Revealing the inner structure of protoplanetary disks: A PIONIER-VLTI Large Program

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Planet formation and evolution 2014 Kiel Sept 8-10



### Reaching out the inner astronomical units



#### SEEDs collaboration



# A VLTI-PIONIER large program

#### Goals:

- Constraining the shape of the inner disk;
  - Vertical structure;
  - Non-axisymmetry
- Constraining the nature of the emission (gas,dust)
- Determining the temperature;
- Relation with central star outer disk;
- Signposts of planet formation;





## A PIONIER large program

#### Sample:

• The brightest Herbig AeBe stars

(Hillenbrand+ 92, Thé+ 94, Malfait+ 98)

- 55 targets selected
- B0 to G stars

#### Strategy:

- Snapshot survey: parametric modelling of emission morphology.
- Agressive uv coverage and image reconstruction on best resolved objects





## Examples of visibility distributions (I)



### Examples of visibility distributions (II)

Examples of visibility patterns 2



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### Parametric modelling

Visibility and Closure-Phases

<u>**Aim**</u>: Providing morphological parametrisation of the H band emission

<u>Method</u>: Point source + Thin elliptical ring + Azimuthal modulation + Blurring + Halo (11 parameters)





#### Temperature distribution

On average consistent with silicate dust grain sublimation. Good correspondance between interferometry and photometry except for a few cases.



#### Size - Luminosity relation

Confirmation of previous studies e.g. Monnier+ (2002,2005)



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### Reconstructed images



In most cases: not sharp "inner edge" detected.



#### The origin of the "halo" The case of HD 100546

Are we seeing the inner rim of transitional outer disks?



PIONIER LP HAeBe

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### Conclusion

- 1. VLTI is an operational, efficient, "imaging" interferometer;
- 2. PIONIER LP allows the morphology of the inner rim to be constrained;
- 3. Temperatures measured consistent with sublimation but...
- 4. inner RIM very smooth (no sharp transition)?
- 5. evidence for external inner rim ?
- 6. Image reconstruction still in progress: simultaneous photometry requests
- 7. The combination of PIONIER, GRAVITY and MATISSE: a unique insight shed on the structure of protoplanetary disks

Interferometric Imaging

## Planet Formation Imager Concept planetformationimager.org

