Convection on red supergiants: NIR interferometry

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VLTI/PIONIER observations of Betelgeuse



- VLTI/PIONIER observations (4 telescopes, H band, low spectral resolution)
- 4 epochs of monitoring: Jan. 2012, Feb. 2013, Jan. 2014 and Nov. 2014
- Only the compact array configuration (baseline length \in [11; 36 m])

Intensity maps



- Consistent on the 4 epochs
- Reproduces also the closure phases
- 3D RHD convective simulations DO NOT reproduce the observations
- \rightarrow Montargès et al. 2016, A&A, 588, A130.

Comparison with TBL/NARVAL observations



Aurière et al., 2016, A&A, 591, A119

Comparison with VLT/SPHERE imaging



Montargès et al. 2016, *A&A*, 588, A130 (PIONIER) Kervella et al. 2016, *A&A*,585, A28 (SPHERE)



Isolating the convection signal ? The example of α Sco



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- Power Spectral Density approach (subtraction of the disk contribution) : continuous distribution of convective cells from 1 R* to 1/15th R*
- 3D RHD simulations reproduce the simulation BUT probable bias toward the simulation with the highest numerical resolution

(Montargès et al. in prep.)