## Interferometric results from the epsilon Aurigae eclipse

(Its more than just images!)



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#### Collaborators

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#### Overview

- Optical Interferometry (OI) Data Products
- OI image reconstruction
- Data sources for eps Aur project
- Artifact assessment and eps Aur images
- System models and results
- Applied statistical methods

## Optical interferometry data products



- UV points
- Visibility squared  $|V|^2$
- Triple product (the bispectra)  $T_{ijk} = V_{ij}V_{jk}V_{ki}$   $= |V_{ij}V_{jk}V_{ki}|e^{i(\phi_{ij}+\phi_{jk}+\phi_{ki})}$

Triple Amplitude

Closure Phase

 $\phi_{123} = \phi_{12} + \phi_{\text{atm}} + \phi_{23} + (-\phi_{\text{atm}}) + \phi_{31}$ 

- Differential quantities (spectrally dispersed data)
  - Visibilities
  - Phase
- Closure Amplitudes
- Data are saved as OIFITS files

#### OI imaging is an ill-posed model fitting problem

- Model fitting
  - Well-posed problem N(data) > N(parameters)
  - Small number of parameters (often of different nature)
  - Constraints on parameters to keep them physical
- Image reconstruction
  - This is still model-fitting...
  - High number of identical parameters
    - e.g. pixels, wavelets, etc.
  - III-posed problem N(data) << N(pixels)</li>
  - Need some prior information needed to regularize the solution

### Bayes theorem applied to imaging



N(data) << N(pixels)... need more constraints:



Positivity: 
$$\forall n, i_n \geq 0$$
  
Normalization to unity:  $\sum_n i_n = 1$ 

Slide content from Aperture Synthesis Imaging. Baron (2012)

#### Which regularization function?

 $J(i) = \chi^2(i) + \mu R(i)$ 



Images from Renard (2012)

#### What value for the multiplier?





What regularization weight value?



Images from Renard (2012)

#### **Eps Aur Interferometry**

#### Data from multiple interferometers CHARA-MIRC, CHARA-CLIMB, NPOI, PTI



#### **UV** Coverage



#### What can we trust in the images?



## Artifacts abound



Likely Artifacts:

- Bright Spots along equator
- Bright spot at North Pole
- Dark alias in northern hemisphere
- Scalloped Edge of disk

Not Artifacts:

Southern Pole

Undecided:

Straight Edges on F-star

#### Five of 14 model-independent images

Ingress (CHARA-MIRC)

2009-11 2009-12 2010-02

Mid-eclipse (CHARA-MIRC) 2010-08



Egress (CHARA-CLIMB) 2010-04



#### How do we model the disk?



Huang 1965 "brick"



#### Kemp 1986 "inclined brick"

## New software: liboi and SIMTOI

- OpenCL Interferometry Library (liboi)
  - GPU computing library for OI
  - Image + OIFITS  $\rightarrow$  Simulated observations
  - Can perform ~280 (image  $\rightarrow$  data  $\rightarrow$  chi2r) / second
  - About 150x faster than the same algorithms on a CPU
- SImulation and Modeling Tool for Optical Interferometry (SIMTOI)
  - Models rendered using OpenGL (computer graphics)
  - Environment is fully 3D, time-dependent, and includes orbits!
  - Has several minimization engines
  - Callable via. scripting languages
  - Uses liboi as a backend for fast computations

The photometry hints at the orbital parameters... if you have a disk model



Photometry is Ic band, from AAVSO contributors

# Our models were inspired by resolved images of proplyds



Image of Orion protoplanetary disks from Ricci et al. 2008 and Miotello et al. 2012

#### Best-fit symmetric disk models

Epsilon Aurigae symmetric disk models

![](_page_18_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### The disk is not symmetric

Predicted eclipse photometry from symmetric disk models

![](_page_19_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_20_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### Bootstrapping provides more realistic uncertainties

![](_page_21_Figure_1.jpeg)

- Model: Hestroffer LDD applied to sphere
  - Statistics appear to follow Cauchy distributions
  - Both parameters show (slight) skewness

#### Conclusions

- OI image reconstruction is tricky
  - A careful analysis of image artifacts is needed
- Eps Aur:
  - OI has significantly constrained the orbit
  - The disk is **asymmetric** and is now quantified
  - Mid-eclipse brightening is **not** due to a central clearing in the disk
  - Bootstrapped uncertainties are reasonable
  - Publication coming very soon!

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![](_page_23_Picture_1.jpeg)

# Interferometric results from the epsilon Aurigae eclipse

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![](_page_23_Picture_4.jpeg)

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