An N band interferometric survey of the disks around post-AGB binary stars



Michel Hillen, post-doc, Instituut voor Sterrenkunde, KU Leuven

J. Menu, R. Manick, J. Debosscher, T. Verhoelst, D. Kamath, H. Van Winckel



My memories of Olivier







MIDI: Olivier's baby

- First 2nd generation instrument at VLTI
- 2T combiner at 10 μm
- Decommissioned in March

- Olivier published 10 first-author papers with 'MIDI' in the abstract, including
 - a review about the instrument and its data reduction
 - some of the first observations taken with the instrument
 - observations of Be stars, OH/IR stars, PNe, Eta Carinae, Novae



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Disks were a central theme in these works!

One class of 'evolved star disks' that Olivier did not touch are the ones around post-AGB stars!

Optically bright post-AGB/RGB stars



The WISE view of post-AGB stars: color-color diagrams

Gezer et al., subm.



Shells: single stars? -> see poster B. Hrivnak

Disk – binary connection



Aims/Questions

The **disk nature** of the circumstellar material around post-AGB binaries is now **well established**, but we don't understand

• the formation of the disk (binary interaction!)

(N. Soker's GEE scenario may be relevant here)

the evolution of the disk (and its influence on the binary!)

(search for progeny etc., see long binaries in PNe)

The MIDI sample

IRAS	name	α_{2000}	δ_{2000}	Spectral	P _{binary}	-
		[h m s]	[" ' "]	Type	[days]	
04440+2605	RV Tau	04 47 06.7	+26 10 45.6	K3pv	1180 ± 15	-
07008 + 1050	HD 52961	07 03 39.6	+10 46 13.1	F6I	1297 ± 7	Deroo et al. 2006
07284-0940	U Mon	07 30 47.5	-09 46 36.8	KOIIb	~ 2600	
08011-3627	AR Pup	08 03 01.6	-36 35 47.9	FOI	1250 ± 300	
08544-4431	100	08 56 14.2	-44 43 10.7	F3	508 ± 2	Deroo et al. 2007
09256-6324	IW Car	09 26 53.3	-63 37 48.9	A4Ib/II	~ 1440	
10158-2844	HR 4049	10 18 07.6	-28 59 31.2		434 ± 1	Acke et al. 2013
10174-5704		10 19 16.9	-57 19 26.0	G8Iab	323 ± 50	
10456-5712	HD 93662	10 47 38.4	-57 28 02.7	K5	572 ± 6	
12185-4856	SX Cen	12 21 12.6	-49 12 41.1	G3V	592 ± 13	Deroo et al. 2006
12222-4652	HD 108015	12 24 53.5	-47 09 07.5v	F4Ib/II	914 ± 4	
15469-5311		15 50 43.8	-53 20 43.3	F3	390 ± 1	
17038-4815		17 07 36.6	-48 19 08.6	G2p	~ 1400	
17243-4348	LR Sco	17 27 53.6	-43 50 46.3	G2	~ 475	
17534+2603	89 Her	17 55 25.2	+26 03 00.0	F3	288 ± 1	Hillen et al. 2014
18281+2149	AC Her	18 30 16.2	+21 52 00.6	F2Iep	1194 ± 6	Hillen et al. 2015
19125+0343		19 15 01.2	+03 48 42.7	F2	520 ± 2	
22327-1731	HD 213985	22 35 27.5	-17 15 26.9	A0III	258.6 ± 0.3	

Studies of individual objects

Basics of interferometry



Direct inversion ("imaging") usually not feasible due to limited uv-filling.

Basics of interferometry



Direct inversion ("imaging") usually not feasible due to limited uv-filling. for a nice example, come to EWASS, Tenerife or STEPS, Garching

Fit results



Let's look at the bigger picture...

...and compare with another sample of disks, recently studied in exactly the same way: Herbig Ae/Be stars.

Remember: the underlying physics is the same and we're after diagnostic signs of evolution!

Herbig protoplanetary disks: the classical picture



(see Dullemond & Monnier, ARA&A, 2010)

Sample results: size-color diagram

Herbig results from Menu et al. (submitted)



Distance-independent size!

Shaded zones: Monte Carlo RT models

Red: post-AGB

Black squares: group la Herbig Ae disks Black crosses: group II Herbig Ae disks Grey: group Ib Herbig Ae disks

Herbig protoplanetary disks (revisited)

- Which underlying physical process(es) cause(s) the dichotomy in structure?
- Evolution?
- Recent observations show a connection between group I classification and the presence of disk gaps (Maaskant et al. 2013, 2014, 2015).
- The MIDI color-size diagram confirms this:
 - the yellow zone denotes the region populated by RT models with gaps, while models with inner radii at the sublimation radius are in the grey zone!
 - (Most) la sources must have gaps! lla sources may be continuous or have gaps.
- Group Ib objects have non-thermal emission from PAHs.







Post-AGB vs. Herbig disks



"Photometrically" post-AGB disks belong to group II (but not exactly the same).

Post-AGB vs. Herbig disks



"Photometrically" post-AGB disks belong to group II (but not exactly the same). "Interferometrically" they also belong to group II (and not exactly the same).

-2.5 -2.0 -1.5 -1.0 -0.5 0.0 0.5 1.0 1.5 2.0

[8]-[13]

10¹

10⁰

10⁻¹

Post-AGB vs. Herbig disks



"Photometrically" post-AGB discs belong to group II (but not exactly the same). Still to be done: compute models in a post-AGB context!



"Interferometrically" they also belong to group II (and not exactly the same).

Outliers and biases?

AC Her: inner disk radius ~10 times dust sublimation radius! (Hillen et al. 2015)





Galactic sample from de Ruyter et al. (2006)

Conclusions

- RV Tauri stars separate well in the WISE color-color diagram, just like the post-AGB reference sample. --> in total ~100 disk sources identified
- Mid-IR interferometric sample studies provide unique insights about the structure and evolution of disks. We studied ~20% of the known post-AGB disk population in the Galaxy with MIDI.
- Post-AGB "disk sources" (i.e. as identified from their SEDs) are indeed spatially compact in the mid-IR, consistent with inner radii at the dust sublimation radius (with a few exceptions, like AC Her).
- Post-AGB disks probably evolve differently than Herbig Ae disks, given that they are all "group II" objects.
- Future work should focus more on objects just outside the *disk box* to distinguish between shells, evolved disks and genuine non-IR sources!

To end with a quote

"My personal opinion is that the discovery of a stratified disk with proved Keplerian kinematics is directly connected to the influence of a companion, albeit the few exceptions presented above, namely the Young Stellar Objects or the critical velocity rotating massive sources such as Be stars. This hypothesis must be confirmed by further observations."

O. Chesneau (Chapter 10 of Lecture Notes in Physics Vol 857, 2013)



The end

Thank you for your attention!

Stellar parameters: optical spectroscopy + SED fitting

wavelength [nm]





Model fitting of MIDI data

