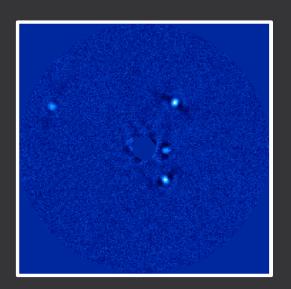


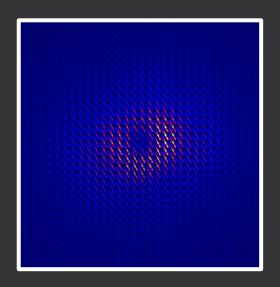


# Latest results with LBTI's VORTEX coronagraph

D. Defrère University of Liège





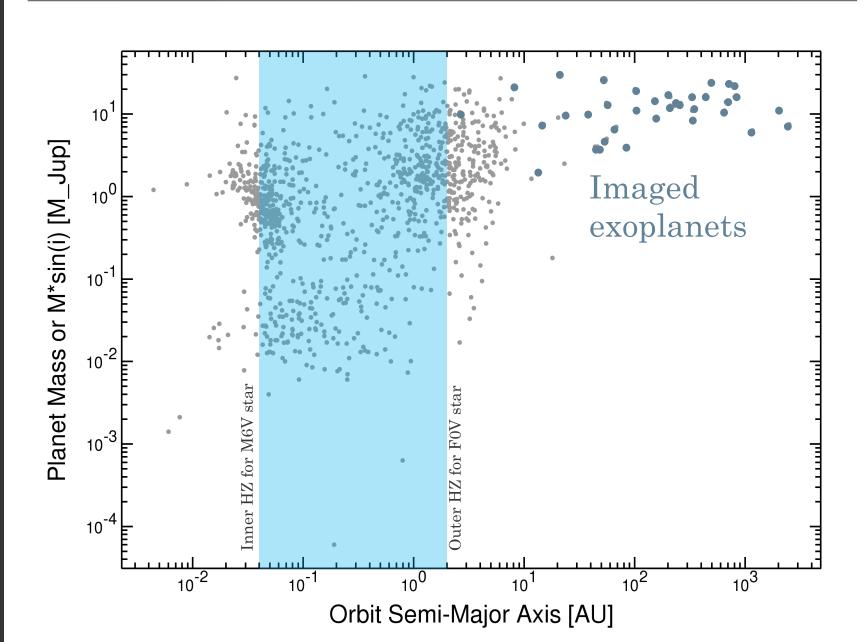


LBT user meeting -- Florence – June 23<sup>rd</sup>



#### Which planets?

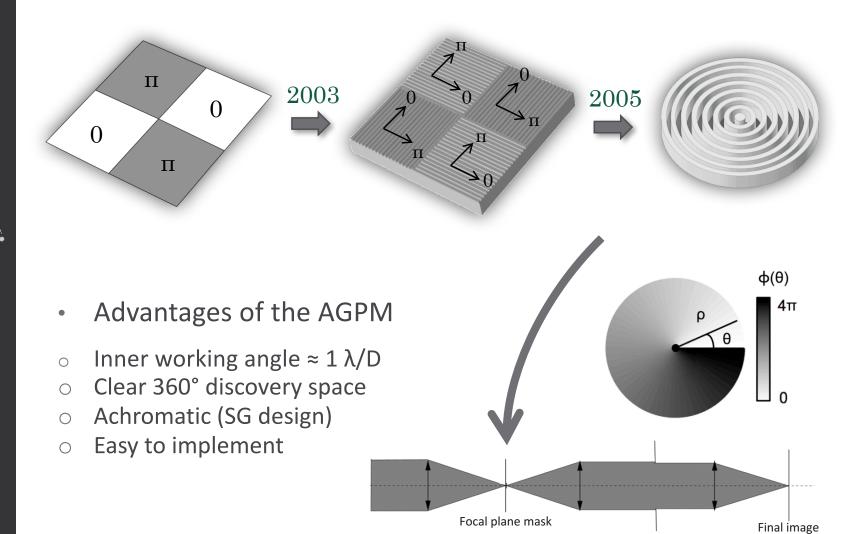






#### The birth of a concept

FQPM → sub-wavelength gratings → Annular Groove PM

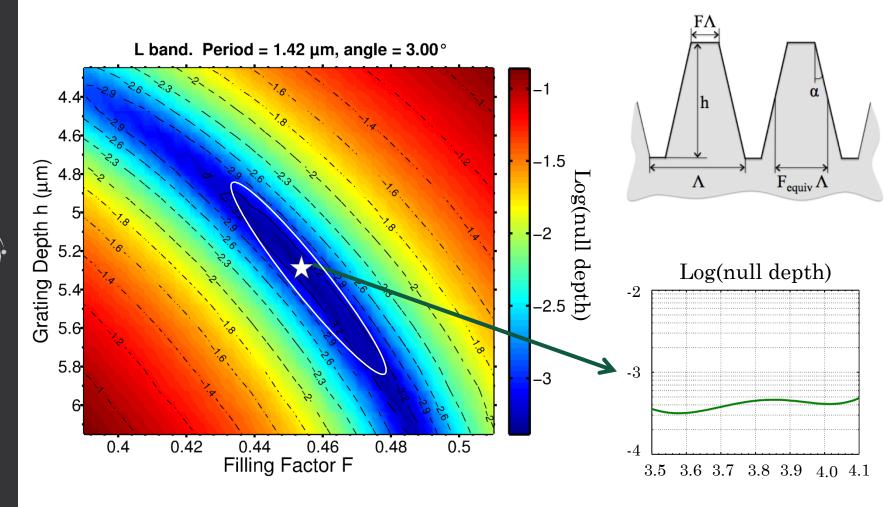


Mawet, Riaud, Absil & Surdej 2005

Lyot stop



# Grating design and optimization



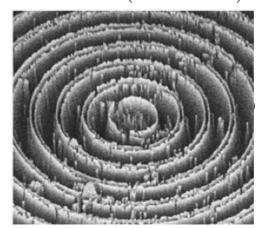




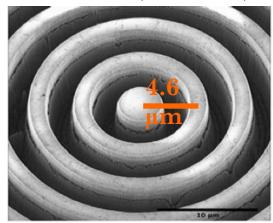
#### Etching on synthetic diamond

- Inductively coupled plasma etching
- $\circ$  N band (grating period = 4.6  $\mu$ m)
- $\circ$  L band (grating period = 1.4  $\mu$ m)

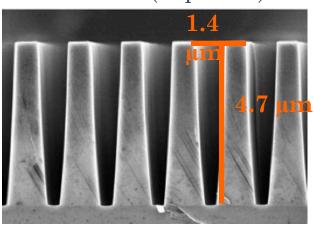
N band (Nov 2009)



N band (Feb 2012)



L band (Sep 2012)

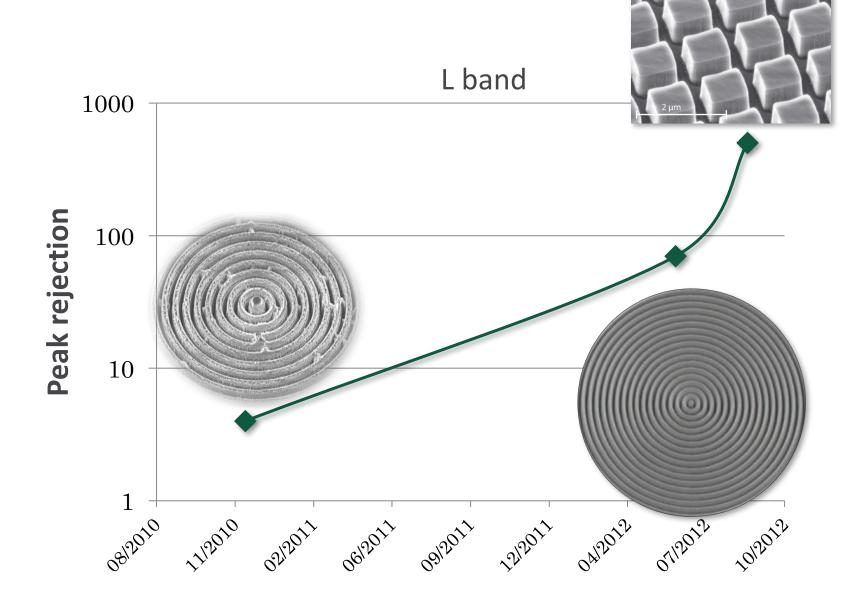


Parameters close to optimal ... need to test!



# **RTEX**

#### High performance

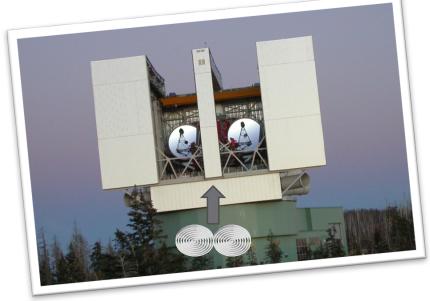




# Installation at VLT, LBT, and Keck





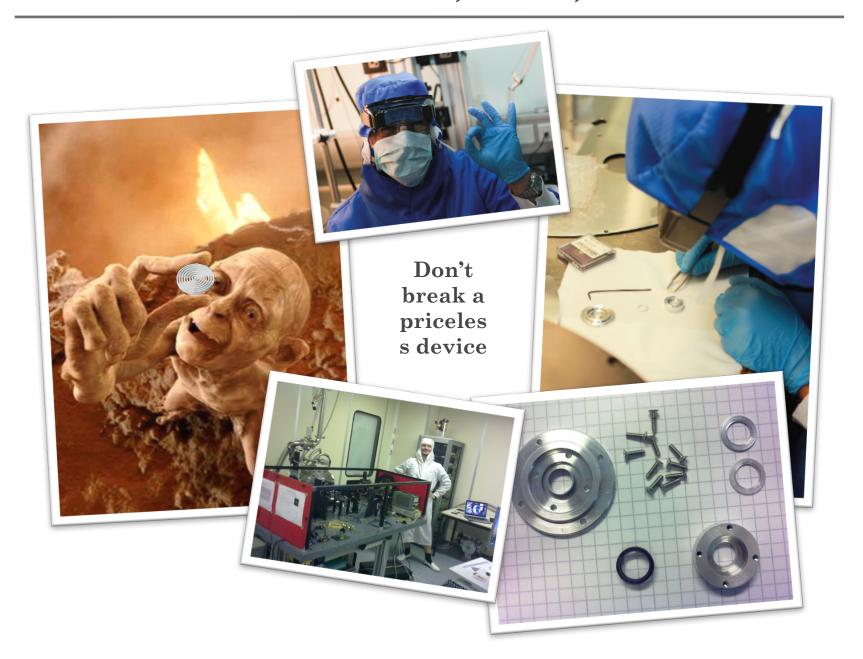






#### Installation at VLT, LBT, and Keck



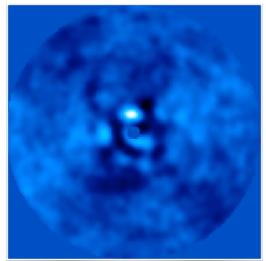






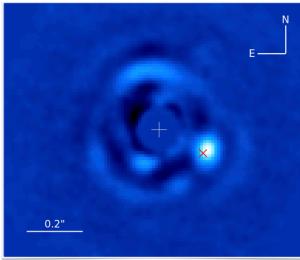
#### Science highlights

#### HD 169142 @ VLT/NACO



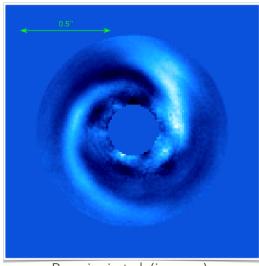
Biller et al. 2014, Reggiani et al. 2014

#### HIP 79124 @ Keck/NIRC2



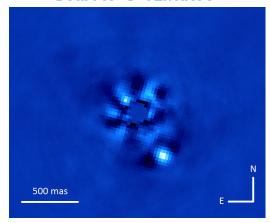
Serabyn et al. (2017)

#### MWC 758 @ Keck/NIRC2 (1999)



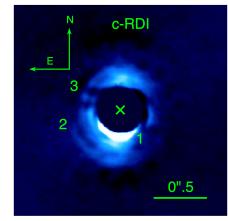
Reggiani et al. (in prep)

#### Beta Pic @ VLT/NACO



Absil et al. 2013

#### HIP 141569 @ Keck/NIRC2

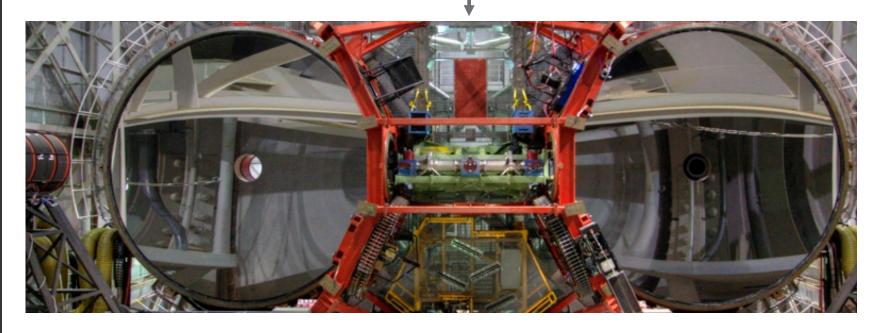




#### VORTEX coronagraphy at the LBT







#### Resolution

Beam combination provides the equivalent resolution of a 22.7-m telescope.

#### **High Contrast**

The AO system creates an image with a Strehl of >90% at 3.8 µm.

#### **Sensitivity**

LBT has two 8.4-m mirrors mounted on a single structure (collecting area of a single 11.8-m aperture)





# LMIRCam specifications

	Wavelength Coverage (µm)	J,H,K,L,M (1.5-5.1)	L&M (3.2-5.1)
	Throughput	>30%	>30%
	Pixel Size	0.011"	0.011"
	FOV	40x40"	5x5"
	Minimum Strehl	90% (3.8 μm)	90% (3.8 μm)
ı	Spectral Resolution	350	40 (with IFU)

40 mas @ L'

LMIRcam

AGPM+LMIRCAM

40 mas @ L'



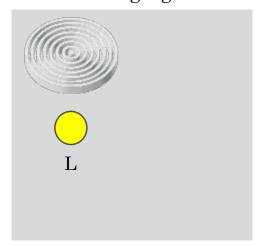
Spatial Resolution



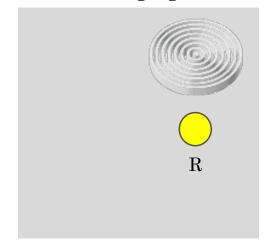


# Several possibilities

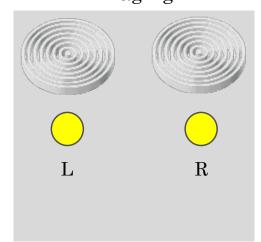
Single AO+AGPM imaging



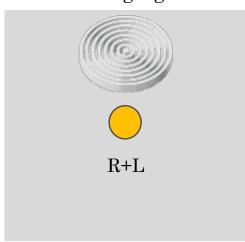
Single AO+AGPM imaging

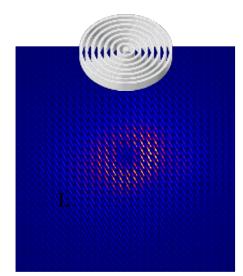


Binocular AO+AGPM imaging



Binocular AO+AGPM imaging



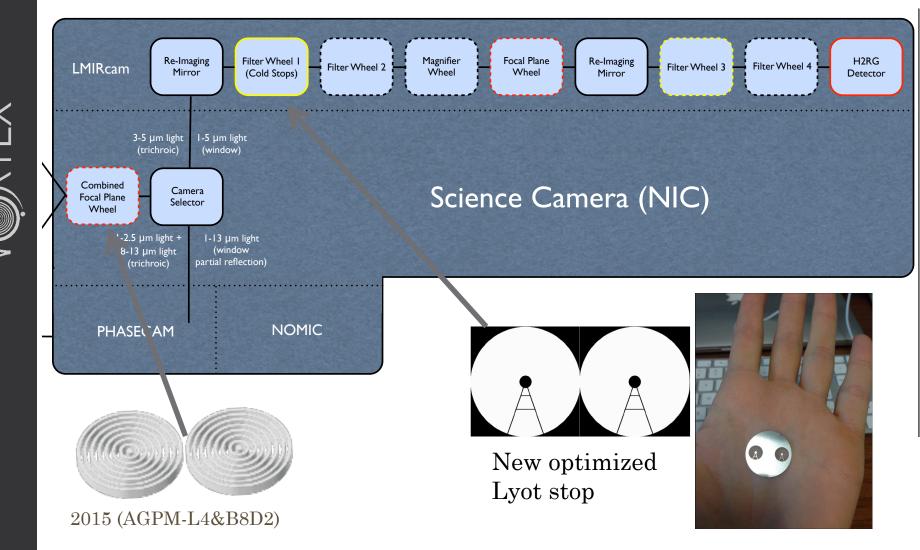


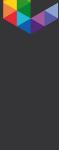
\*New mode\*

Single IFU+AO+AGPM imaging



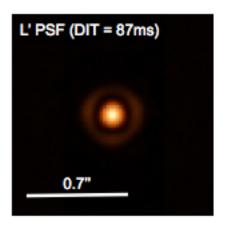
### AGPM: easy to install

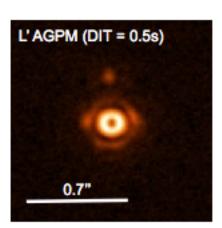




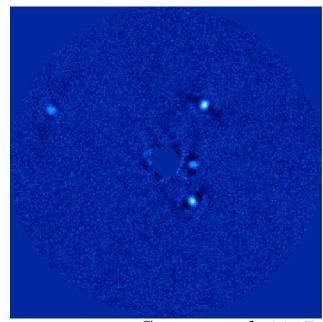
#### Nov. 2013: first-light observations

• First-light observations on October 17, 2013 (AGPM-L4, 1 telescope):





Peak rejection ~35:1 (far from optimal)

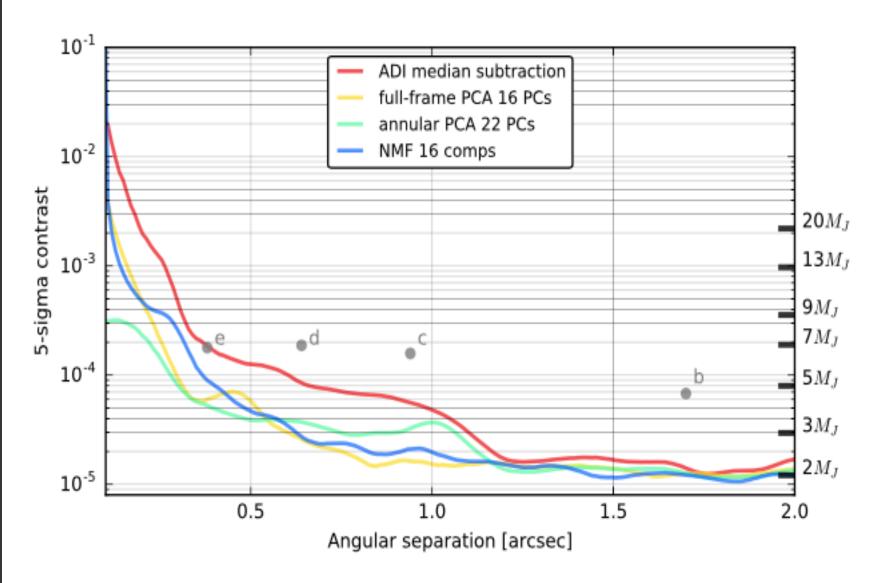


Gomez et al. 2017





### Nov. 2013: first-light observations

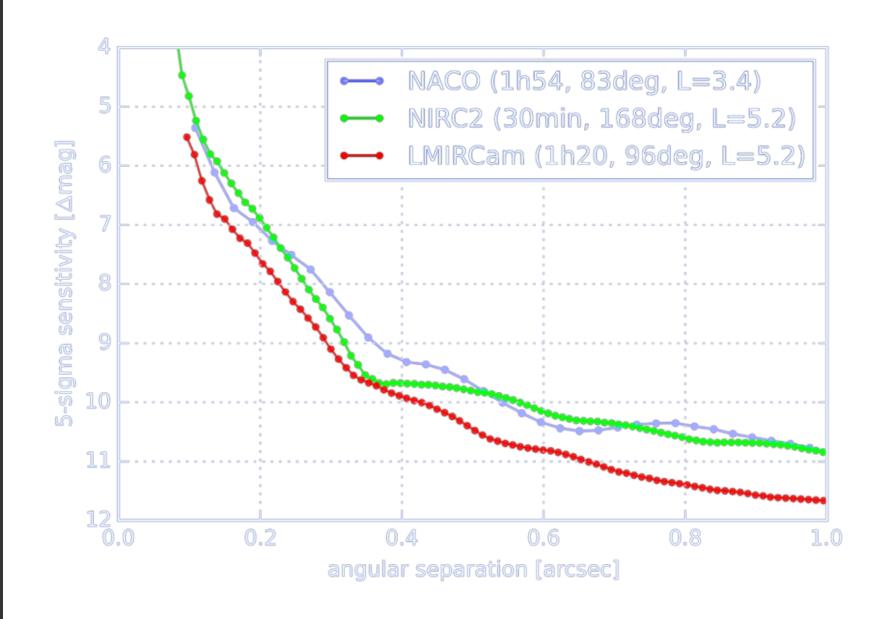


RTEX



# Comparison with other instruments

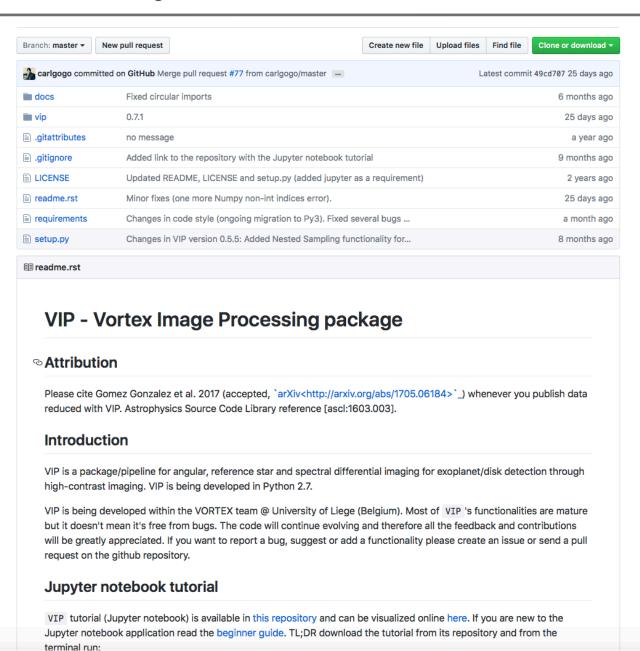








#### VIP library: http://github.com/vortex-exoplanet/VIP



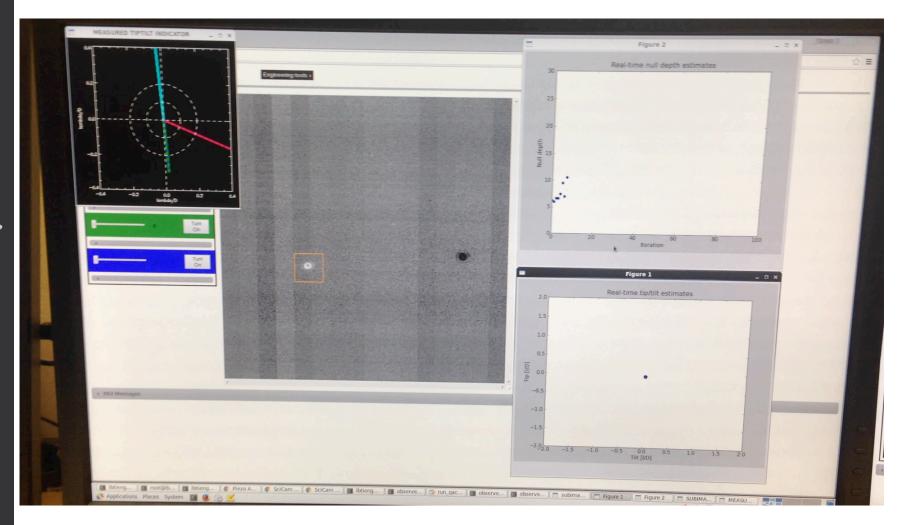


# )RTEX

### New improvements

(Huby et al. 2015)

• 1. Real-time star centroiding using QACITS

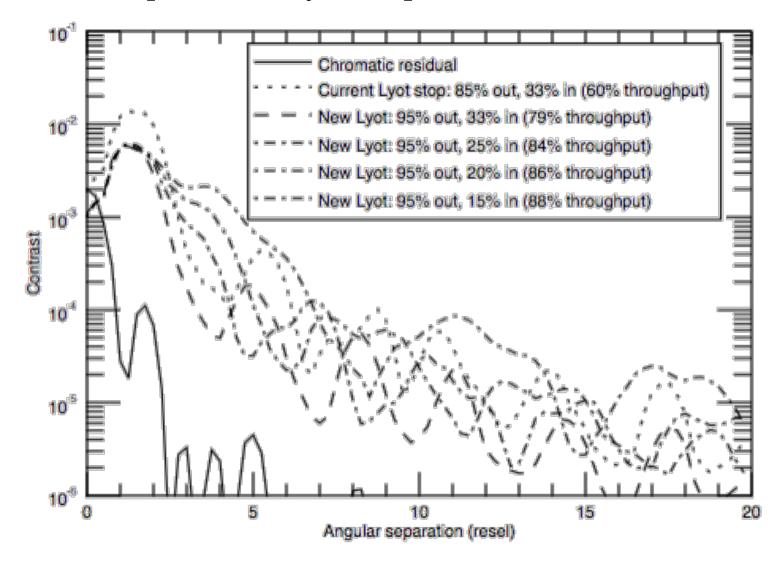




#### New improvements

PROPER simulation done by D. Mawet

• 2. New optimized Lyot stop





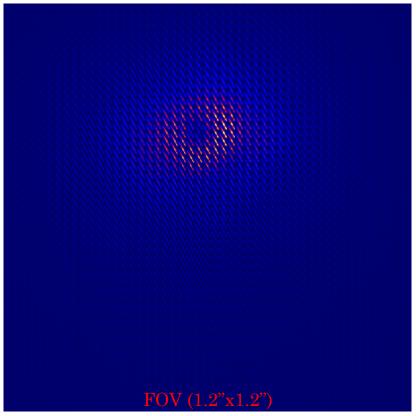


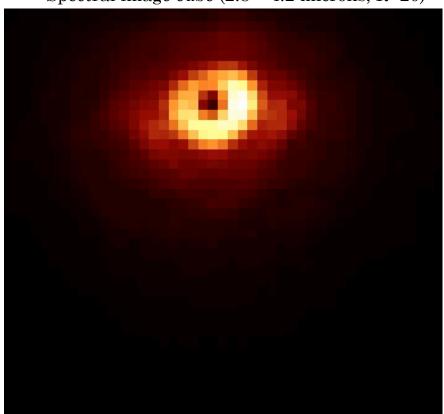
### New improvements

#### • 3. New AGPM+IFU mode



Spectral image cube  $(2.8 - 4.2 \text{ microns}, R\sim20)$ 





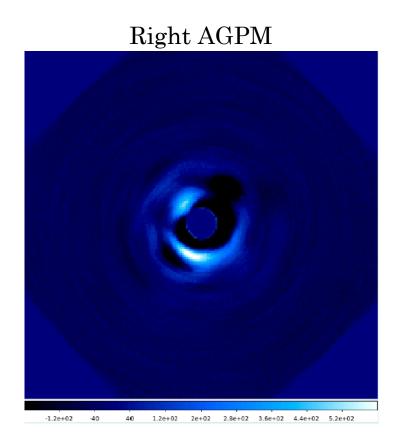
Data processing by Jordan Stone (UoA)



#### Latest observations

• Planet formation at small angular separation (preliminary)

Left AGPM 2e+02 2.8e+02 3.6e+02 4.4e+02 5.2e+02





#### Summary

- LMIRCam+AGPM for L' high-contrast imaging
- New optimized Lyot stop and two AGPMs for binocular observations
- New IFU + AGPM mode (R=40)
- New real-time tip/tilt loop (improve efficiency and contrast)
- Want to use it?
  - AGPM contact: <u>ddefrere@ulg.ac.be</u>
  - LMIRCam contact: <u>jstone@as.arizona.edu</u>



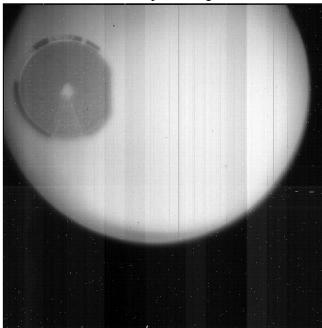
# Backup



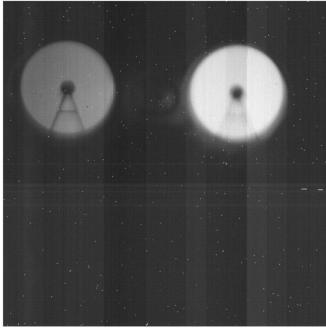
#### Recent results

- Squeezed in ~1hour of AGPM engineering in December 2016 (during ALES commissioning)
  - New double Lyot stop shows no issue
  - Alignment went smoothly;

No Lyot stop



With new double Lyot stop



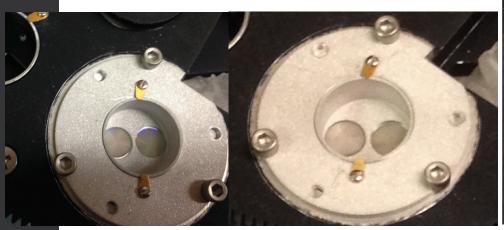
**M**RTEX

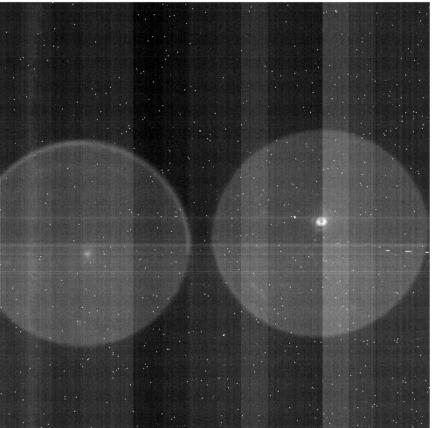




# AGPM misaligned

- Both AGPMs fit nicely LMIRCam's field-of-view;
- The center of the right AGPM doesn't seem to appear at the center of the AGPM => mount cover has rotated.
- Example of clocked mount cover (left). Last picture before closing the cryostat (right):

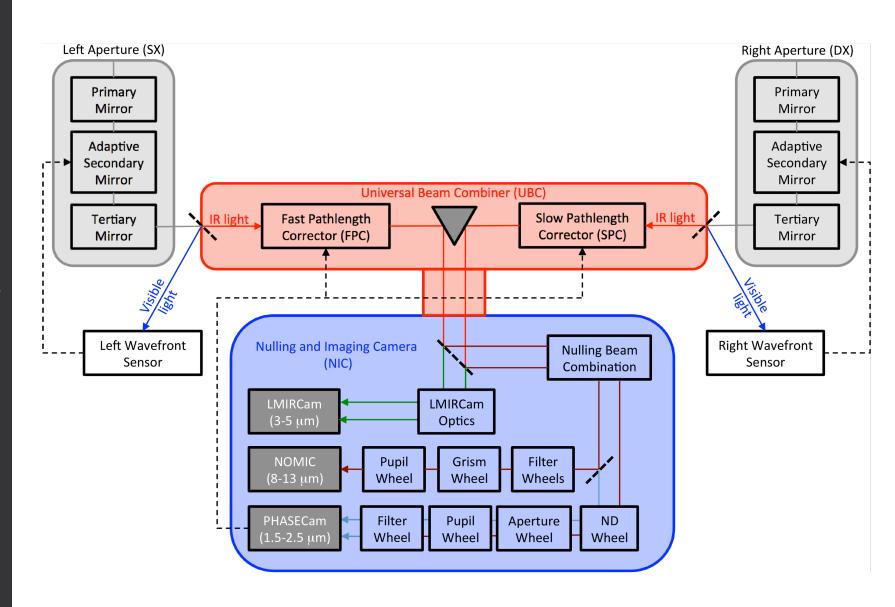






# The LBT interferometer (LBTI)









#### ALES (Arizona Lenslet for Exoplanet Survey)

#### Wavelength ranges / spectral resolutions:

 $2.8-4.15 \text{ (R}\sim40)$ 

3-5 (R~20)

 $2.2-3.7 \text{ (R}\sim40)$ 

2.0-2.3 (R~150)

3.1-3.5 (R~100)

# FOVs / spaxel scales (the finest scales are for dual-aperture interferometry)

 $0.45 \times 0.45$ " (6x6 mas spaxels)

0.9x0.9" (12 mas spaxels)

1.8x1.8" (25 mas spaxels)

3.6x3.6" (50 mas spaxels)