# The Accretion Process for SgrA\* Andreas Eckart







Max-Planck-Institut für Radioastronomie



#### FERO meeting, 2016, Sept. 11 - 15, VINICE HNANICE, Czech Republic

#### **Finding Extreme Relativistic Objects**

F. Peissker, M. Valencia-S., M. Parsa, M. Zajacek, B. Shahzamanian A. Borkar, G.Karssen, C. Straubmeier, M. Subroweit, V. Karas, M. Dovciak, D. Kunneriath, et al. EU FP7-SPACE project: Strong Gravity http://www.stronggravity.eu/

#### G2 / DSO 2006

SEVENTH FRAMEWORK

PROGRAMME









# SgrA\* and its Environment

#### Orbits of High Velocity Stars in the Central Arcsecond





Eckart & Genzel 1996/1997 (first proper motions) Eckart+2002 (S2 is bound; first elements) Schödel+ 2002, 2003 (first detailed elements) Ghez+ 2003 (detailed elements) Eisenhauer+ 2005, Gillessen+ 2009 (improving orbital elements) Rubilar & Eckart 2001, Sabha+ 2012, Zucker+2006 (exploring the relativistic character of orbits)

~4 million solar masses at a distance of ~8+-0.3 kpc

### Accretion of winds onto SgrA\*

# Starvation?

NIR and X-ray observations as well as simulations suggest stellar winds contribute up to 10^-4 MSun/yr at Bondi radius (10^5 rS) (Krabbe+ 1995, Baganoff+ 2003)

At this accretrion rate SgrA\* is 10^7 times under luminous (e.g. Shcherbakov & Baganoff 2010)

Accretion of gaseous clumps from the Galactic Centre Mini-spiral onto Milky Way's supermassive black hole ? (Karas, Vladimir; Kunneriath, Devaky; Czerny, Bozena; Rozanska, Agata; Adhikari, Tek P. ; 2016grg..conf...98K)



# Structure of the accretion disk

CASE 1: low accretion rate high opacity

 $\dot{M}/\dot{M}_{\rm E} \stackrel{<}{_\sim} 0.1$  thin accretion disk compared to diameter efficiency:  $\eta \approx 0.1$ 

CASE 0 plus advection dominated accretion for LLAGN  $\dot{M}/\dot{M}_{\rm E}$  << 1

CASE 2: high accretion rate radiation heats disk disk inflates and cools at larger radii, i.e. radiation becomes inefficient.





looks like a 10\*\*4 K young star

# SgrA\* as an extreme LLAGN Nucleus



Ho 2008: Fundamental plane correlation among core radio luminosity, X-ray (a) luminosity, and BH mass. (b) Deviations from the fundamental plane as a function of Eddington ratio.

SgrA\* is accreting in an advection dominated mode, else ist luminosity would be than 10^7 times higher

- Radio/sub-mm single dish and VLBA monitoring
- NIR polarization of SgrA\* over the past ~10 years
- Stability of the SgrA\* system
- Synchtotron Self Compton modelling
- Monitoring the Dusty S-cluster Object

(DSO alias G2) orbiting SgrA\*

- In NIR line emission as well as
- In NIR continuum polarization



#### Seeing the effect of ongoing accretion

#### SgrA\* on 3 June 2008: VLT L-band and APEX sub-mm measurements



VLT 3.8um L-band



#### **Observations**



Eckart et al. 2008; A&A 492, 337 Garcia-Marin et al.2009

#### APEX 1.3 mm

#### Simultaueous NIR/X-ray Flare emission 2004



2003 data: Eckart, Baganoff, Morris, Bautz, Brandt, et al. 2004 A&A 427, 1
2004 data: Eckart, Morris, Baganoff, Bower, Marrone et al. 2006 A&A 450, 535

see also Yusef-Zadeh, et al. 2008, Marrone et al. 2008

# Bright He-stars provide mass for accretion





radius dependent accretion

Cuadra, Nayakshin, Springel, and Di Matteo 2005/6

Shcherbakov & Baganoff ApJ, 2010

# Sub(mm) Flare Activity of SgrA\*

#### Seeing the effect of ongoing accretion

# SgrA\* 345GHz/100GHz varibility



**Fig. 1.** A single measurement map of the GC from 2009-05-17T04:19:58, the extended submm emission from the surroundings of Sgr A\* (CNR and Minispiral) dominate the data.



**Fig. 2.** A single measurement map of the GC from 2009-05-17T04:19:58 with subtracted background. The remaining point-like source represents the submm emission from Sgr A\* itself.



Fig. 3. All light curves obtained between 2004 and 2014. This plot contains both the LABOCA data (blue markers) and the literature data (other colors).

Borkar et al. MNRAS 2016 Subroweit et al. 2016

# SgrA\* 345GHz/100GHz varibility

#### Borkar et al. MNRAS 2016 Subroweit et al. 2016



 $S(100 \text{ GHz}, t) \sim S(v_0 = 100 \text{ GHz}, t) + S_{\text{adiab}}(v_0 > 100 \text{ GHz}, t)$ 

# SgrA\* 345GHz/100GHz varibility

Borkar et al. MNRAS 2016 Subroweit et al. 2016 SgrA\* peaks around 350 GHz



 $S(100 \text{ GHz}, t) \sim S(v_0 = 100 \text{ GHz}, t) + S_{\text{adiab}}(v_0 > 100 \text{ GHz}, t)$ 

# Adiabatic Expansion in SgrA\*



#### Subroweit et al. 2016 submitted

# Adiabatic Expansion in SgrA\*

$$v_{\rm m} = v_{\rm m0} \left(\frac{R(t)}{R_0}\right)^{-(4p+6)/(p+4)}$$

van der Laan (1966)

closed field (arcade)

accretion disl

Yuan et al. 2009

open field

flux rope embedded in magnetic arcades

$$p = 1 - 2\alpha_{\text{sync}} \sim 2.4$$

$$\frac{R(t)}{R_0} \sim \left(\frac{\nu_{\text{m}}}{\nu_{\text{m}0}}\right)^{-1/2.44} \sim \left(\frac{100 \text{ GHz}}{350 \text{ GHz}}\right)^{-1/2.44} \approx 1.67$$

$$R(t) = v_{\text{exp}}t + R_0$$
starting at ~1 Rs
$$v_{\text{exp}} \times 0.5 \text{ h} \sim 0.67 R_S$$

$$v_{\text{exp}} \sim 0.01 \text{ c}$$
Subrow

Subroweit et al. 2016 submitted

footpoints of magnetic fields in the accretion disk



Imaging the effect of ongoing accretion

### The Event Horizon Telescope



- 25 uas at 1.3 mm
- 22 uas scatter broadened point source
- Observed :37 uas deconvolved

ALMA.

The Event Horizon Telescope including projected site additions in 2015, as seen by Sgr A\*. The SMA critically anchors the E-W baselines. (Credit: L. Vertatschitsch)

#### VLBI at 230 GHz (1.3 mm wavelength)



Doeleman et al. Nature 455, 78-80 (2008)

### 1.3mm VLBI Visibility of the Variable Source SgrA\*



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doi:10.1088/2041-8205/727/2/L36

#### 1.3 mm WAVELENGTH VLBI OF SAGITTARIUS A\*: DETECTION OF TIME-VARIABLE EMISSION ON EVENT HORIZON SCALES

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### VLBI Image Reconstruction for SgrA\*



Doeleman et al. 2010 Decadel Survey

scatter broadened by ISM effects. The middle panels show images reconstructed using a 7-station array that could reasonably be scheduled within 3-5 years. The right panels show images reconstructed using a 13-station array that could be assembled within this decade. Images on the top correspond to a GRMHD simulation with a black hole spin of a=0.5 and an accretion disk inclination of 85 degrees from our line of sight. Bottom images correspond to a RIAF model with spin a=0 and disk inclination of 60 degrees. Models courtesy Charles Gammie and Avery Broderick

### Imaging simulation of Sgr A\* with the EHT.



#### Fish et al. 2014 imaging in presence of scattering

### Effect of a Polarized Spot Orbiting SgrA\*



Fish et al. 2009

Figure 2. Top: visibility amplitude as a function of projected baseline length  $(\sqrt{u^2 + v^2})$  for Model A at 230 GHz (noiseless). Stokes *I* is shown in black, and *RL* is shown in red. A real orbiting hot spot would persist for only a small fraction of a day, producing a plot corresponding to a subset of the above points. Contributions from the disk alone in the absence of a hot spot are shown in cyan (Stokes *I*) and green (*RL*). Bottom: ratio of *RL/I* visibility amplitudes for the disk and hot spot (blue) and disk alone (orange). On small scales, *RL/I* can greatly exceed unity.

### Effect of a Hot Spot Orbiting SgrA\*



**Figure 4**: Signature of a hot-spot orbiting the SgrA<sup>\*</sup> black hole. The left panel shows a quiescent Radiatively Inefficient Accretion Flow (RIAF) model for a non-spinning  $4x10^6$  solar mass black hole, and a hot spot orbiting at the Innermost Stable Circular Orbit (ISCO), with a disk inclination of 60 degrees from line of sight. The raw model is shown for 3 orbital phases in the top three figures, and the bottom three show the effects of scattering by the ISM. VLBI closure phase (the sum of interferometer phase over a triangle of baselines) is non-zero when asymmetric structure is present. The right panel shows 1.3mm wavelength VLBI closure phases every 10-seconds on the ARO/SMT-Hawaii-CARMA triangle with the model phases shown as a red curve (Doeleman et al. 2009).

Doeleman et al. 2010 Decadel Survey

## Effect of a Polarized Spot Orbiting SgrA\*



Figure 1. Integrated polarization traces of the models in the Stokes (Q, U) plane at 230 and 345 GHz over a full hot spot orbit, as would be seen by the SMA (for instance).

Fish et al. 2009

# Jet vs. Core Luminosity in SgrA\*



Moscibrodzka et al., A&A 570, A7, 2014

# Nature of some SgrA\* radio flares



Fig. 5: 2 hour LCP maps of Sgr A\* observed on May 17 2012. (a) May 17 6-8h. (b) May 17 7-9h. (c) May 17 8-10h. (d) May 17 9-11h. (e) May 17 10-12h. Summarized map parameters can be found in table 2.

Rauch et al. 2016

# Nature of some SgrA\* radio flares



Fig. 7: RCP map of Sgr A\* on May 17 2012 (8-10h UT). The map was convolved with a beam of  $2.74 \times 1.12$  at  $1.76^{\circ}$ . Contour levels are 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32 and 64% of the peak flux density of 1.5 Jy/beam.

Central component of 1.55 Jy secondary component of 0.02 Jy at 1.5 mas and 140 deg. E-N with a 4 hout delay relativ to the NIR flare

Rauch et al. 2016



Fig. 3: NIR K<sub>s</sub>-band  $(2.2 \,\mu\text{m})$  light curve of Sgr A\* observed in polarimetry mode on 17 May 2012. The light curve shown is produced by combining pairs of orthogonal polarization channels: 0° and 90° (taken from Shahzamanian et al. (2015)). Observations started at 4:55 AM UT.

Bower et al. (2014) report major axis sizes of Sgr A\* as an elliptical Gausssian of  $35.4 \times 12.6 R_S$  at an position angle of 95° east of north. Which is much lower than the discussed source morphology due to a secondary component of 0.02 Jy at  $1.8\pm0.4$  mas at 140° east of north.

See also ,Asyummetric structure in SgrA\* ...' Brinkerink et al. 2016, MNRAS 462, 1382 'speckle transfer function'

# Statistics of NIR light curves of SgrA\*

Synchrotron radiation is responsible for flux density variations in the NIR – which can be studied there best – without confusion due to fluxes from the larger scale accretion stream.

Statistics of ongoing accretion



Measurements at 2 μm

Apertures on(1) SgrA\*.(2) reference stars,(3) and off-positions

Ks-band mosaic from 2004 September 30. The red circles mark the constant stars (Rafelski et al. 2007) which have been used as calibrators, blue the position of photometric measurements of Sgr A\*, comparison stars and comparison apertures for background estimation (Witzel et al. 2012). Witzel et al. 2012

# NIR light curve of SgrA\* over 7 years



Light curve of Sgr A\*. Here no time gaps have been removed, the data is shown in its true time coverage. A comparison of both plots shows: only about 0.4% of the 7 years have been covered by observations.

Witzel et al. 2012

### Flux density histogram for SgrA\*



The brown line shows the extrapolation of the best power-law fit, the cyan line the power-law convolved with a Gaussian distribution with 0.32 mJy width.

# The statistics allows to explain the event 400 years ago that results in the observed X-ray light echo



Illustration of a flux density histogram extrapolated from the statistics of the observed variability. The expected maximum flux density given by the inverse Compton catastrophe and a estimation of its uncertainty is shown as the magenta circle, the SSC infrared flux density for a bright X-ray outburst as expected from the observed X-ray echo is depicted as the red rectangular.

# NIR Polarized Light Curves of SgrA\*

Probing the geometry of ongoing accretion through polarization measurements

# **Precision of NIR Polarization measurements**



Instrument calibrated to ~1% limited by systemetic effects: ~3-4%




## Polarized light from SgrA\* in the NIR K-band



## Polarization degree and angle



Fig. 8: Left: Distribution of  $K_s$ -band polarization degrees of Sgr A\* for our data set considering the significant data points (based on Table 2). Right: Distribution of relative uncertainties of the polarization degrees.

Angle



Fig. 9: Left: Distribution of significant  $K_s$ -band polarization angles of Sgr A<sup>\*</sup>. The red line shows the fit with a Gaussian distribution. Right: Distribution of absolute errors of the polarization angles.

## SgrA\* - Stable Geometry and Accretion

#### SgrA\* is a stable system



# Synchrotron and synchrotron self-Compton modeling the NIR/X-ray flares of SgrA\*

Basic physics of accretion; Emission process and spectrum

#### Theory

## Radiative Models of SGR A\* from GRMHD Simulations



Mościbrodzka+ 2010, 2009 Dexter+ 2010

## Flare Emission from SgrA\*

## Recent work on SgrA\* variability

#### Radio/sub-mm:

Mauerhan+2005, Marrone+2006/8, Yusef-Zadeh+2006/8 and may others

#### X-ray:

Baganoff+2001/3, Porquet+2003/2008, Eckart+2006/8, and several others

#### NIR:

Genzel+2003, Ghez+2004, Eckart+2006/9, Hornstein+2007, Do+2009, and many others

#### Multi frequency observing programs:

Genzel, Ghez, Yusef-Zadeh, Eckart and many others





## Possible flare scenarii

## Possible flare models NIR X-ray SYN-SYN: Synchrotron-synchrotron SYN-SSC: Synchrotron-Self-Compton SSC-SSC: Self-Compton-self-Compton

## Parametrization of the logarithmic expression

Two extreme cases:

High demands on electron acceleration or density

SYN-SYN: X-ray produced by synchrotron radiation; <10% by SSC  $n_e \approx 10^6 cm^{-3}$   $\gamma_e \approx 10^{6-7}$ 

**SSC-SSC:** X-ray produced by synchrotron self-Compton; <10% by SYN; required density higher than average  $n_e \ge 10^8 cm^{-3}$ 

Moderate demand on density and acceleration

SYN-SSC: radio/NIR by Syncrotron and X-ray by SSC  $\frac{n_e \approx 10^6 \, cm^{-3}}{\gamma_e \approx 10^{3-4}}$ 

## Radiative Models of SGR A\* from GRMHD Simulations

In the mid-plane the vertical particle distribution is well described by a Gaussian, with a dimensionless scale height of about 0.1-0.3 (1  $\sigma$ ).

DENSITIES CLOSE TO THE MIDPLANE WILL BE HIGHER THAN AVERAGE

However, the thickness (and hence the mid-plane density) is mostly determined by the initial conditions and energy evolution methods used in the simulations rather than by the physics of the accretion flow.



## **Collisionless Shocks**



Left: Time-evolution of the orbits of the 80 most energetic ions in a non-magnetized relativistic shock simulation with  $\Gamma$  = 20. The particles are coming from the upstream flow, are back-scattered and accelerated in the magnetic turbulence in the shock transition, staying within the distance of an ion inertial length  $\lambda i \approx 50\lambda e$ .

#### Bykov & Treumann, 2011, Astr. Astro. Rev. 19, 42

## Radiative Models of SGR A\* from GRMHD Simulations



Jonathan Ferreira, Remi Deguiran, High Energy Density Physics Volume 9, Issue 1, March 2013, Pages 67–74 Possible locations of electron accelerating collisionles shocks in the immediate vicinity of SgrA\*.



Yuan et al. 2009, Balbus & Hawley 1998, Balbus 2003



Yuan et al. 2009

Adiabatic Expansion of Source Components in the Temporary Accretion Disk of SgrA\*



Eckart et al. 2008, ESO Messenger Eckart et al. 2009, A&A 500, 935

## Variability in the SYN-SSC case



$$n_e \approx 10^6 cm^{-3}$$

 $\gamma_e \approx 10^{3-4}$ 

SYN-SSC: Density moderate consistent with MHD model of mid-plane Moderate demand on electron acceleration

Eckart et al. 2012

# Monitoring the DSO (G2)

# Externam influences on the of accretion (possible enhancement ?)

## Monitoring the Orbit of the DSO

Eckart, A., et al., 2014 ATel Valencia-S., M., et al. 2015, ApJ 800, 125 Zajacek, Karas, Eckart, 2013, A&A 565, 17 Eckart et al. 2013, A&A 551, 18 Peissker et al. 2016 in prep

Zajacek, M.; Eckart, A.; Karas, V.; Kunneriath, D.; Shahzamanian, B.; Sabha, N.; Muzic, K.; Valencia-S., M. 2016, MNRAS 455,1257



## Dusty S-cluster Object(DSO/G2)





Gillessen et al. 2012,2013a,b; Eckart et al. 2013a,b; Phifer et al. 2013; Pfuhl et al. 2014; Burkert et al. 2012; Schartmann et al. 2012; Witzel et al. 2014; Valencia-S. et al. 2015; Zajacek, Karas, Eckart 2015.....

GC in L-Band. Courtesy: N. Sabha/Uni. of Cologne

## DSO/G2 Approaching SgrA\*

Gillessen et al. 2012/13 Burkert et al. 2012, Schartmann et al. 2012

2008.5 y





2012.5 y

#### DSO/G2 has survived its closest approach to SgrA\*



Peissker et al. (tbs)

## Brγ line maps of the DSO



Orbital projection effects: Top: The evolution of the projected separation between two neighboring points of arbitrary 0.5 units in 2011. Bottom: Foreshortening factor of any structure along the orbital extent as a function of time. During periapse the source is seen at its full size

Both Brγ and L-band continuum originate from a <20mas compact source

Valencia-S. et al. 2015 ApJ

## DSO/G2 emits K-band Continuum



2006-2015 recentered at the DSO position and combined

Eckart et al. 2013

### DSO/G2 orbit





Valencia-S et al. 2015 Peissker et al. (tbs)

*e*=0.976 Pericenter distance: 163 AU

in agreement with Pfuhl et al. 2015; Phifer et al. 2013; Meyer et al. 2014b

## Discovery of a new faint Dusty S-cluster member: OS1

DSO

2012



#### OS1 does not follow the DSO trajectory











Peissker, Eckart, Valencia-S et al. (tbs)

#### OS1 does not follow the DSO trajectory





Periapse distance: 750 AU

# DSO/G2, OS1 (and other IR-excess sources) might belong to a population of faint, dusty, Bry emitters



HKL composite. NACO/VLT. Uni. of Cologne Meyer, L.; Ghez, A. M.; Witzel, G.; et al., 2013arXiv1312.1715M, IAU303 Symp.

#### **Extended L-band emission**





#### Vollmer & Duschl 2000

L-band(red)/PAH(green) composite. UCO

see Eckart et al 2013c, 2103arXiv1311.2753

## Potential reasons for having a large line width

Plus interaction with ambient medium



## Pre-main sequence stars with large line widths



Edwards et al. 2013 M0V ; **T Tauri** ; around 2 solar masses 600-700 km/s in Brγ Eisner et al. 2007 Herczeg & Hillenbrand 2014 K8.5 ; 0.68 solar masses 800 km/s in Brγ

## DSO/G2 as a young stellar object



Davies et al. 2011; Rosen, Krumholz, Ramirez-Ruiz, 2012, Eckart et al. 2014

#### Bry production mechanisms:

Ionized winds, accretion funnel flows, the jet base, bow shock layer

#### Brγ broadening:

Inclination of the system magnetospheric accretion model (200-700 km/s)



Zajacek, Karas, Eckart 2014

## Possible model for DSO



Cranmer, Steven R. arXiv:0808.2250 [astro-ph]

## Pre-main sequence stars with large line widths



Edwards et al. 2013 M0V ; **T Tauri** ; around 2 solar masses 600-700 km/s in Brγ Eisner et al. 2007 Herczeg & Hillenbrand 2014 K8.5 ; 0.68 solar masses 800 km/s in Brγ

### The DSO is polarized in the NIR



Fig. 1. The final  $K_s$ -band deconvolved median images of the central arcsecond at the GC in polarimetry mode (left: 0°, right: 90°) in the years 2008 (top) and 2012 (bottom). The arrow points to the position of the DSO and the asterix indicates Sgr A\* position. In all the images North is up and East is left.



Fig. 2. NIR K<sub>s</sub>-band light curve of the DSO observed in polarimetry mode in different years of 2008, 2009, 2011, and 2012.

#### Shahzamanian et al. 2016

#### The DSO is polarized in the NIR



Fig. 3. Sketch of the DSO polarization angle variation when it moves on its eccentric orbit around Sgr A<sup>\*</sup> position for four different years. : this part will change: The orange shaded areas show the range of possible values of polarization angle based on our observation and simulation results.

Shahzamanian et al. 2016

#### The DSO is polarized in the NIR



Fig. 4. Left: Comparison of the polarization degree of the DSO (black dots) with the ones of GC S-stars located close to the DSO position (S7, S57, S19, S20, S40, S23, S63). Right: Comparison of the polarization angle of the DSO (black dots) with the ones of the S-stars similar to the left panel. In both panels: Some of the considered stars are not isolated in some years in which it is difficult to calculate their polarization parameters, therefore we didnot show them as data points. The regions between two dashed red lines and dotted lines present the 1 and  $3\sigma$  confidence intervals of the  $K_s$ -band polarization degree and angle distributions of the stars reported in Buchholz et al. (2013), respectively.

#### Shahzamanian et al. 2016

#### DSO model: shocked stellar wind



Fig. 9. The RGB image of the source model of the DSO. The explanation is in the text.

Shahzamanian et al. 2016 Zajacek et al. 2016



Fig. 8. The emission map of scattered light in  $K_s$  band, the distribution of the polarization degree and the angle in the left, middle, and the right panels, respectively for three different configurations of the star–outflow system:  $\delta = 0^{\circ}$ ,  $45^{\circ}$ ,  $90^{\circ}$  from the top to the bottom panels.



# Origin of the DSO and potentially young stellar object in the immediat vicinity of a super massive black hole


Contours: CN(2-1) Martin at el 2012





Summary of recent ALMA data on the Galactic center:

Moser, Lydia; Sánchez-Monge, Álvaro; Eckart, Andreas et al., 2016arXiv160300801M

# **Modeling Approach**

100 Msun molecular clump, 0.2 pc radius,

Test with 10 & 50 Kelvin, isothermal gas

Timescales: clump free fall time ~  $10^5$  yr CND orbital period ~  $10^5$  yr

Semi-major axis=1.8 pc  $\rightarrow$  orbital period ~10<sup>5</sup> yrs

two Orbits: peri-center~0.1 pc  $\rightarrow$  ecc.= 0.95 peri-center~0.9 pc  $\rightarrow$  ecc.= 0.5



Behrang Jalali, I. Pelupessy, A. Eckart, S. Portegies Zwart, N. Sabha, A. Borkar, J. Moultaka, 2014 A&A.

# **Orbiting 50 Kelvin clump with e=0.94**



Behrang Jalali, I. Pelupessy, A. Eckart, S. Portegies Zwart, N. Sabha, A. Borkar, J. Moultaka (arXiv:1311.4881) published in A&A

#### **General Summary**

## **Experimental Indicators of Accretion Processes in AGN**

Starformation and Black Hole Growth jet formation as well as NLR and BLR reverberation indicate compactness and accretion activity of the region around the Black Hole

## SgrA\* as a special nearby case

NIR polarization of SgrA\* over the past ~10 years, as well as radio monitoring indicate that SgrA\* is a stabily accreting system Monitoring the Dusty S-cluster Object

#### Summary for the DSO

- DSO/G2 line emission remains compact through the years. DSO/G2 emits K-band continuum emission (18 mag) and has survived the closest approach to SgrA\*.
- 2. DSO/G2 PV diagrams can also capture emission from the fore/background and other line-emitting sources.
- 3. Discovery of OS1  $\rightarrow$  Existence of a population of faint, dusty objects.
- 4. The NIR continuum of the DSO is polarized
- DSO might be a YSO (T Tauri M=0.8-2.0M☉, ~0.1Myr)



NL leads Euro-Team Universitity of Cologne studies for METIS @ E-ELT



JWST

MPE, MPIA, Paris, SIM Universitity of Cologne participation GRAVITY @ VLTI The Galactic Center is a unique laboratory in which one can study signatures of strong gravity with GRAVITY



NIR Beam Combiner: Universitity of Cologne MPIA, Heidelberg Osservatorio Astrofisico di Arcetri MPIfR Bonn

Cologne contribution to MIRI on JWST

### **Cologne built Fringe Tracking Spectrometer for GRAVITY**



# End