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Interferometric Observations of Rapidly Rotating Stars GERARD

VAN BELLE, Lowell Observatory — Interferometric observations of rapidly rotating stars are a powerful demonstration of the milliarcsecond imaging capabilities of these ultra-high-resolution facilities. These objects are typically rotating at greater than 80% of their critical breakup velocity, and provide us with unique laboratories by which to test and confront common assumptions that underlie convention stellar modeling approaches. In particular, the departures from spherical symmetry in these stars allow us to probe internal structure in a unique and provocative way.

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