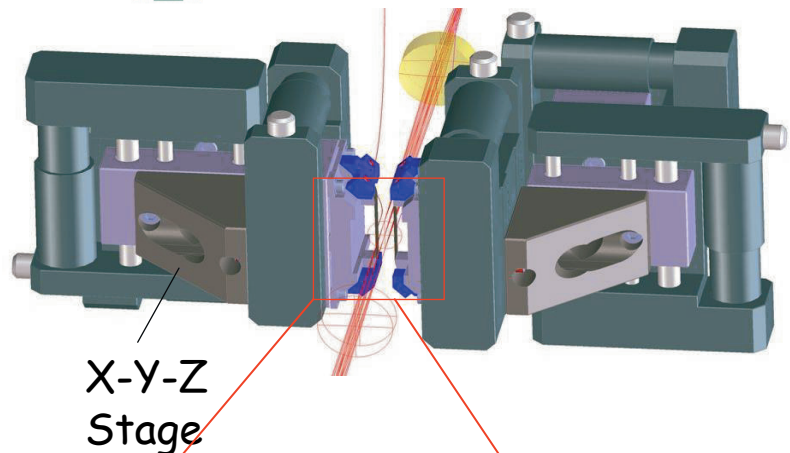
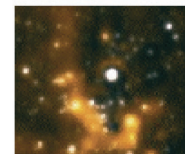
~ 1000 mm







# Fiber Coupler Optics

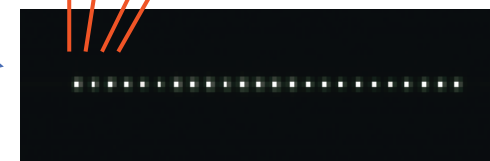
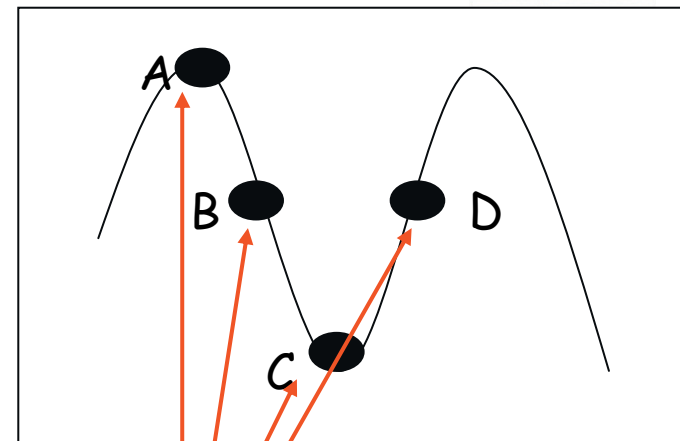
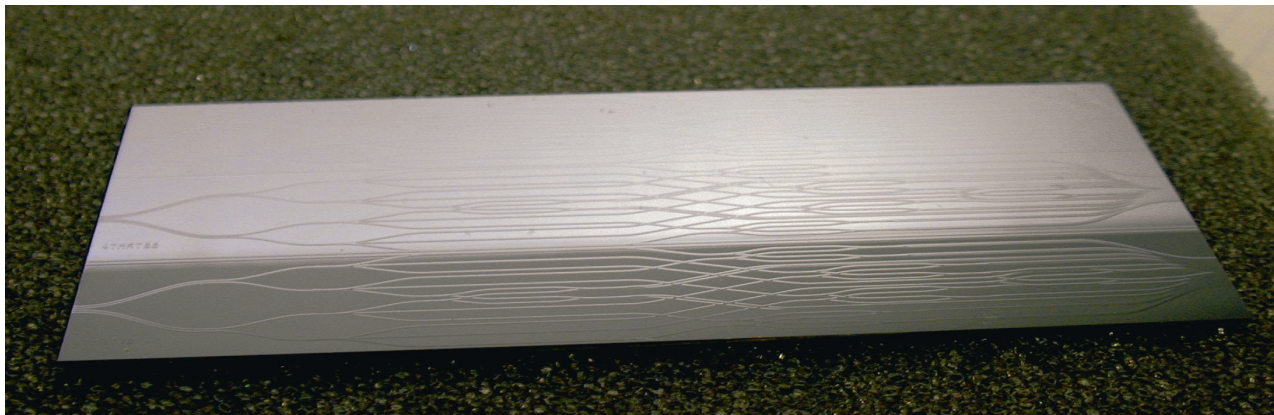
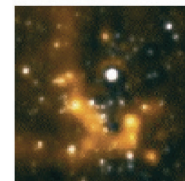


Sheetmetal Microlens  
Fibre

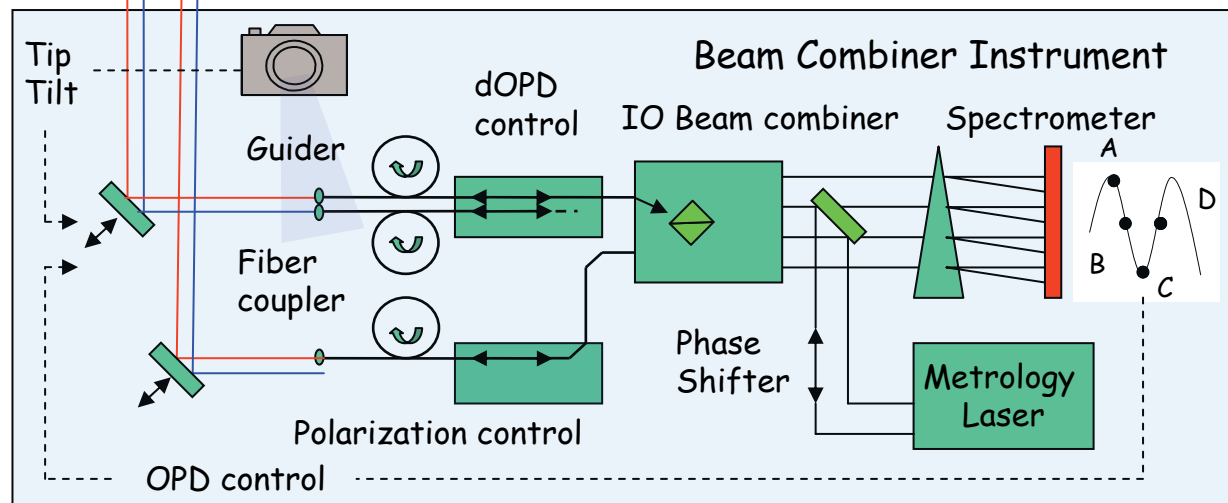
2008/06/12



# Integrated Optics Beam Combiner

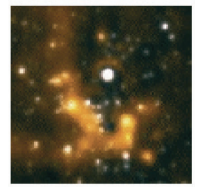


Fed by single-mode fibers via polarization rotators and fibered differential delay lines

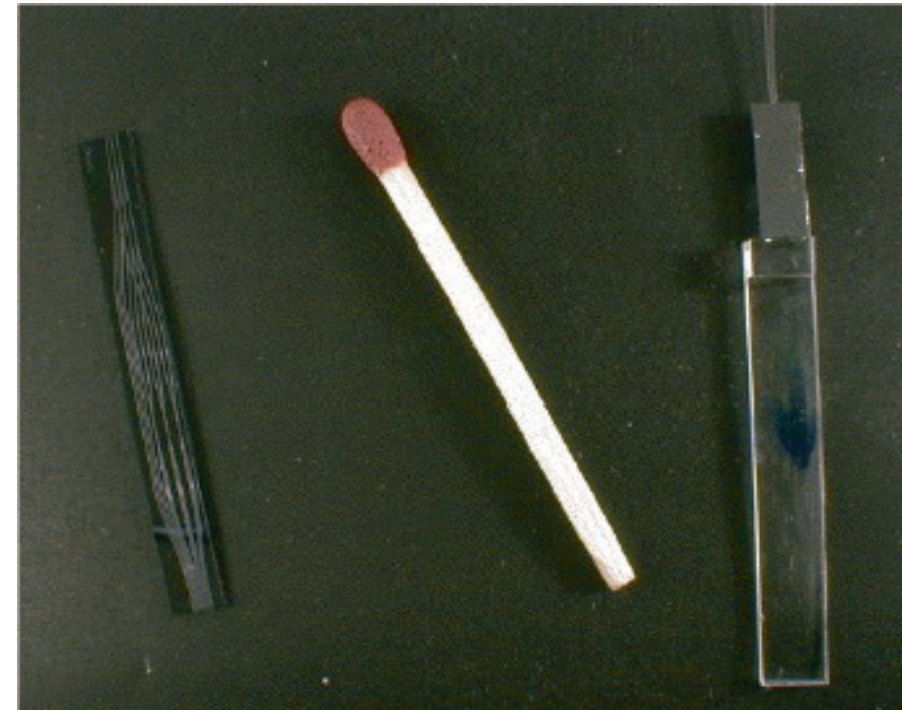
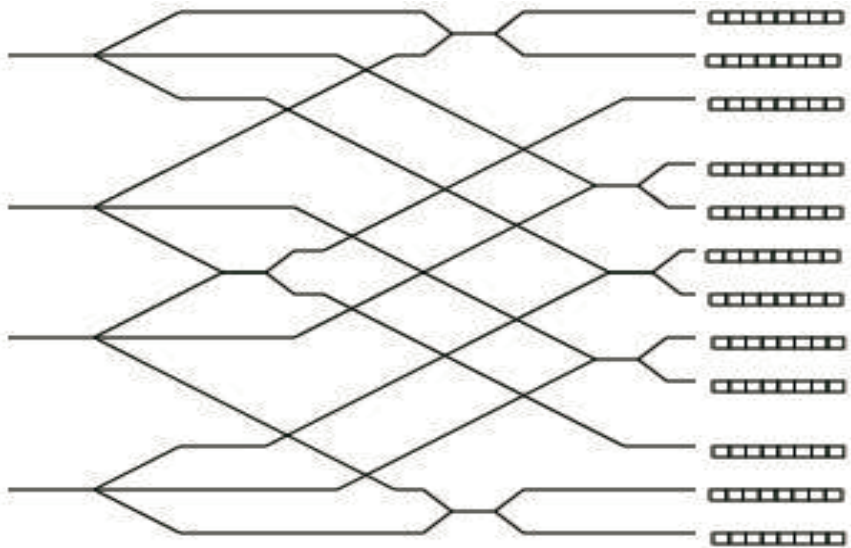




# Fibre Optics & Integrated Beam Combiner

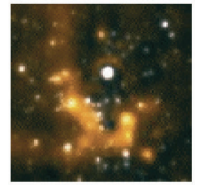


- Fluoride glass fiber  
(e.g. O'HANA, Perrin et al. 2004)
- For our application:  $T = 100\%$   
(attenuation  $\sim 3$  dB/km )

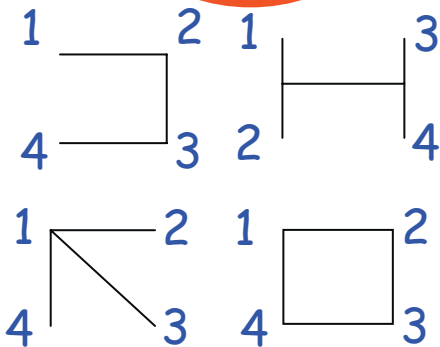
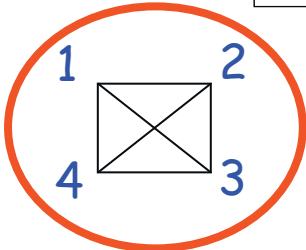
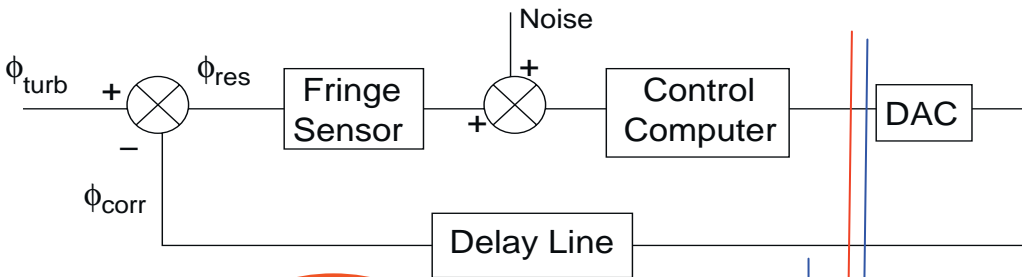
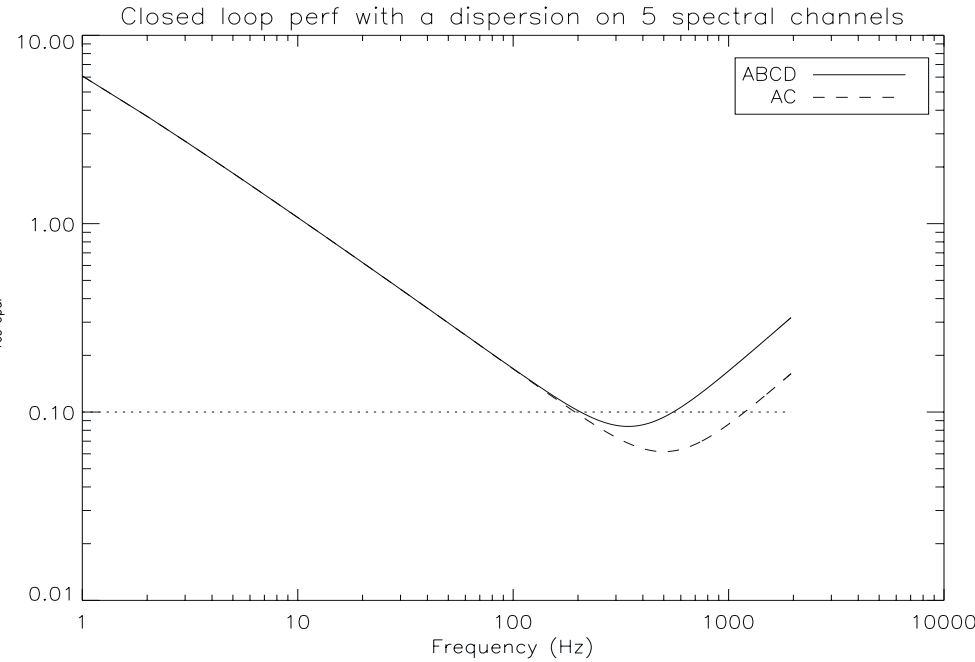




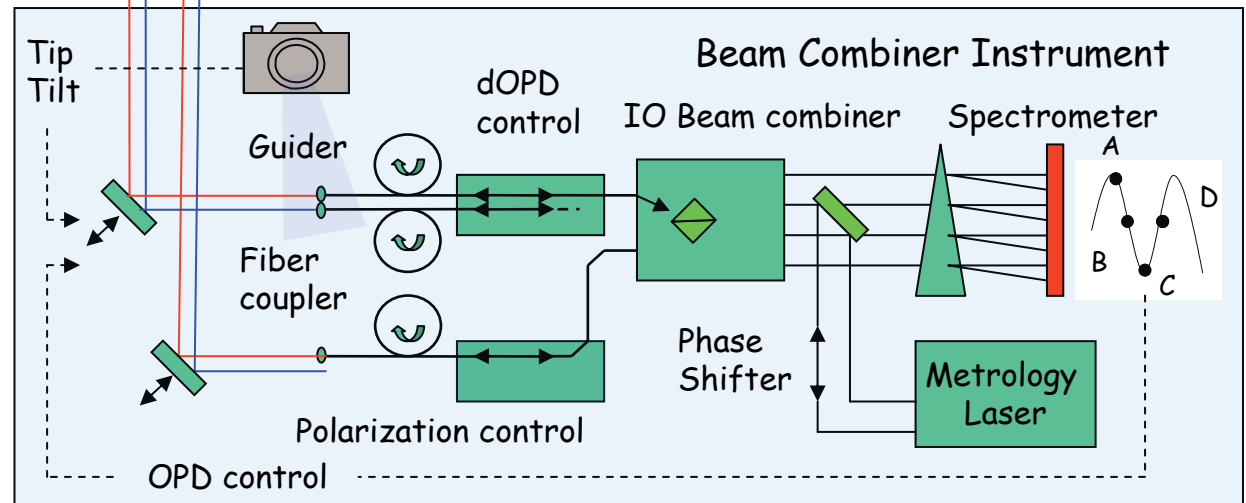
# Fringe Tracker



Matricial pairwise combination  
 RMS OPD ~ 270 nm for K=10

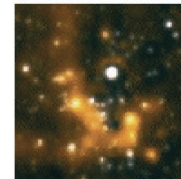


2008/06/12

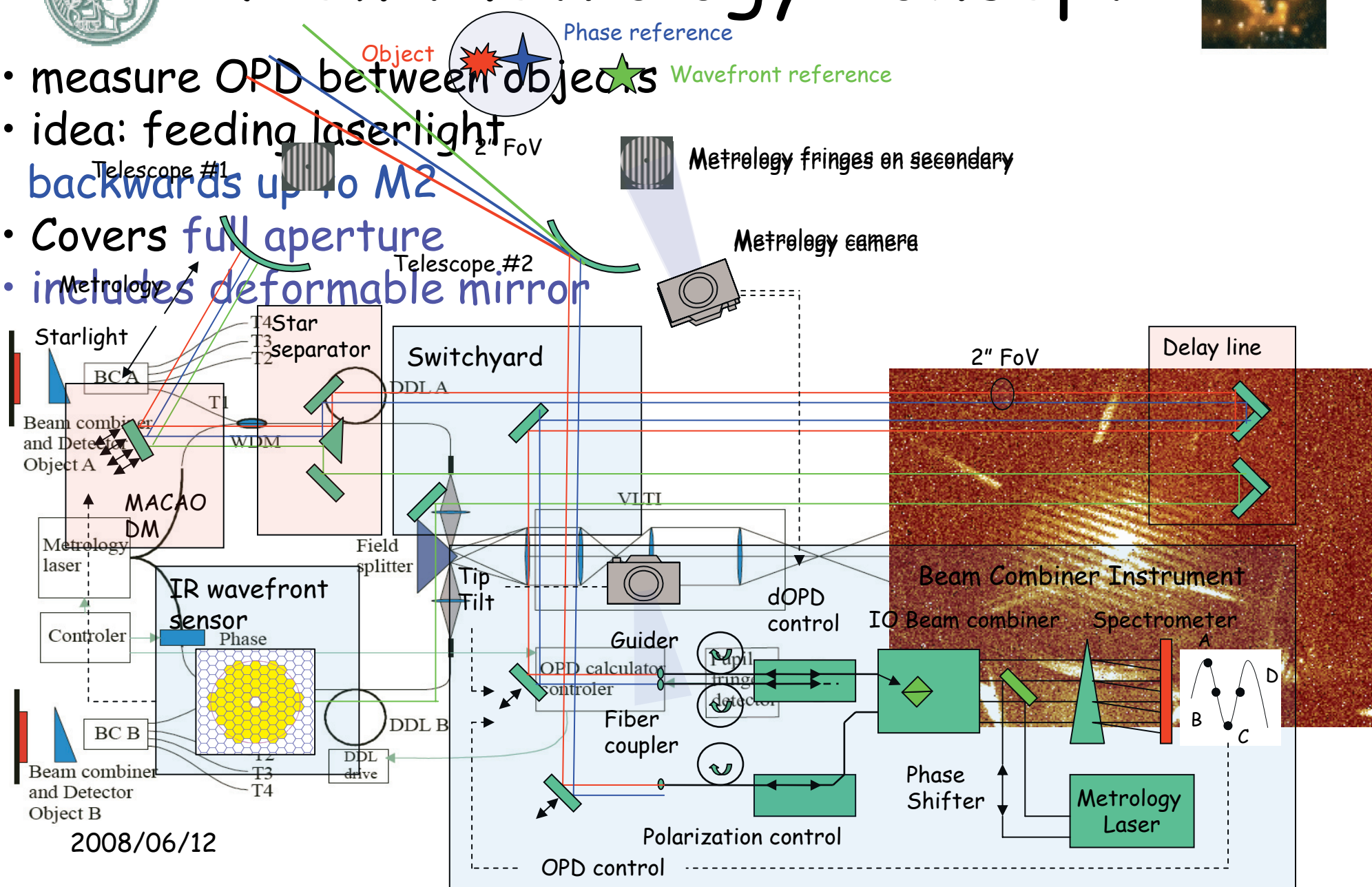




# New Metrology Concept



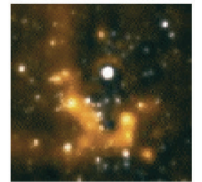
- measure OPD between objects
- idea: feeding laserlight backwards up to M2
- Covers full aperture
- includes deformable mirror



2008/06/12



# Status of GRAVITY



- March 2006: STC recommended a phase-A study
- December 2007: Recommendation by ESO advisory committee and approval by ESO Council
- Currently: interface definition and contract negotiations
- $\geq 2012$ : Installation at the telescope

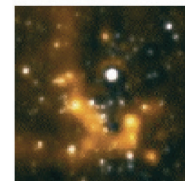
## Cost

Hardware: approx. 4 Mio. Euro

Manpower: approx. 100 FTE

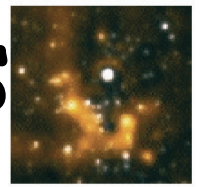


# Backup





# Guaranteed to be a success



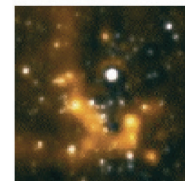
- Unclear how most massive stars form
- Mismatch between luminosity and atmosphere models
  - Physics of stellar atmospheres complex
  - Mass estimates difficult from spectra
- Needs dynamical masses
- Spectroscopic binaries are known
- Astrometric information will determine masses



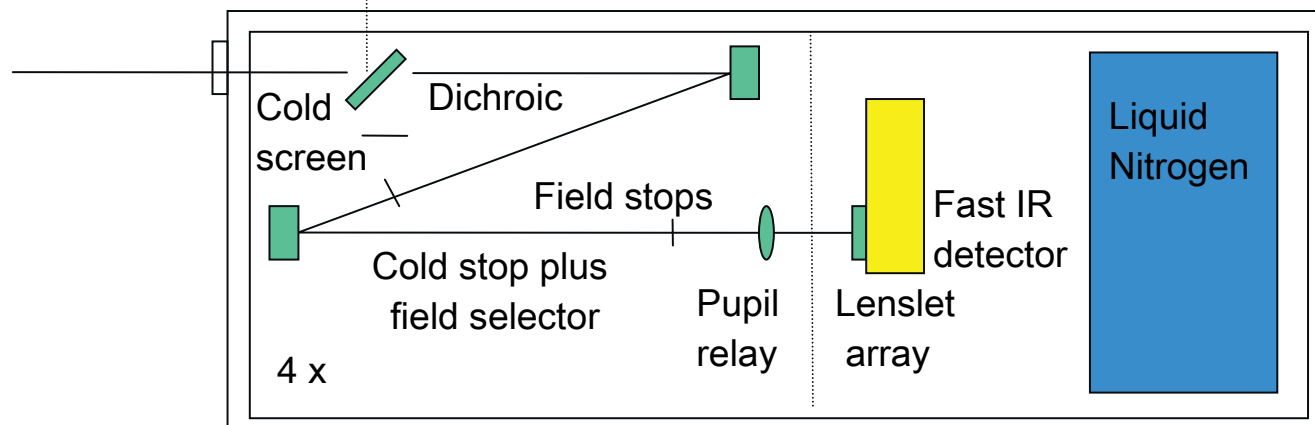
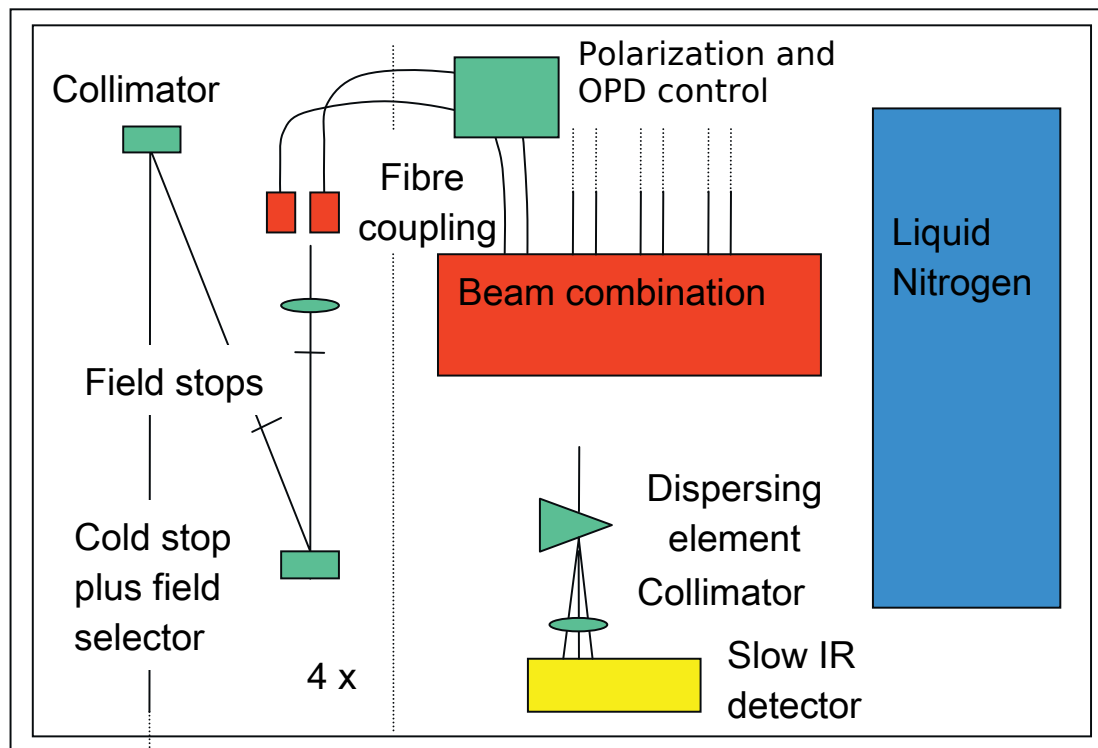




# Dedicated Instrument for GC

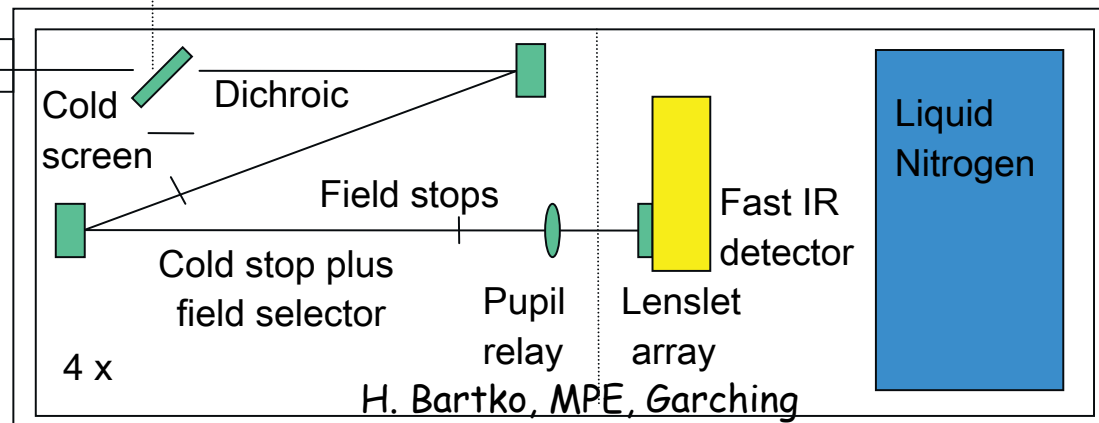
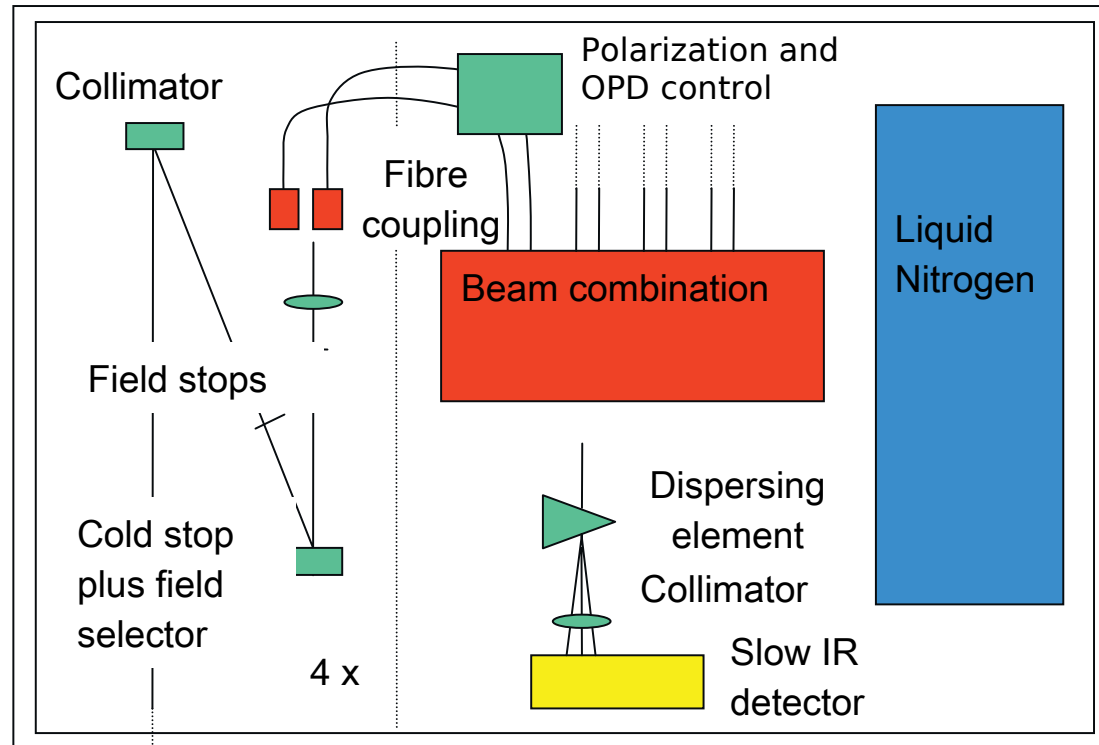
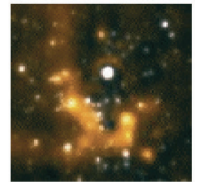


- high (40%) transmission
- 4 UTs
- 6 baselines
- single mode instrument
  - K-band
  - low spectral resolution
  - cryogenic



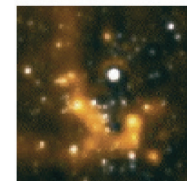


# Instrument Concept

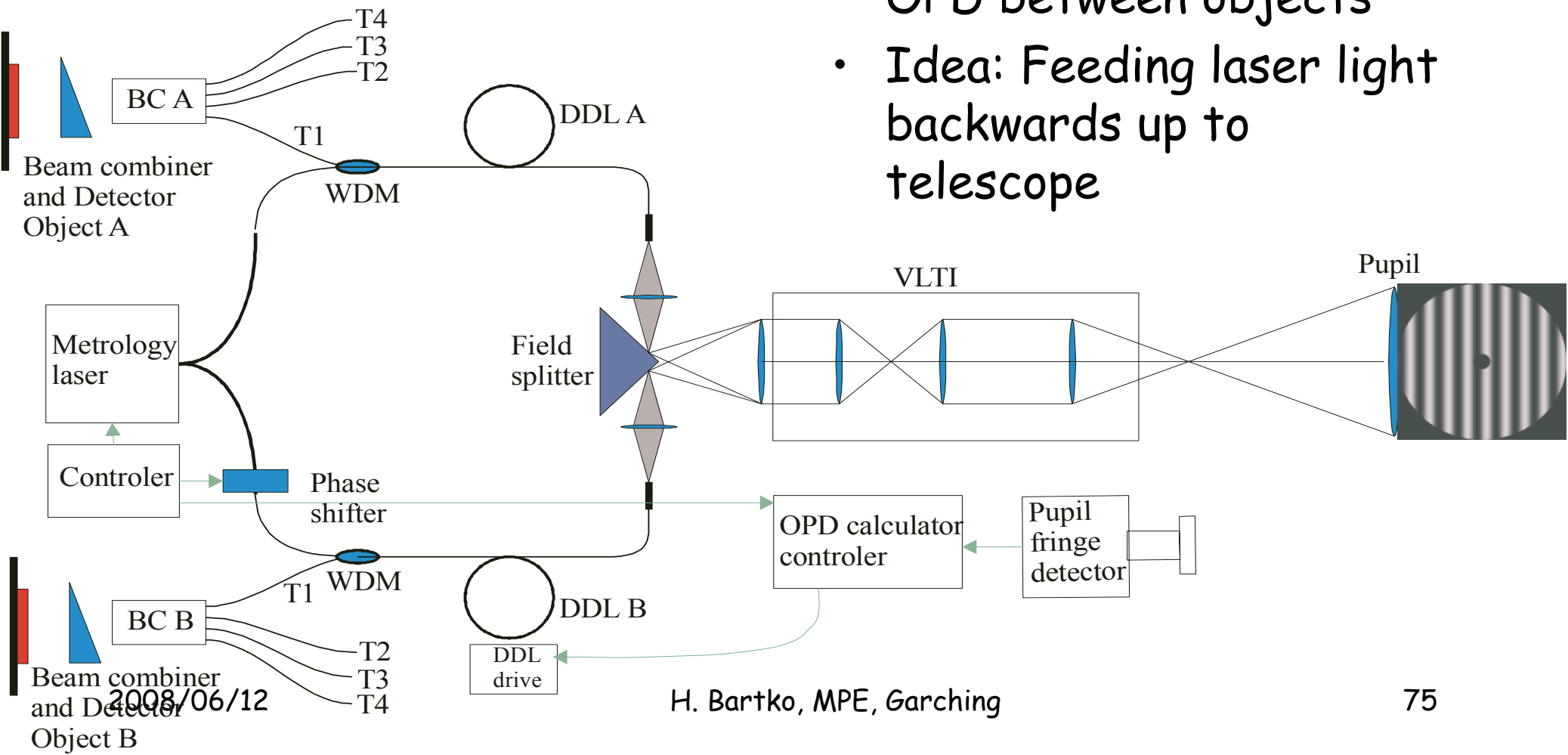




# New Metrology Concept

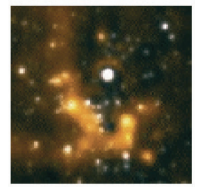


- Metrology needed to measure/compensate OPD between objects
- Idea: Feeding laser light backwards up to telescope



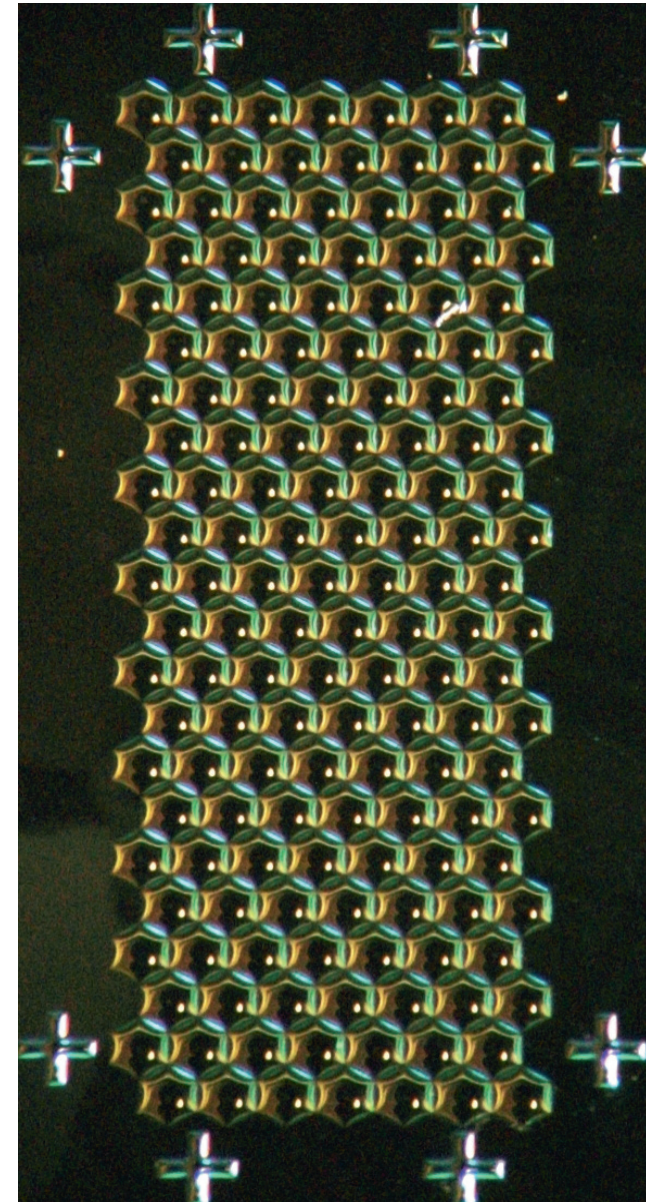


# IR Wavefront Sensors Exist



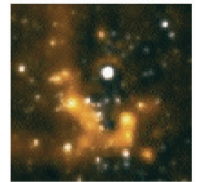
Possible options:

- **Shack-Hartmann**  
(e.g. NAOS, Rousset et al. 2002)
- **Curvature**  
(2 detectors, one in front and one behind pupil)



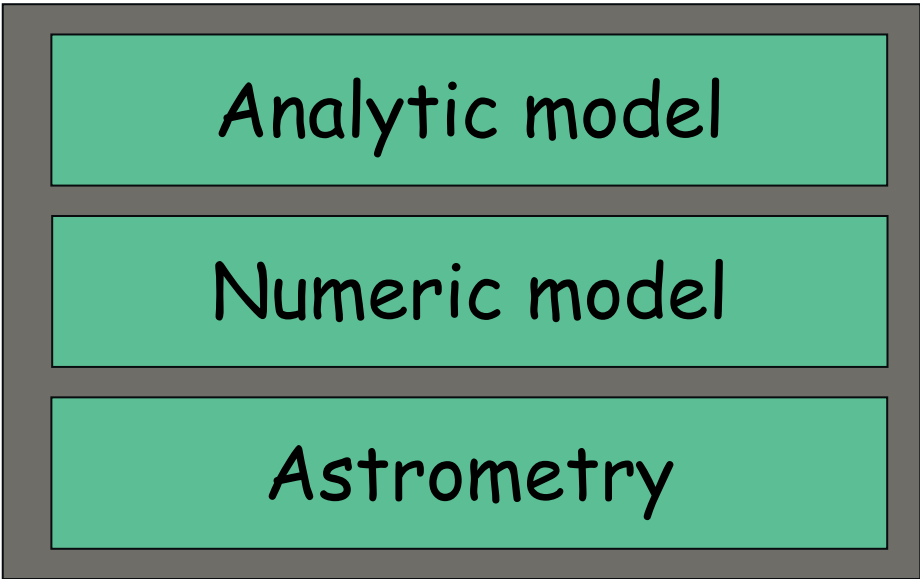


# Sensitivity and Accuracy

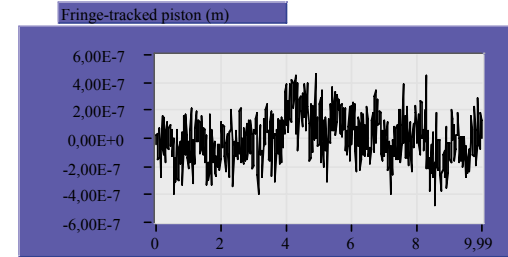
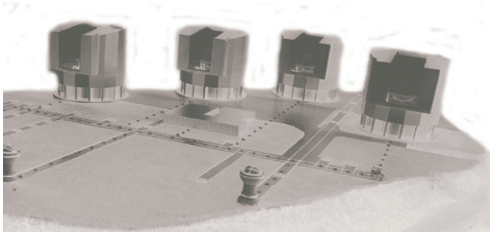
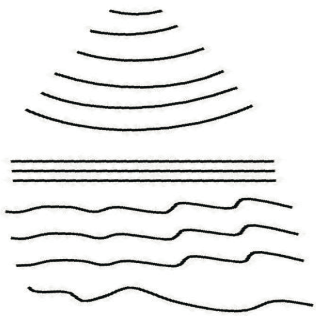
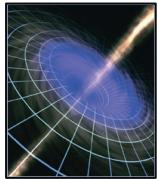


Input definition

Compiling results from subsystems

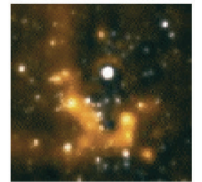


Conclusions





# Sensitivity and Accuracy



For  $K=16$  unresolved object in 100 s

$S/N$  Visibility = 11

$s_f = 0.06$  rad

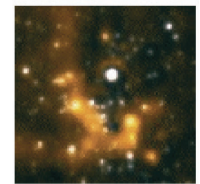
Dynamic range > 3 mag

For a  $K=10$  primary and  $K=15$  secondary  
star with 1" separation:

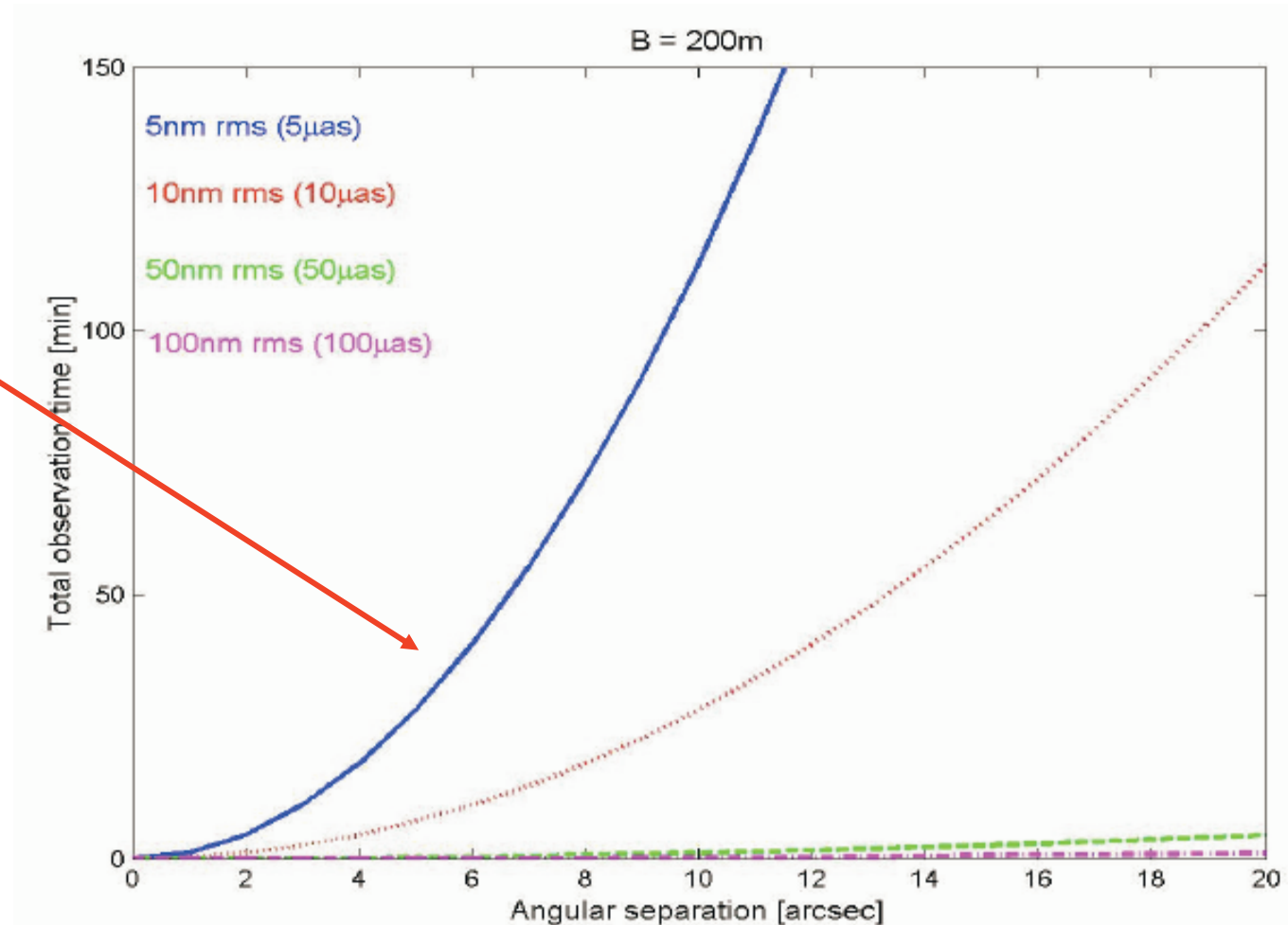
10  $\mu$ s in 5 minutes



# Sensitivity and Accuracy

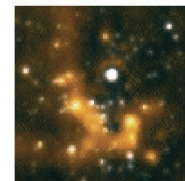


Atmosphere allows  
for  $10\mu\text{as}$  astrometry  
in 5 minutes



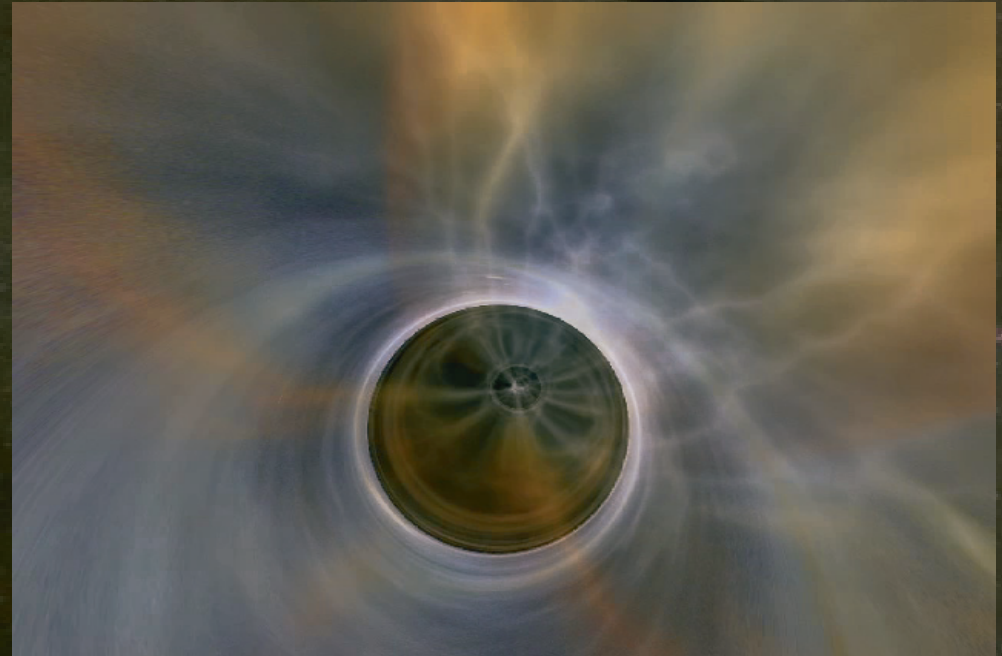


# Frank





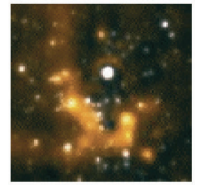
# Thank you



Credit: Thomas Lucas Production



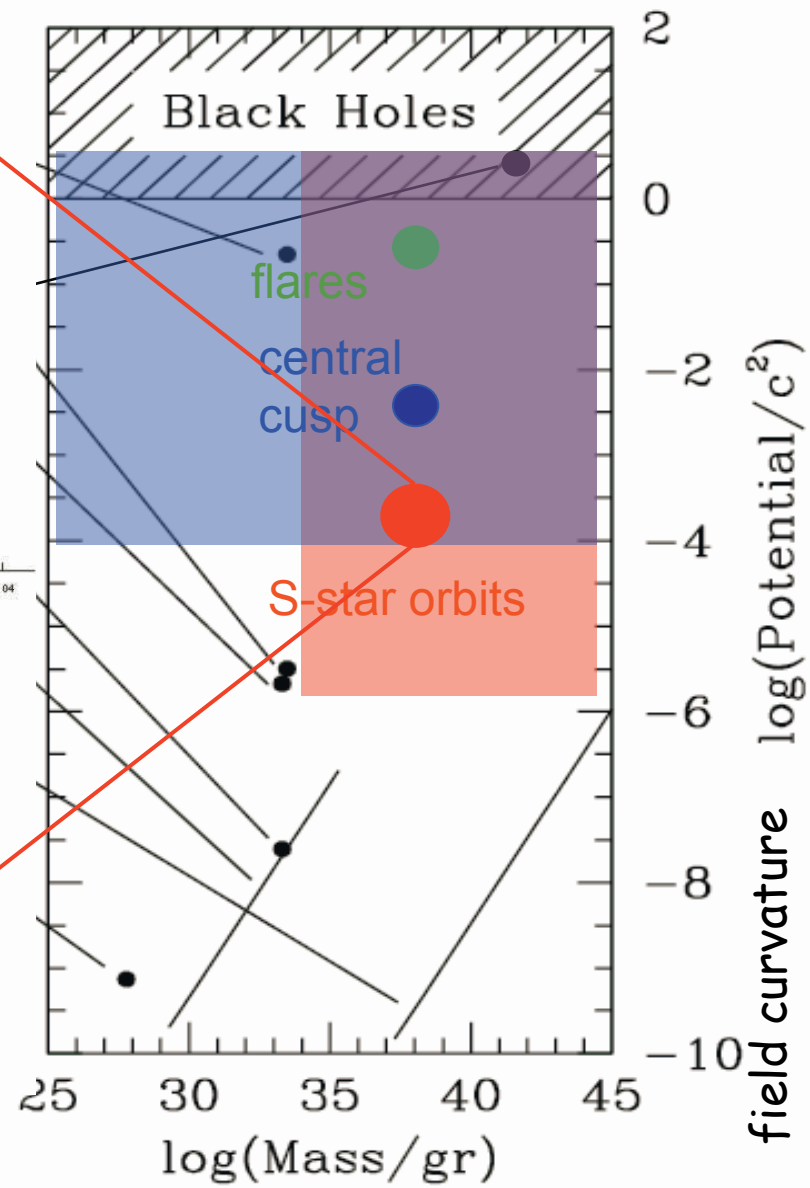
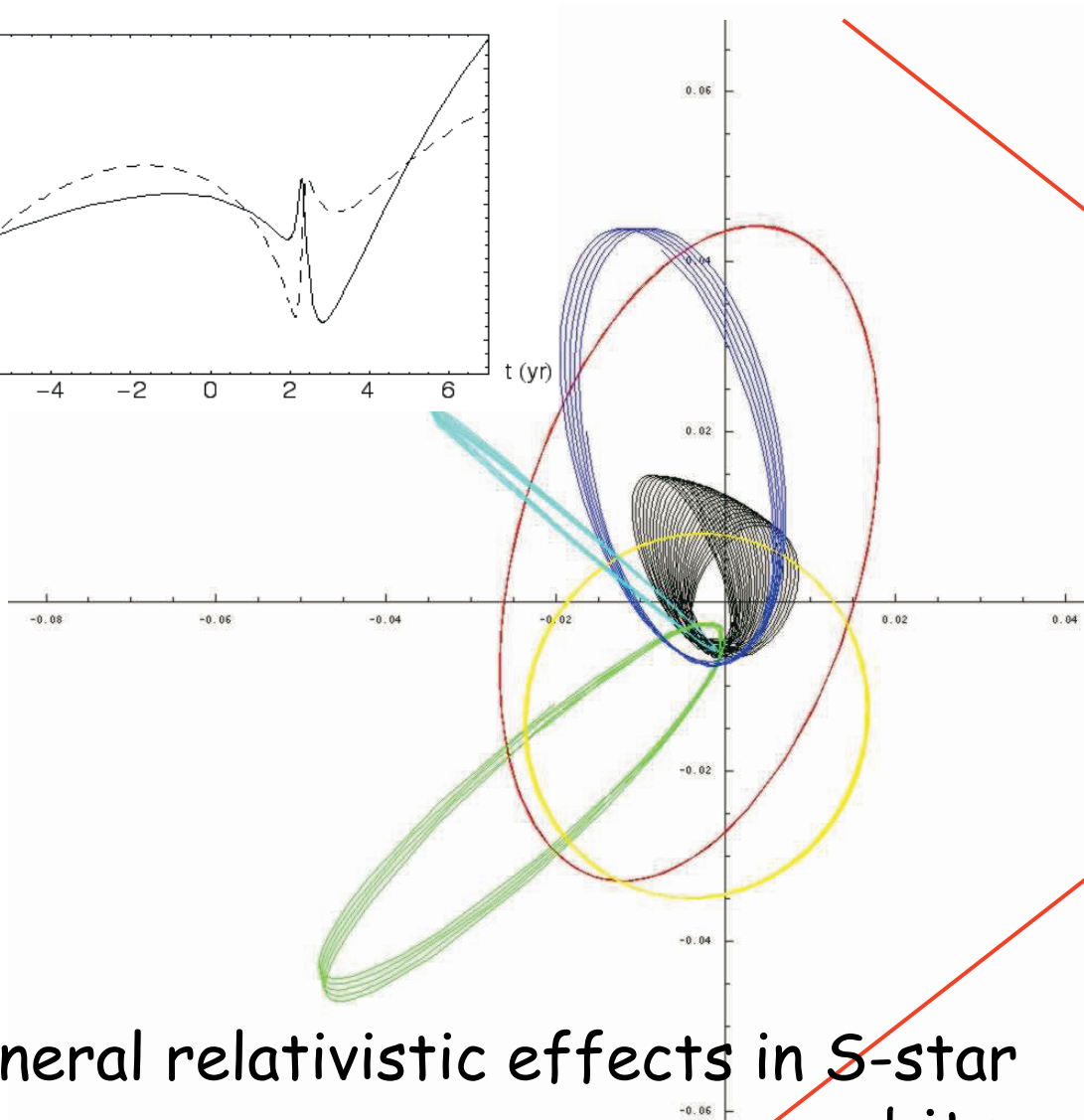
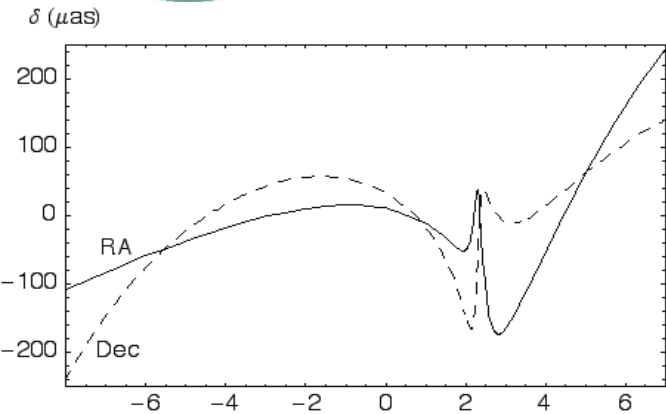
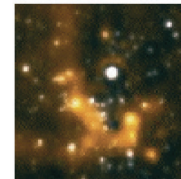
# The VLTI can do $10 \mu\text{as}$ Astrometry



**At  $10 \mu\text{as}$  astrometric accuracy  
the Universe starts moving**



# Non-Keplerian Orbits

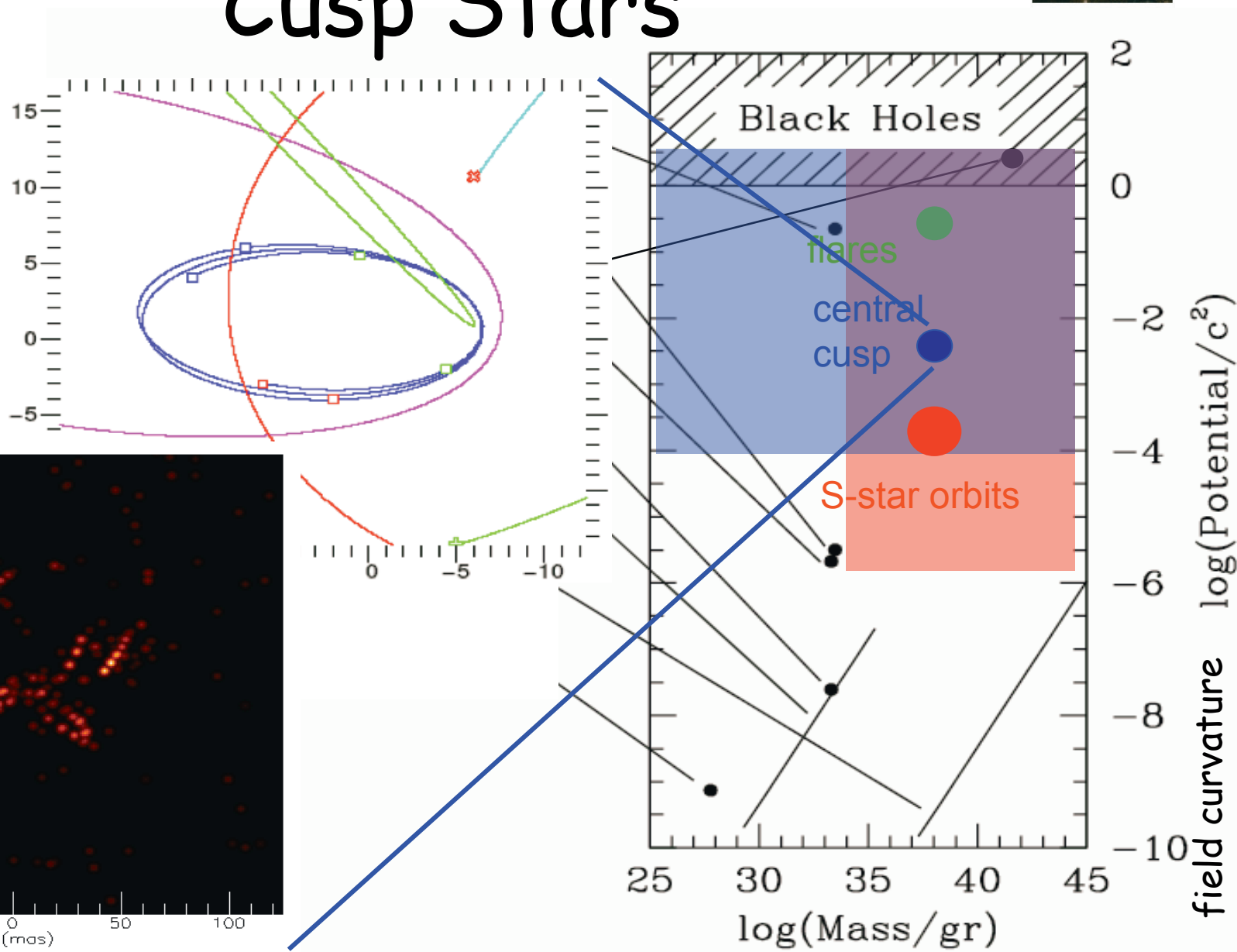
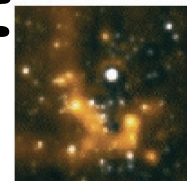


$\beta^2$  general relativistic effects in S-star orbits

2008/06/12

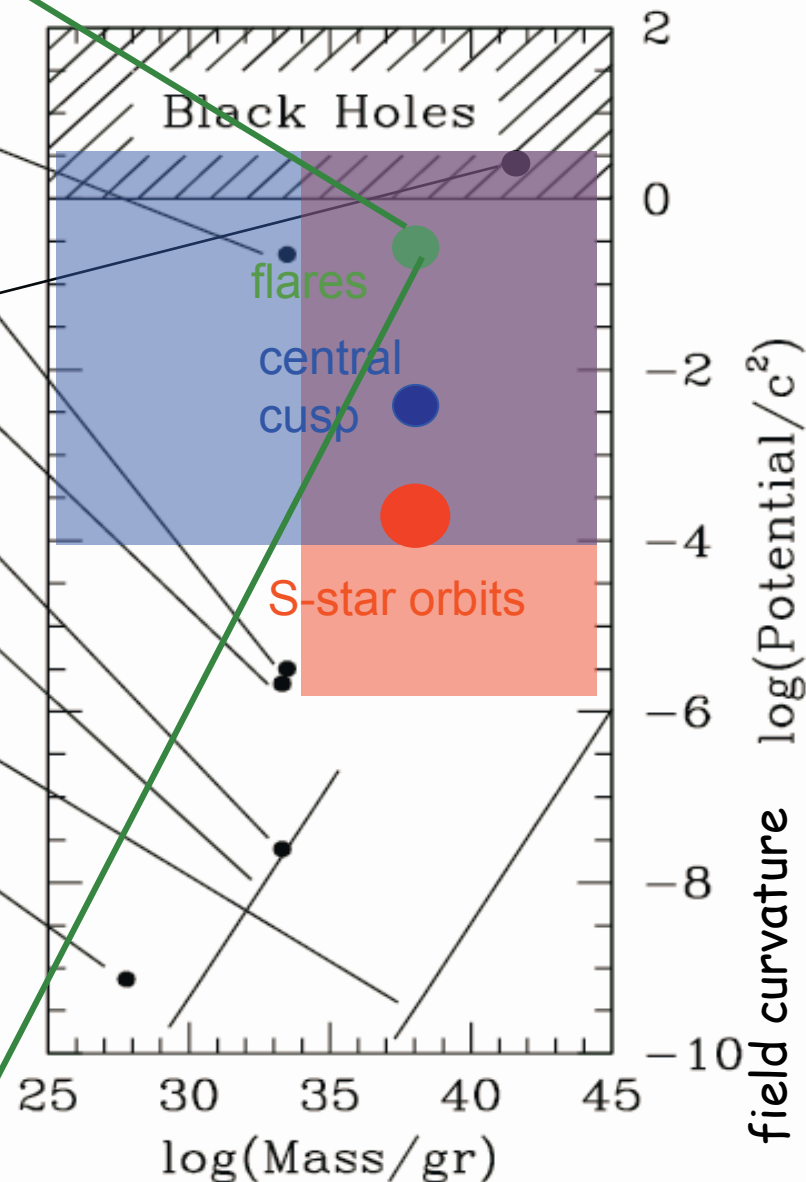
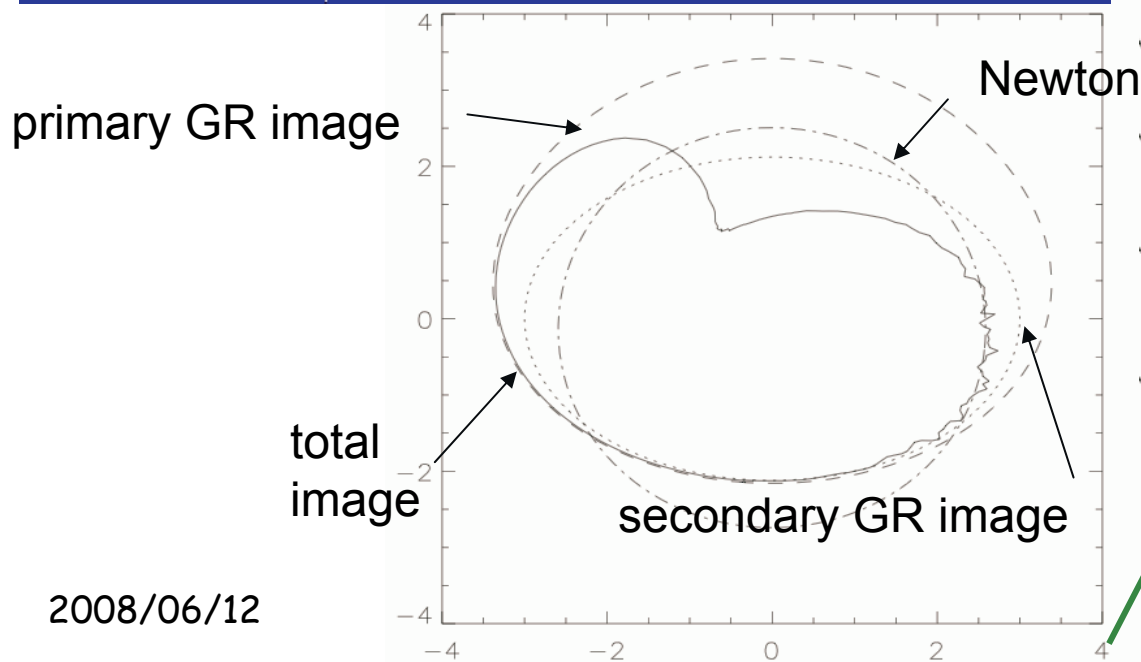
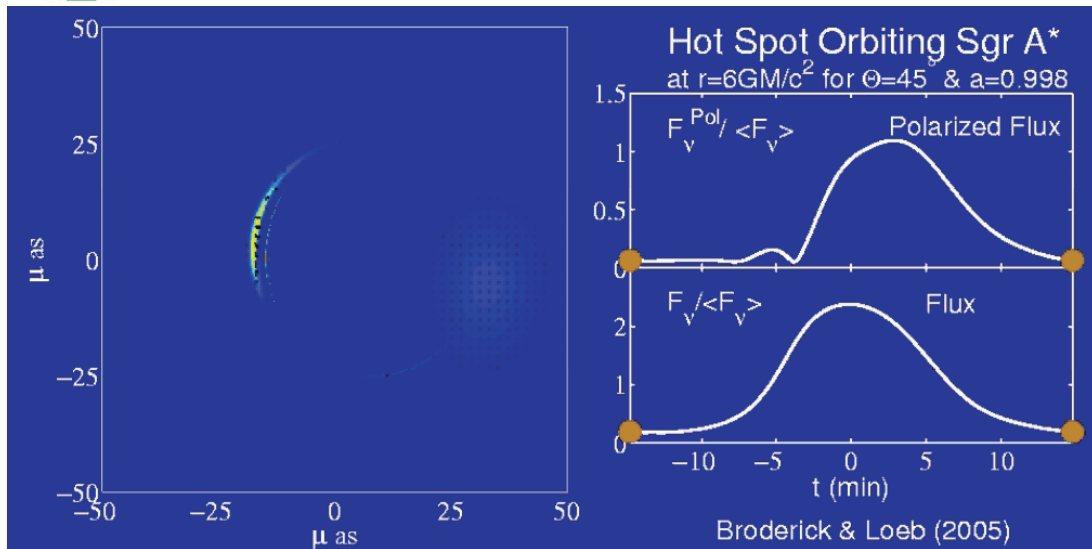
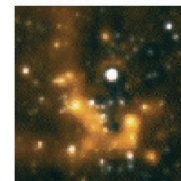


# Lens Thirring Precession of Cusp Stars





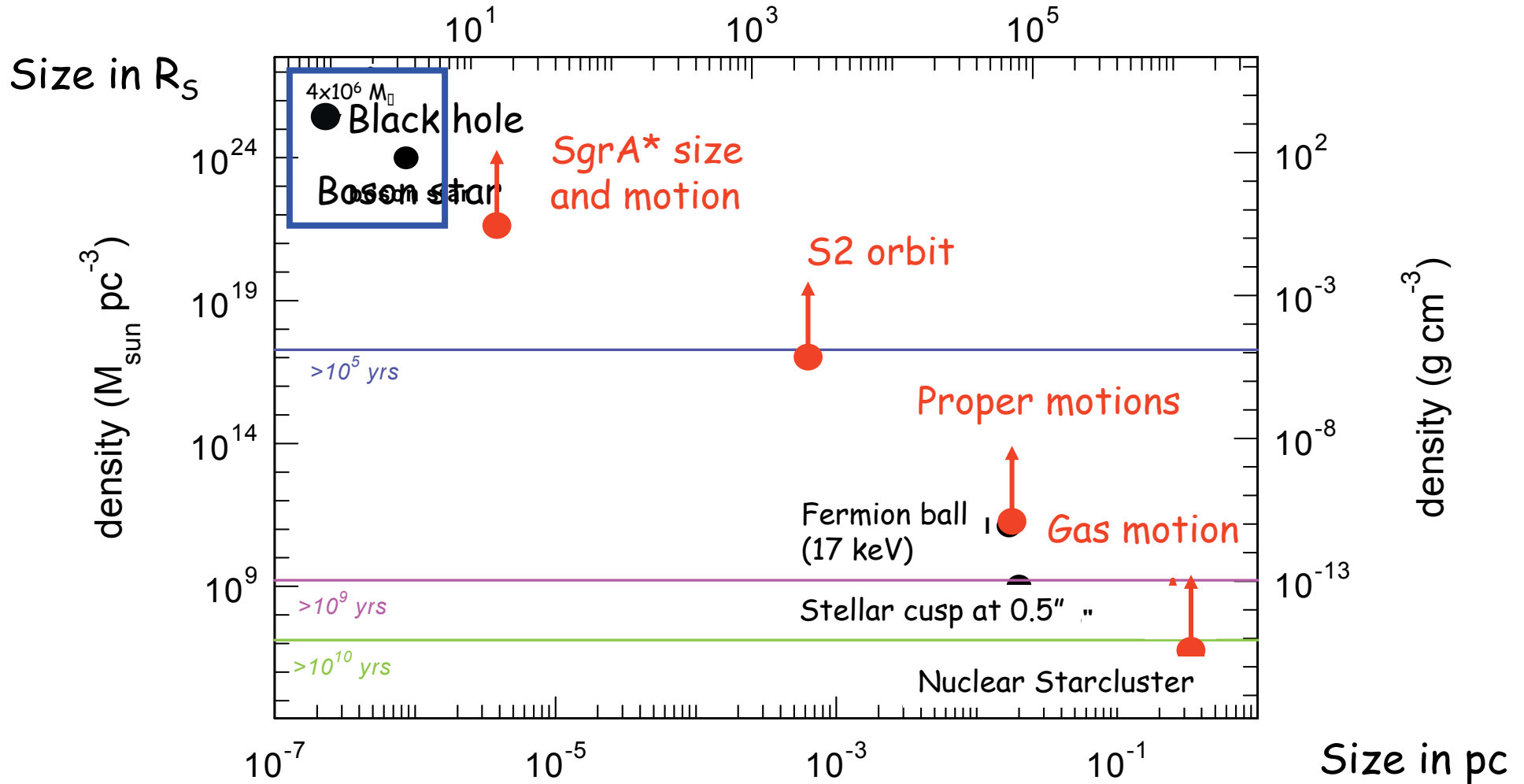
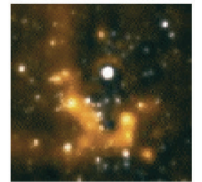
# Flares - Last Stable Orbit



2008/06/12

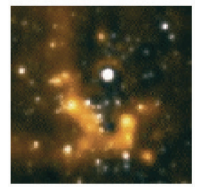


# Best case for a Black Hole



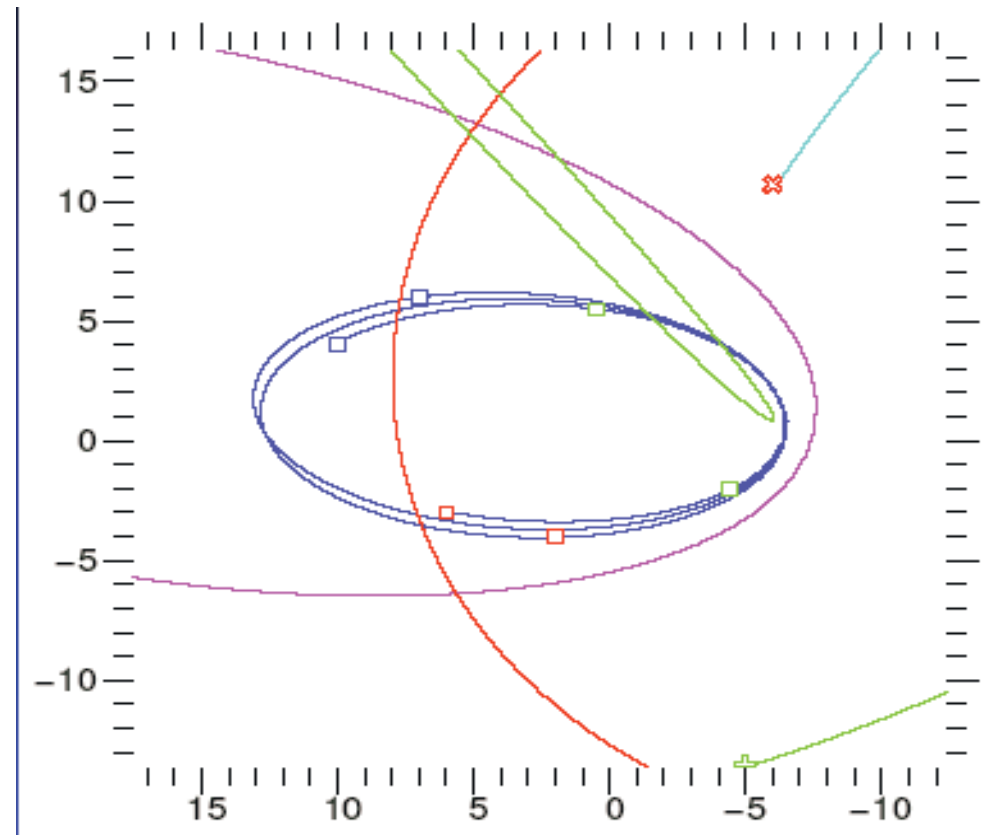


# Well within reach of VLTI



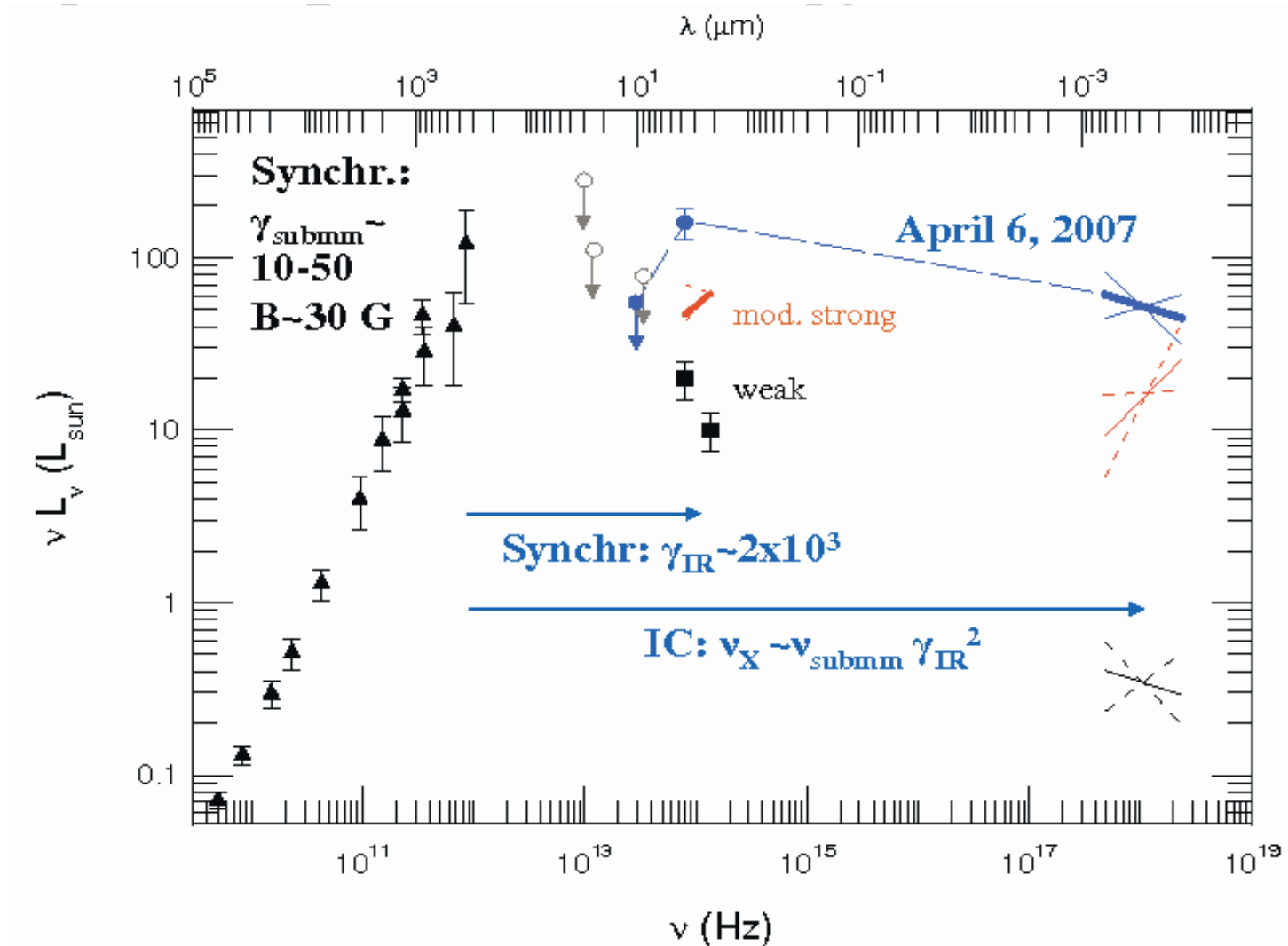
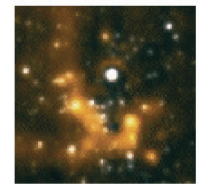
Simulation:

- 2 years \* 3 nights \* 9 hours \* 4 UTs





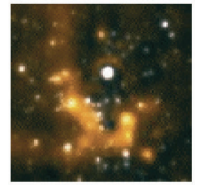
# Simultaneous X-ray Flares





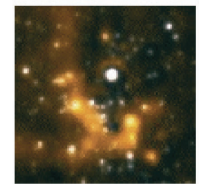


.. hot spots orbiting on the accretion disk?

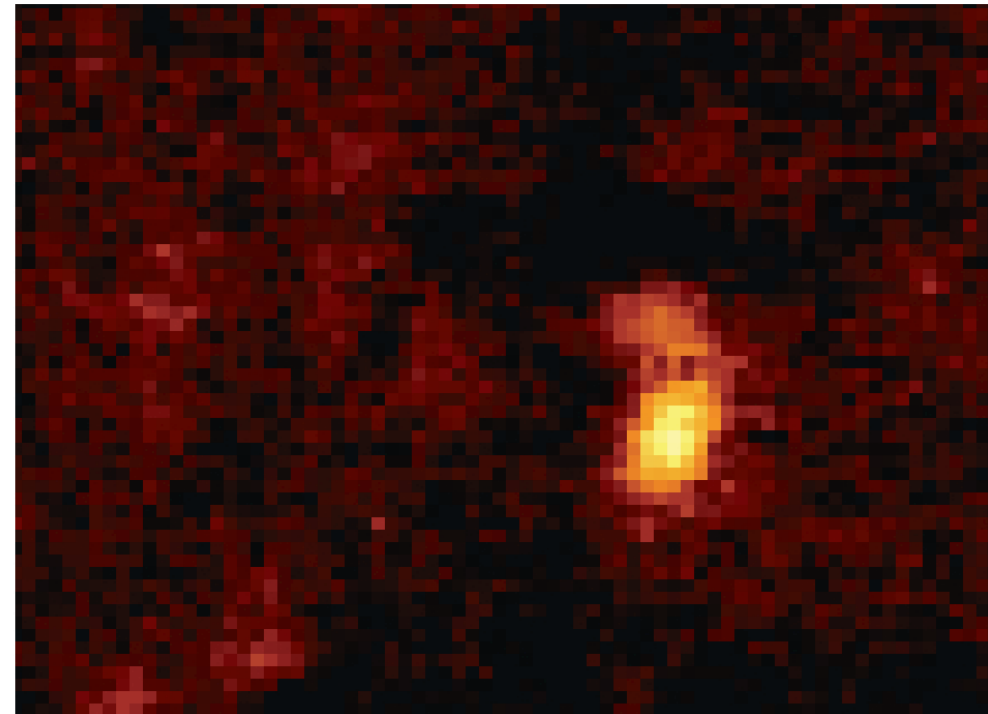
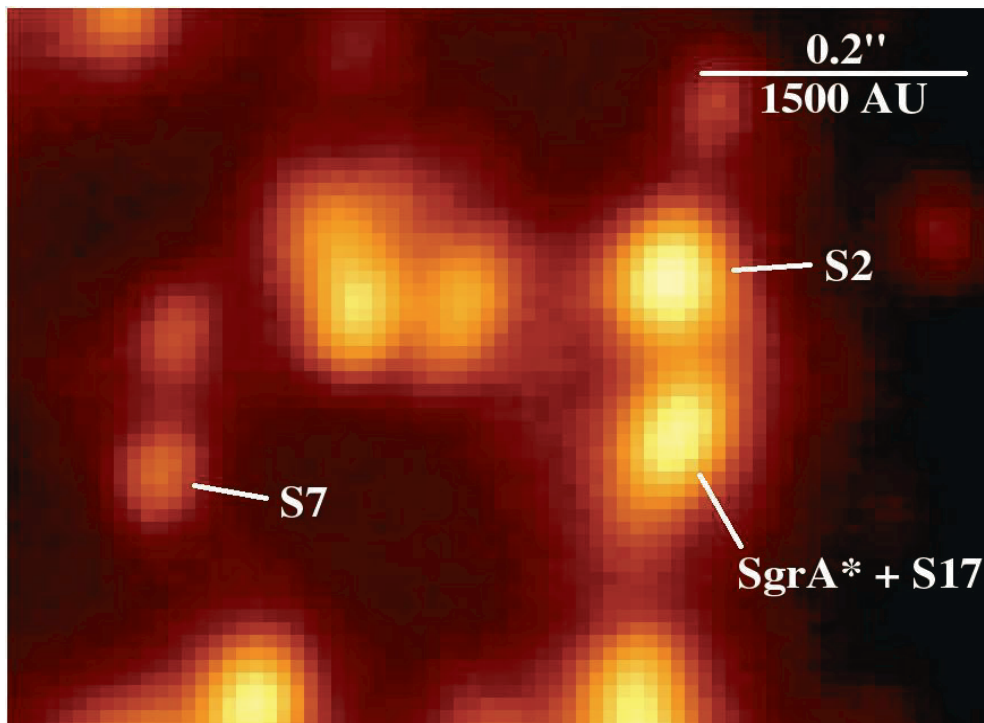




# Flares Strongly Polarized (10% - 40%)

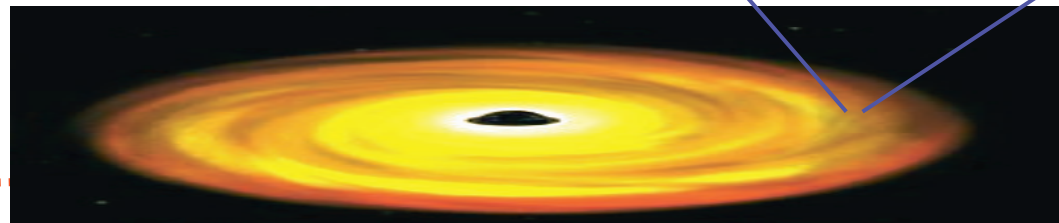
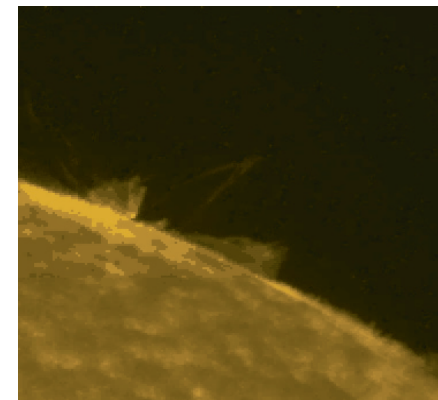
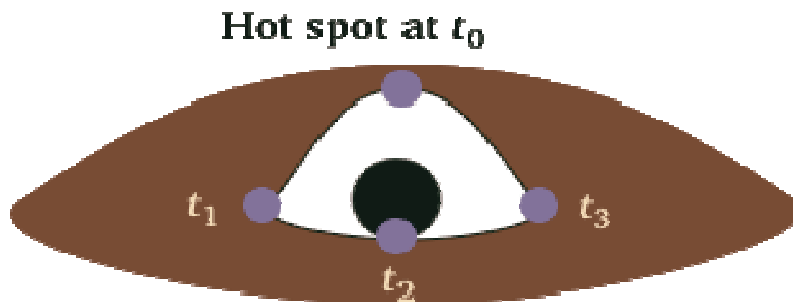
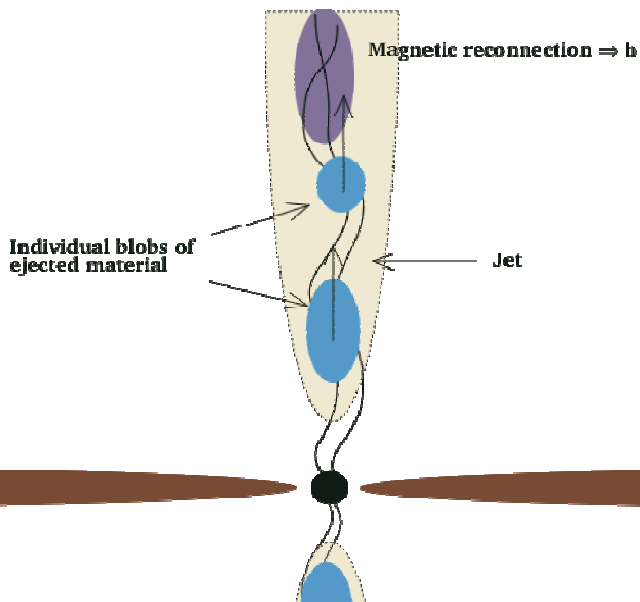
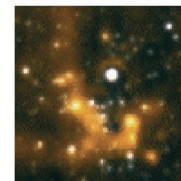


suggests synchrotron origin of the IR emission





# But ... is the Model Right?



Brightness and SED variations

Faintness, SED, rotation measure

Few  $R_s$

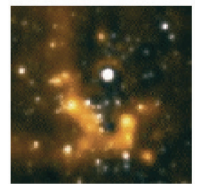


Event horizon





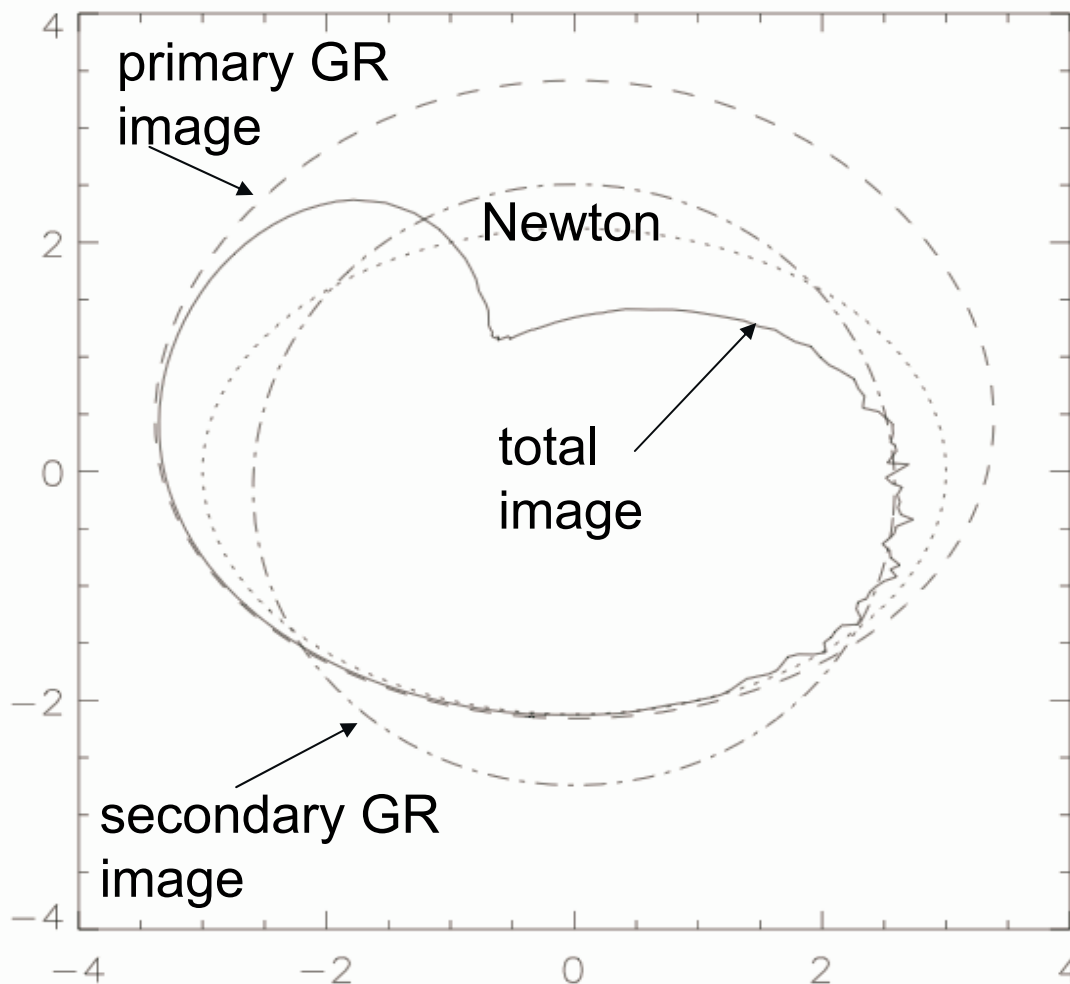
# Flares Move at Speeds Observable with GRAVITY



- The emission region is small
- The emission originates from very close to the event horizon
- The material has to move at 10% - 90% of the speed of light ( $15 \mu\text{as}/\text{min}$ )
- During one hour the travelled path is several hundred  $\mu\text{as}$

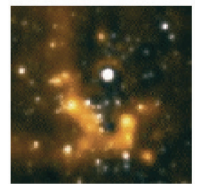


# The path of the centroid shows strong GR effects

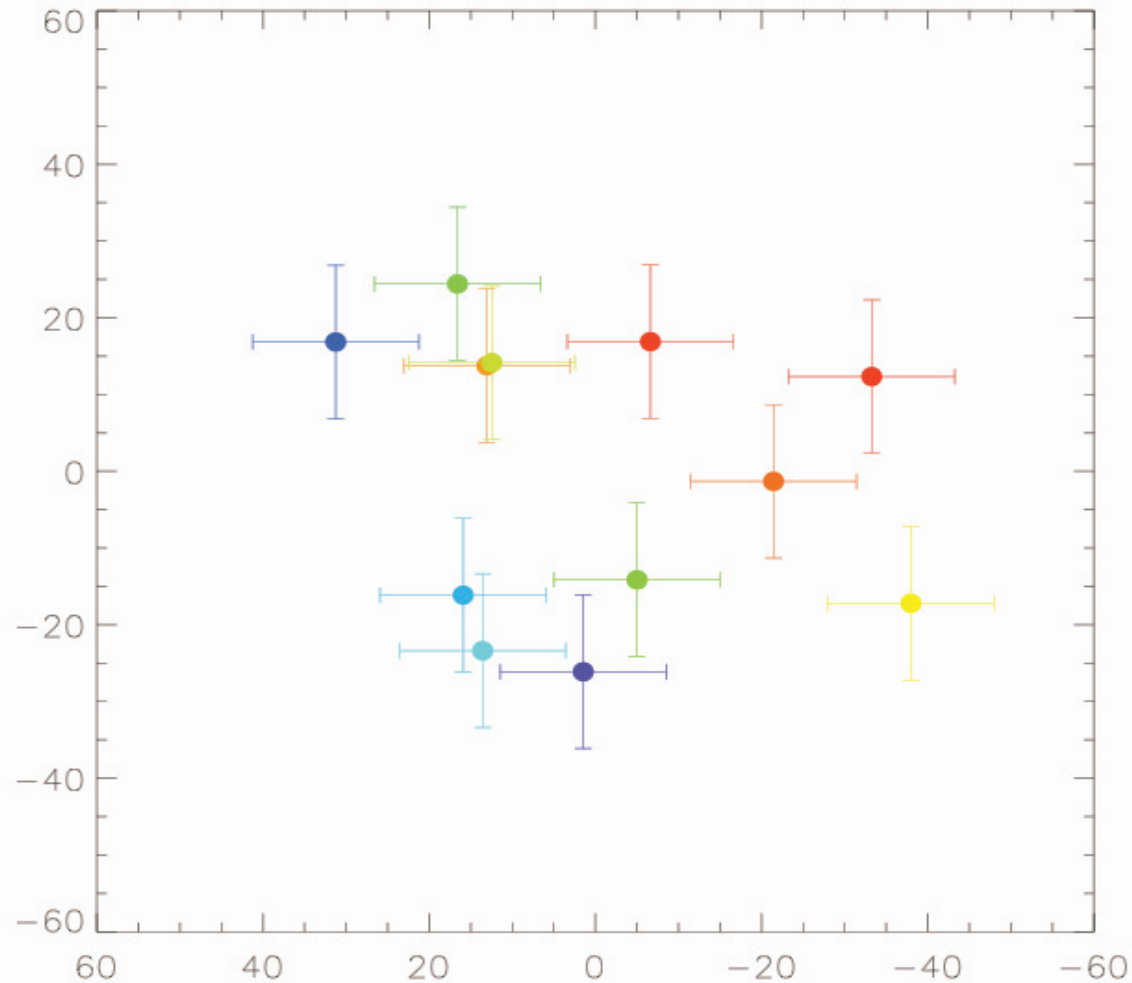




# Observing one flare

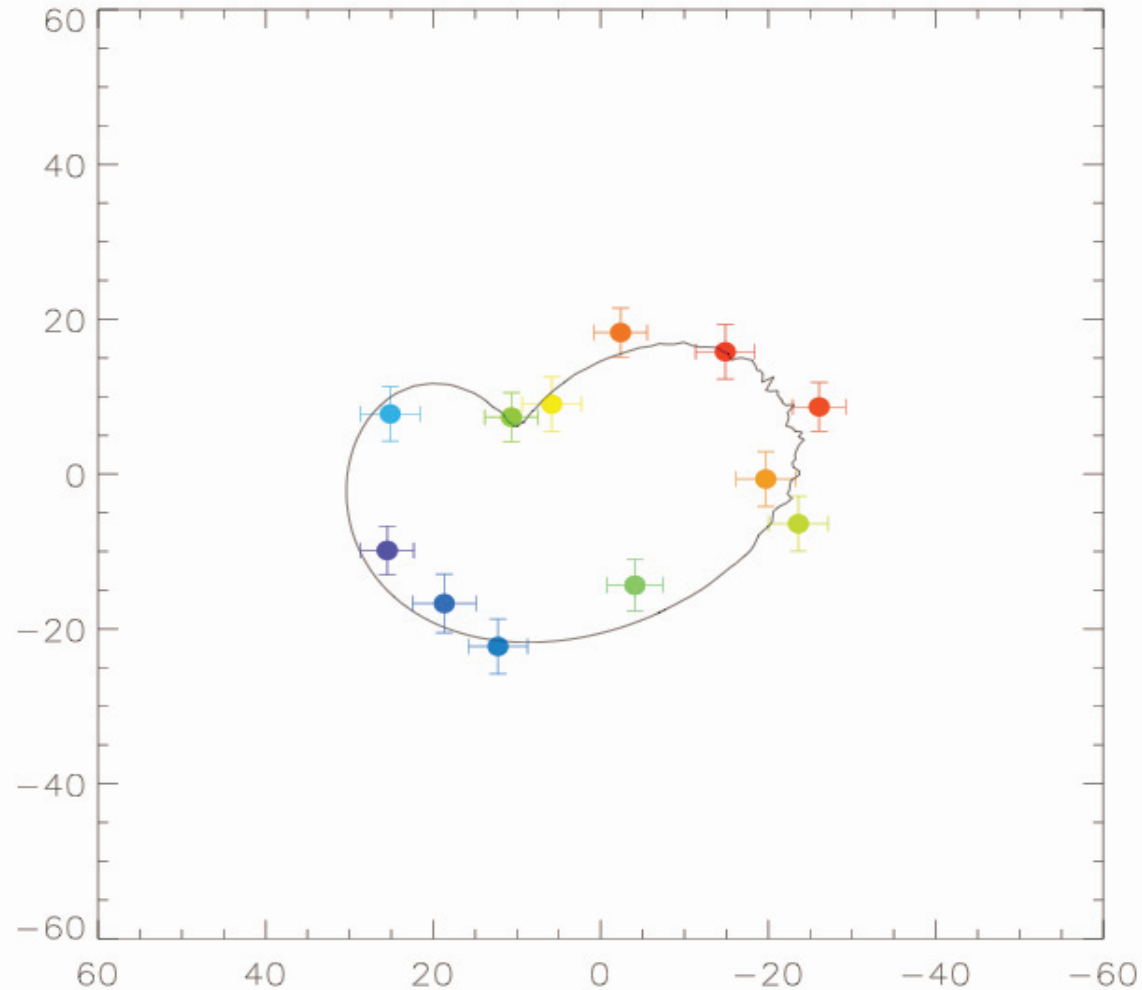


proves or disproves the orbital nature





# Coadding 10 flares reveals the GR effects





# Weighing massive stars

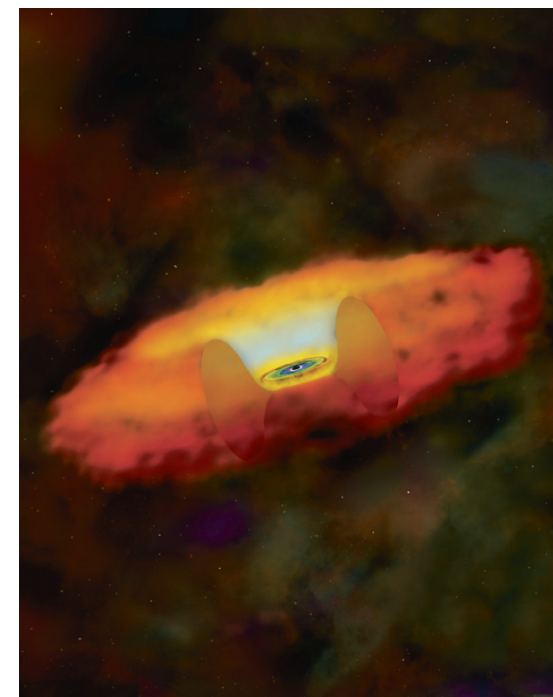
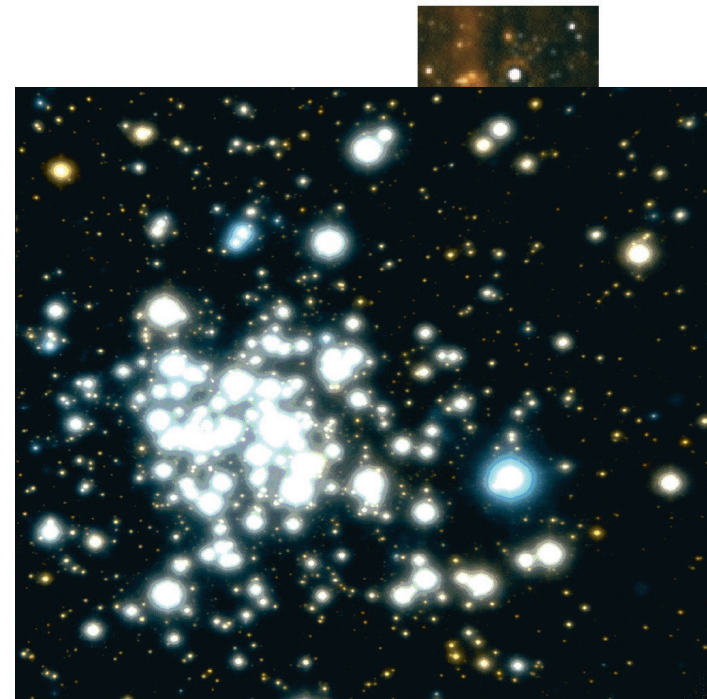
Binaries in Arches cluster





# Non-BH cases

- astrometrically resolve spectroscopic binaries
  - obtain masses
  - probe upper end of stellar mass scale
- Map out AGN
  - detailed picture to be tested

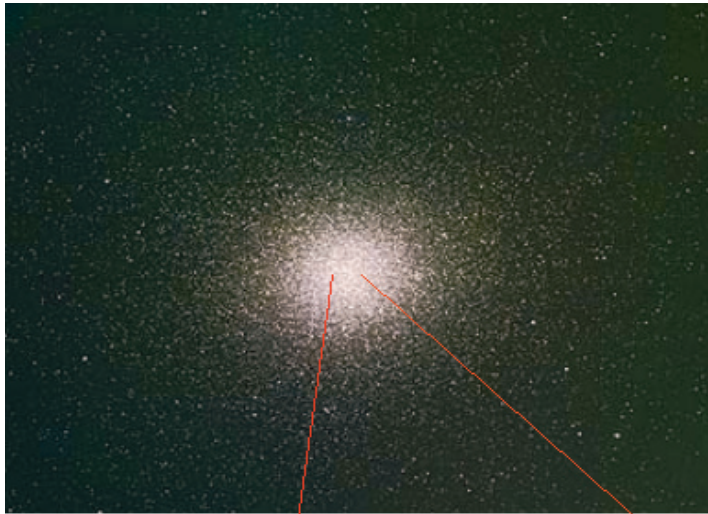
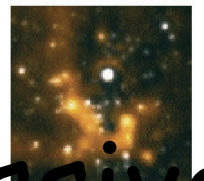


# Hunt Intermediate mass BHs

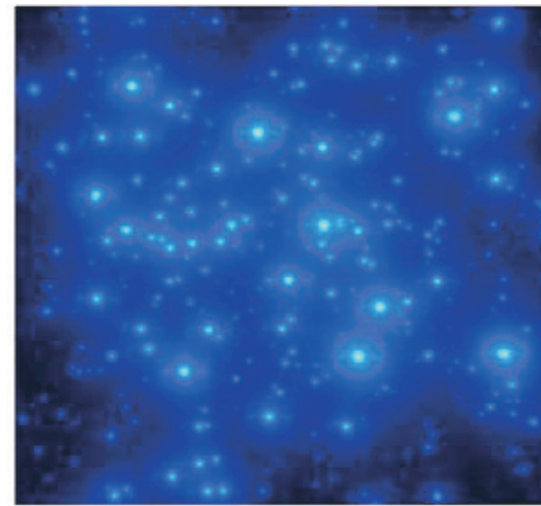
- Seeds for SMBHs ?
  - formed through core collapse of Pop III stars at  $z = 10$
- Compelling case IRS 13 (close to GC)
- Globular Clusters
- Use interferometric gain to see lower masses in Galaxy



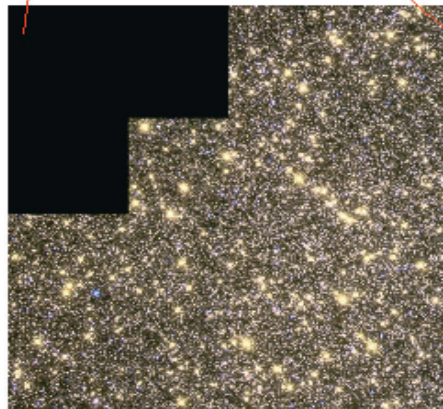
# For a few stellar systems intermediate or moderately massive black holes can be probed



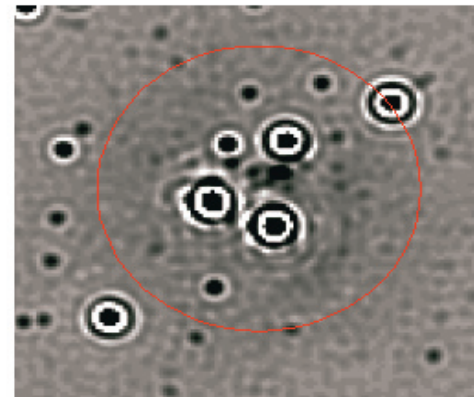
omega Cen



Arches



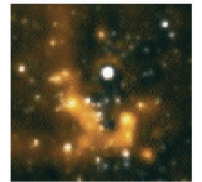
2008/0



IRS 13

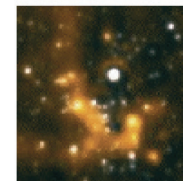


# Active Galactic Nuclei

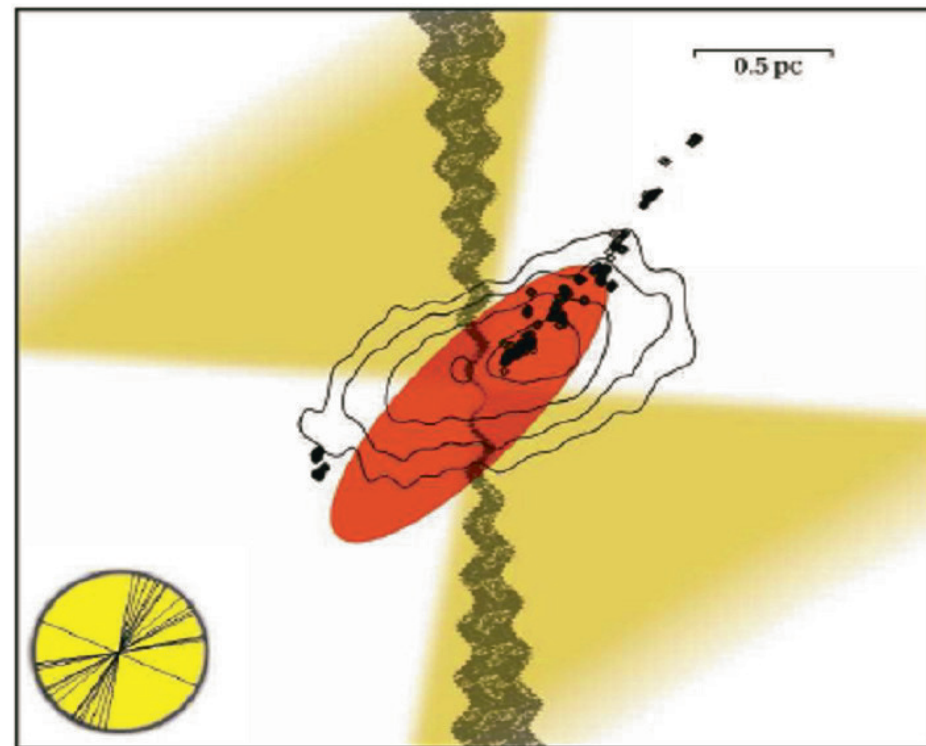
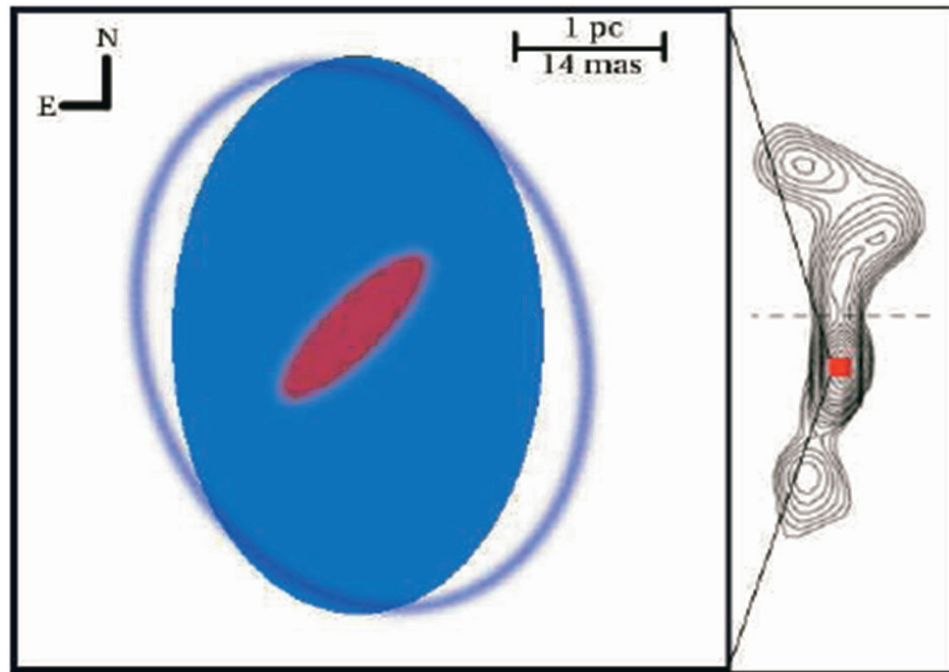




# 3. Active Galactic Nuclei



NGC 1068

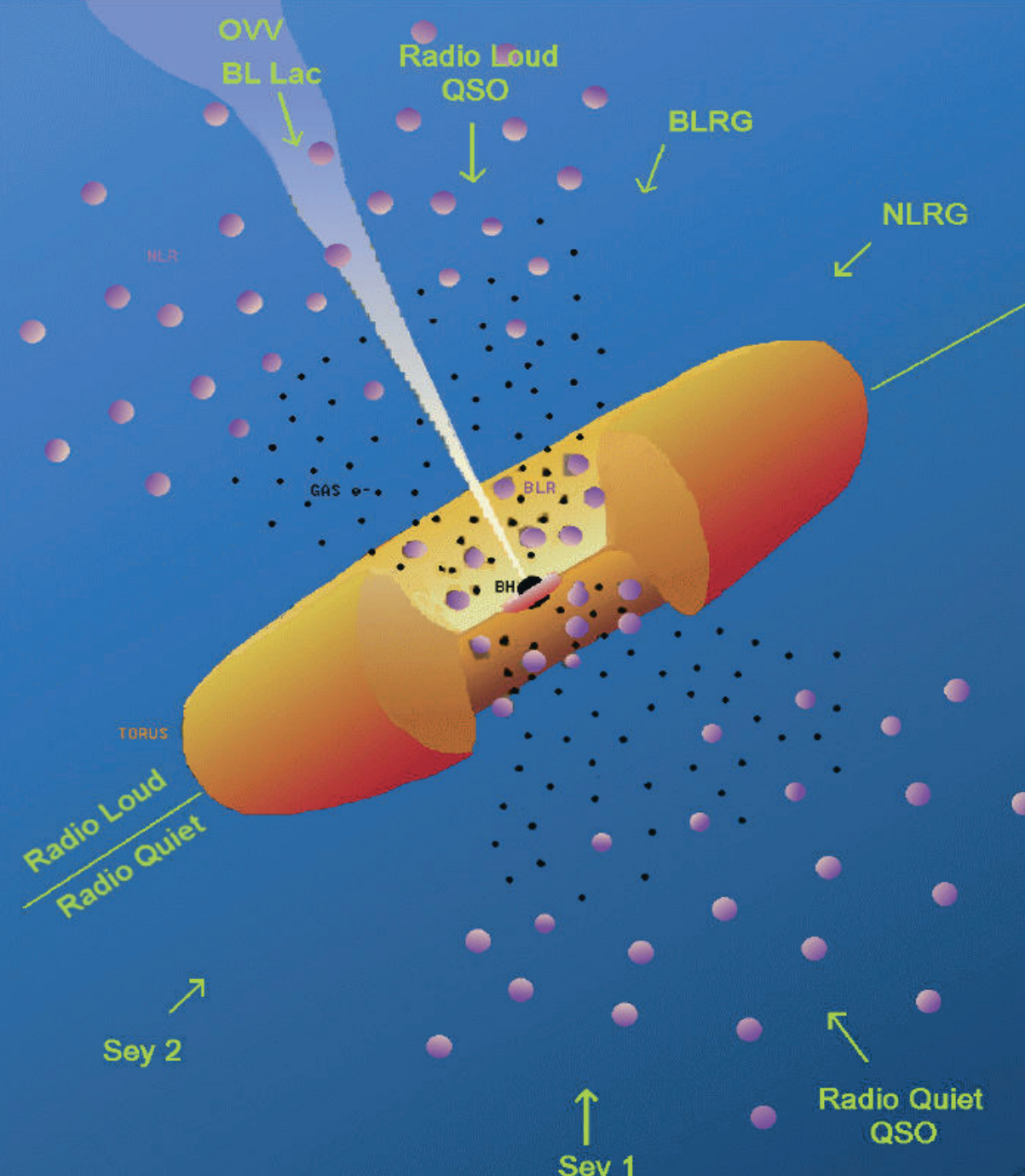


dust emission: torus or NLR?

See Walter Jaffe's talk

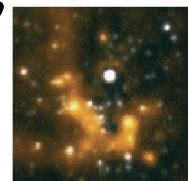
maser disk, AGN jet and BH accretion

BLR sizes, nuclear star cluster, gas motions



# GRAVITY

can measure the Dynamics of the BLR

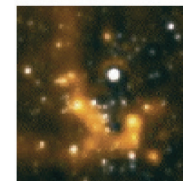


Search for rotation pattern:

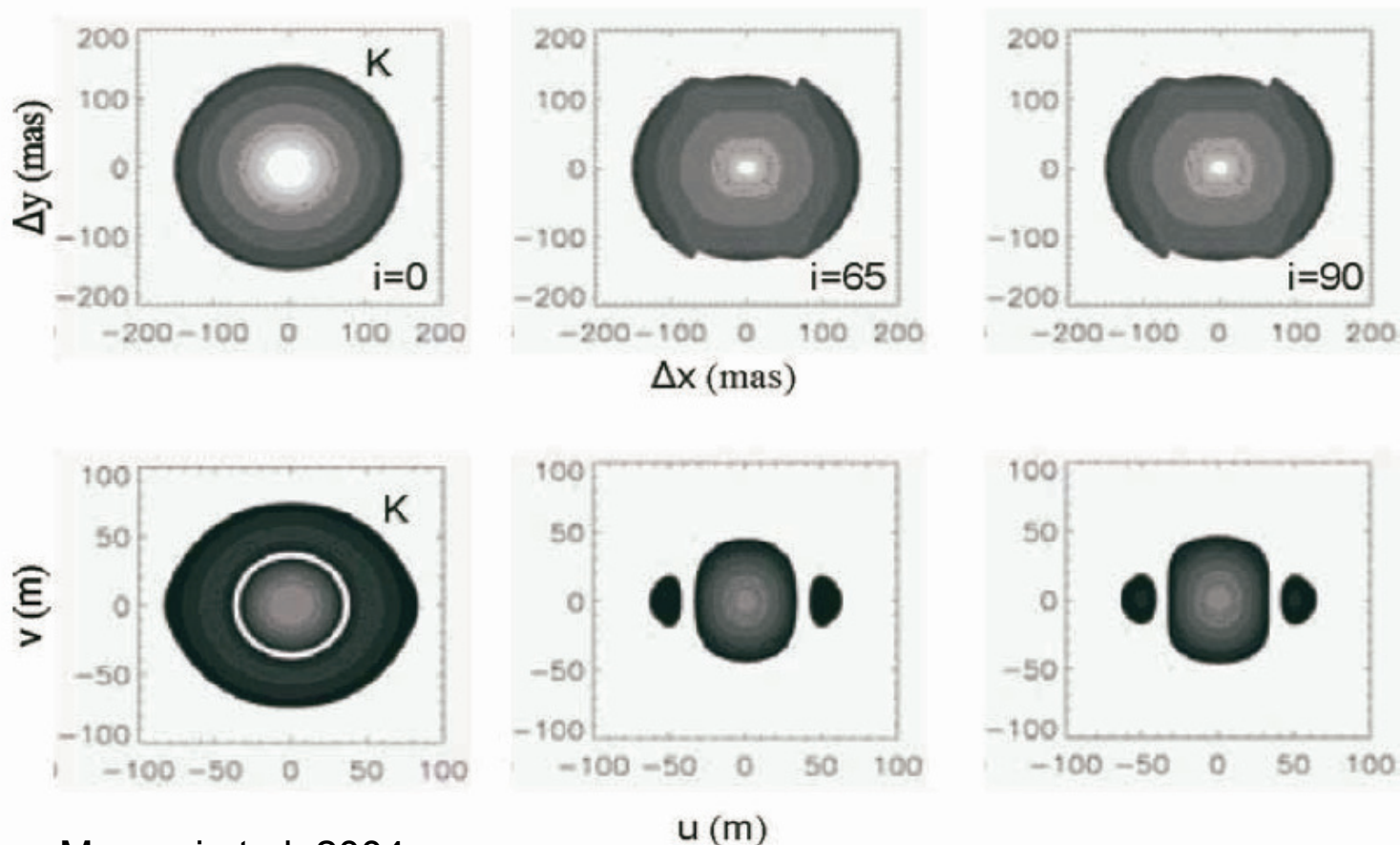
Radial velocity from Br-gamma or Pa-alpha as function of position



# Dust Torus Structure

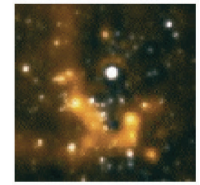


GRAVITY allows one to access the structure and composition of the clumpy dust torus

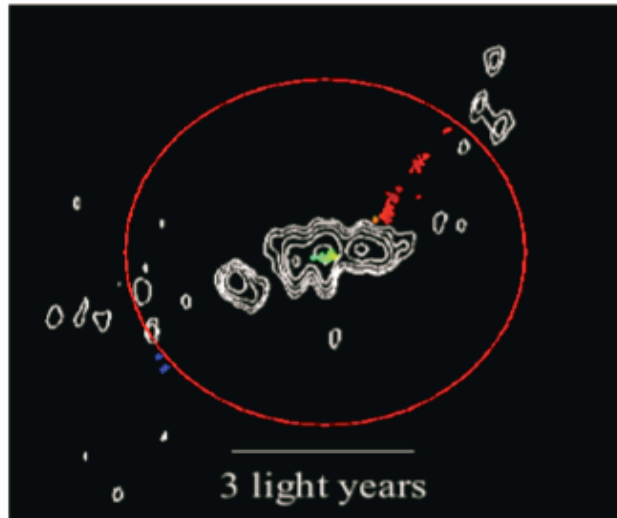




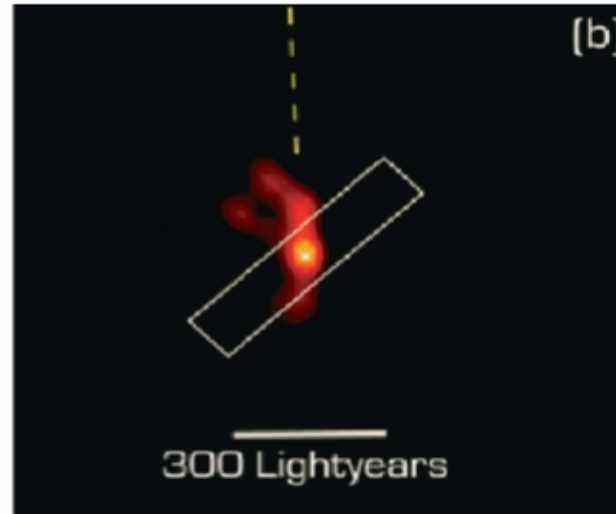
# NGC 1068: Already a VLTI Target



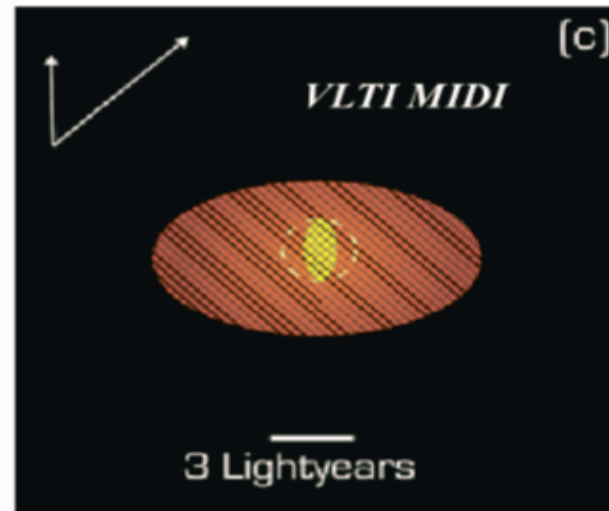
VLBA,  
cont. + water masers



Greenhill et al. 1998,  
Gallimore et al. 2004



VLT 10 $\mu$ m



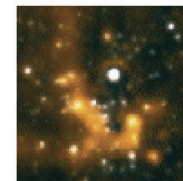
VLT MIDI

Jaffe et al. 2004

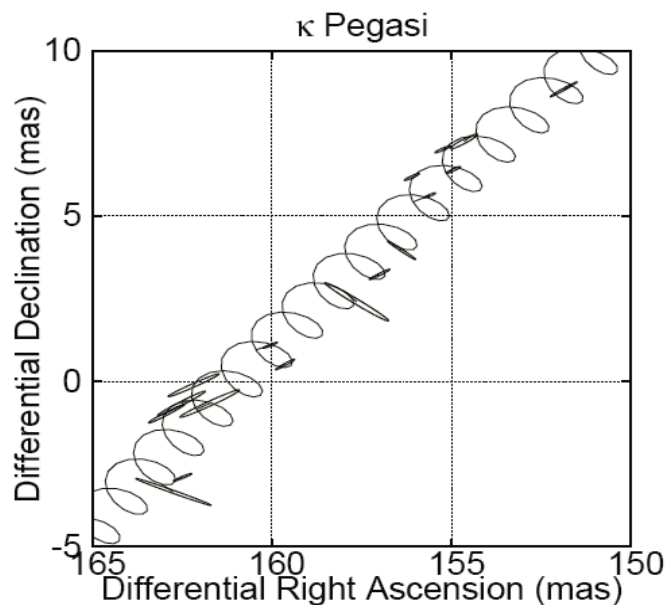




# Star and Planet Formation



Do **jets originate** in disk winds, or are they driven by a central engine?

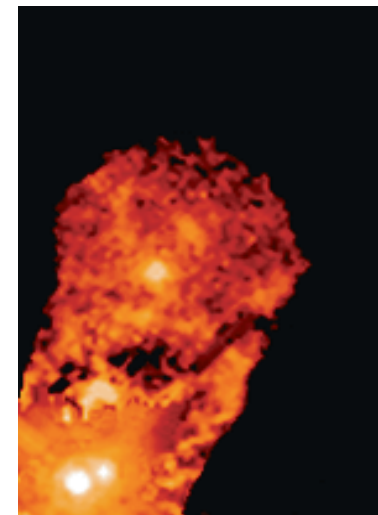


Muterspaugh et al. 2006

HH30



XZTau



FoV: 3" x 6" (300 AU x 600 AU) over 5 yr

(Krist et al. )

Giant planets in close binary system:

Probing the parameter space missed by PRIMA (close and faint systems)

2008/06/12

H. Bartko, MPE, Garching

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