SII Science Cases: Interestingness vs Difficulty

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An Interestingness vs Difficulty matrix



1. Pioneered by Michelson and Pease (c. 1920)



Stars with $V \leq 2$ and 200 m baseline (NSII era)



https://target-stars-sii.streamlit.app
by Lucijana Stanic

Stars with $V \leq 4$ and 200 m baseline (present day)



https://target-stars-sii.streamlit.app
by Lucijana Stanic

Stars with $V \leq 8$ and 2 km baseline (2030s?)



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2. Pioneered by Hanbury Brown et al (c. 1970)

















































Simulation of $\alpha\,{\rm Vir}$



Add spectroscopy and solve for distance and masses.

Monthly Notices

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Towards a polarization prediction for LISA via intensity interferometry

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3. Features of (theoretically) known shape













α Leo from Che et al (2011)



α Leo SII simulation



Gravity darkening

α Leo SII simulation



Simulated SII + GAN for image reconstruction (preliminary)



4. Features of unknown shape



Giant convective cells



from Anugu et al arXiv:2408.02756

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ON THE SCALE OF PHOTOSPHERIC CONVECTION IN RED GIANTS AND SUPERGIANTS

MARTIN SCHWARZSCHILD Princeton University Observatory Received 1974 June 21

ABSTRACT

An attempt is made to estimate the sizes of the convective elements which dominate the brightness variations on the photospheres of red giants and supergiants. The data assembled permit the extreme hypothesis that these dominant convective elements are so large that only a modest number of them exists at any one time on the entire surface of such a star—in contrast with two million granules on the Sun. *Subject headinges:* convection – interiors, stellar – late-type stars

Exoplanet atmospheres





Signal outside of transit.





















Signal outside of transit.

5. Accretion (Roland Walter's talk)



6. Non-image properties



Laser blobs around η Carinae?



from Johansson & Letokhov (2004)

Laser blobs around η Carinae?



from Johansson & Letokhov (2004)

Quasar Microlensing

Lensed quasar J0158-4325 (Millon et al 2022)



Micro-image structure expected on μ as scale.

Summary

