

EDITORIAL

The IRAM interferometer, located on the Plateau de Bure at 2500 meters altitude in the French Alps, has entered a new era since the beginning of 2006. The tracks, on which the six 15-meter diameter antennas move, have been extended, nearly doubling the east-west and north-south baselines. The largest separation of the antennas is now 760 meters, enabling sub-arcsecond angular resolution at millimeter wavelengths.

This special issue of *Astronomy & Astrophysics Letters* presents first results with the extended baselines of the Plateau de Bure interferometer. Eleven Letters report observations done at sub-arcsecond resolution of objects ranging from nearby star-forming regions and evolved stars to starburst galaxies.

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