Planets around stars in young nearby associations

Radial velocity searches: a feasibility study and first results

A.-M. Lagrange1, N. Meunier1, G. Chauvin1, M. Sterzik2, F. Galland1, G. Lo Curto3, J. Rameau1, and D. Sosnowska4

1 Institut de Planétologie et d’Astrophysique de Grenoble, UMR5274 CNRS, Université Joseph Fourier, BP 53, 38041 Grenoble Cedex 9, France
e-mail: anne-marie.lagrange@obs.ujf-grenoble.fr
2 European Southern Observatory, Casilla 19001, 19 Santiago, Chile
3 European Southern Observatory, Karl-Schwarzschild-Str. 2, 85748 Garching bei München, Germany
4 Observatoire de Genève, Université de Genève, 51 ch. des Maillettes, 1290 Versoix, Switzerland

Received 21 November 2012 / Accepted 20 May 2013

ABSTRACT

Context. Stars in young nearby associations are the only targets that allow giant planet searches in the near future, at all separations by coupling indirect techniques, such as radial velocity (RV) and deep imaging. These stars are first priority targets for the forthcoming planet imagers on eight- to ten-metre class telescopes. Young stars rotate more rapidly and are more active than their older counterparts. Both effects can limit the ability to detect planets using RV.

Aims. We wish to explore the planet detection abilities of a representative sample of stars in close and young associations with RV data and to explore the complementarity between this technique and direct imaging.

Methods. We observed 26 such targets with spectral types from A to K and ages from 8 to 300 Myr with HARPS. We computed the detection limits with two methods, in particular, a method we have recently developed that takes the frequency distribution of the RV variations into account. We also attempted to improve the detection limits in a few cases by correcting for the stellar activity.

Results. Our A-type stars RV show high-frequency variations due to pulsations, while our F-K stars clearly show activity with more or less complex patterns. For F-K stars, the RV jitter and $v\sin i$ rapidly decrease with star age. The data allow us to search for planets with periods typically ranging from 1 day to 100 days, and up to more than 500 days in a few cases. Within the present detection limits, no planet was found in our sample. For the bulk of our F-K stars, the detection limits fall to sub-Jupiter masses. We show that these limits can be significantly improved by correcting even partially for stellar activity, down to a few Neptune masses for the least active stars. The detection limits on A-type stars can be significantly improved, down to a few Jupiter-mass planets, provided an appropriate observing strategy. We finally show the tremendous potential of coupling RV and adaptive-optics deep imaging results.

Conclusions. The RV technique allows the detection of planets lighter than Jupiter, reaching a few Neptune masses around young stars aged typically 30 Myr or more. Detection limits increase at younger ages, but (sub-)Jupiter mass planets are still detectable. In the next few years, using complementary techniques will allow a full exploration of the Jupiter-mass planets’ content of many of these stars.

Key words. techniques: radial velocities – techniques: high angular resolution – planets and satellites: detection

1. Introduction

Thanks to hundreds of discoveries for more than 15 years1, mainly coming from radial velocity (RV) and transit surveys, our knowledge of exoplanets has dramatically improved. We know that exoplanets are frequent around solar-type, main sequence (MS) stars: more than 50% have planets (all masses, Mayor et al. 2011) and about 15% have planets with masses higher than 50 $M_{\text{Earth}}$. An unexpected diversity of planet properties, such as separations, eccentricities, and orbital motions (for example retrograde orbits discovered thanks to the Rossiter-McLaughlin effect), was revealed for short-or intermediate-period planets. This suggests that the dynamics due, for example, to planet-planet interactions or early disk-planet interactions plays an important role in building planetary systems.

Giant planets play an important role because they carry most of the planetary systems’ mass. They therefore strongly impact the dynamics and fate of lighter planets, and, consequently, the final architecture of the planetary systems. Giant planets also affect the detectability of lighter planets as far as indirect methods are concerned. Even though giant planets represent the majority of the planets detected so far, we are far from having a clear picture of their occurrence, variety, and properties. RV and transit explorations are indeed still limited to planets orbiting within 5 AU of their parent stars, while current deep (adaptive-optics, hereafter AO) imaging, which is meant to detect more distant planets, is not sensitive enough for MS stars, except around a few young early-type stars that have already reached the MS Stars in young nearby associations (see for example Torres et al. 2008; Zuckerman & Song 2004) are therefore the...
best targets for a complete giant planet exploration, if combining the data obtained with forthcoming planet imagers, such as SPHERE at the VLT (Beuzit et al. 2008) or GPI at Gemini (Macintosh et al. 2008), and high-precision spectrographs. In addition, these data could be combined in the future with astrometric measurements when available.

Compared to mature MS stars, limited effort has been devoted so far to the search for planets around young stars with RV techniques. To our knowledge, the only significant surveys have been performed by Paulson et al. (2004) on 94 stars members of the Hyades (aged about 600 Myr) and on 61 stars members of various moving groups (MGs) or stellar associations aged between 12 and 300 Myr (Paulson & Yelda 2006). In both cases, high spectral resolution data in the range 40000–70000 were used. The internal errors were 3–5 m/s and ≃10 m/s. No planet was detected with masses down to 1–2 M\textsubscript{Jup}, down to the sub-Jupiter mass regime in a few cases, and with periods typically of 1–2 years or less. In the second case, no planet was detected with a detection limit reaching 1–2 M\textsubscript{Jup}, for periods up to six days for the oldest stars, while the detection limits fell into the brown dwarf regime for the youngest targets (members of the \(\beta\) Pic group).

Stellar activity can mimic planet signatures (Desort et al. 2007), and great care must be taken when analysing RV data. In the past, two detections were announced around TW Hya (Setiawan et al. 2007), and BD +20 1790 (Hernán-Obispo et al. 2010), but were strongly debated (Figueira et al. 2010). Bailey et al. (2012) used NIRSPEC at Keck to observe a set of 20 young stars with high-precision spectroscopy in the near-IR, where line shifts due to spot-induced activity are expected to be smaller than at optical wavelengths. Detection limits of 8 M\textsubscript{Jup} (respectively 17 M\textsubscript{Jup}) were obtained for periods of three days (respectively 30 days) periods. Crockett et al. (2012) used CSHELL for similar purposes on nine T Tauri stars and showed that for these stars, the jitter in the near IR was reduced by a factor 2–3 compared to the jitter measured in the optical range. No planet was firmly detected. Finally, we unambiguously detected a 2.8 M\textsubscript{Jup} giant planet orbiting with a 320-day period, a 150 Myr, weakly active star (Borgniet et al. 2013).

We investigate here the potential of high-precision optical spectroscopy in searching for giant planets around 26 stars, which are members of close-by young associations, since these stars are potential targets of the SPHERE NIRSUR survey aimed at imaging giant planets. Section 2 describes our targets and observing log. Section 3 presents the data analysis. The results are shown and discussed in Sect. 4. In Sect. 5, we show how such results can be coupled to deep imaging detection limits to perform a complete exploration of giant planets in the environments of these young and close stars.

2. Targets and observations

The bulk of our sample is made of 22 bright (\(V \leq 9\)), nearby (\(d \leq 80\) pc), young (\(<200\) Myr) stars identified in young MGs and from systematic spectroscopic surveys. Four other stars with ages greater than 200 Myr were observed: HD 90905, HD 109536, HD 105690, and HD 188828. The 26 stars are listed in Table 1. Our sample includes eight A-type stars, four F-type stars, ten G-type stars and four K-type stars. Several of them are known to have debris disks (Rodríguez & Zuckerman 2012). In several cases, peculiar disks properties (shapes, offsets) suggest that inner planets could be present.

We provide some details here about a few peculiar targets. Unless otherwise indicated, relative disk luminosities \(L_{\text{disk}}/L_{\text{star}}\) are from Moór et al. (2006) or Rhee et al. (2007), and binary indications from Rodríguez & Zuckerman (2012):

- HD 39060 (\(\beta\) Pictoris) is surrounded by a seen edge-on disk (\(L_{\text{disk}}/L_{\text{star}} = 2 \times 10^{-3}\)), as well as a planet detected in direct imaging (Lagrange et al. 2009b, 2010). Detection limits in deep imaging fall in the giant planet regime. A study of RV data allowed Lagrange et al. (2012) to set an upper limit to the dynamical mass of \(\beta\) Pictoris b.
- HD 61005 (The Moth) is surrounded by a thin and narrow disk that is resolved in near-IR (Hines et al. 2007; Buenzli et al. 2010, and references therein). The disk is seen as a ring inclined by 84 degrees with respect to pole-on and is offset from the star center. In addition, streamers are observed at the edge of the ring. Detection limits in deep imaging fall in the giant planet regime.
- HD 172555 belongs to the \(\beta\) Pictoris MG (Zuckerman et al. 2001). It has a spectral type similar to that of \(\beta\) Pictoris but an IR excess smaller than that of \(\beta\) Pictoris (\(L_{\text{disk}}/L_{\text{star}} \approx 8 \times 10^{-3}\)). It is also part of a binary system.
- HD 174429 (PZ Tel) has an IR excess (\(L_{\text{disk}}/L_{\text{star}} = 9 \times 10^{-3}\)). A brown dwarf companion with a 20–40 M\textsubscript{Jup} mass is present with a projected separation of 0.3° representing 15 AU (Biller et al. 2010). Given the companion \(\Delta J = 5.6\) (mag), its expected \(V-J = 5.5–6.5\) (mag), its mass and age, and the \(V-K = 1.2\) (mag) of the star itself, the contrast at optical wavelengths between PZ Tel and its companion is about 9–10 mag. The companion’s contribution to the visible flux within the Harps fibre (1′′) is therefore negligible.
- HD 181327 is a member of the \(\beta\) Pictoris MG, with a large IR excess (\(L_{\text{disk}}/L_{\text{star}} = 2 \times 10^{-3}\)) Lebreton et al. (2012). A debris disk has been resolved in near IR by Schneider et al. (2006). It shapes a ring located at 90 AU and inclined by about 30 degrees from face-on.
- HD 216956 (Fomalhaut) is also surrounded by a debris disk (\(L_{\text{disk}}/L_{\text{star}} = 8 \times 10^{-3}\)) seen as a narrow ring at 115 AU (Kalas et al. 2005), inclined by 24 degrees from edge-on and offset from the star. It may also be surrounded by a planet orbiting just inside the ring (Kalas et al. 2008), and shaping its sharp inner edge (Chiang et al. 2009), but this planet is still being debated (Janson et al. 2012). Recently Lebreton et al. (2013) showed that warm dust is also present within AU's from the star.
- HD 218396 (HR8799) is surrounded by a system of four planets detected in imaging with projected separations between 15 and 70 AU (Marois et al. 2008, 2010). A thin debris disk (\(L_{\text{disk}}/L_{\text{star}} = 2 \times 10^{-3}\)) has also been resolved at sub-mm wavelengths (Patience et al. 2011) and has an inclination of 20–50 degrees from face-on (Kalas et al. 2010).

We have obtained more than 2000 high resolution (\(R \approx 115000\)) and high signal-to-noise (S/N) spectra of our targets with the fibre-fed spectrograph Harps (Mayor et al. 2003) at the La Silla 3.6 m telescope. In the case of \(\beta\) Pictoris, we used, in addition to our data, a few data available in the archive and obtained with the same set-up. The spectra cover a wavelength range between 3800 and 6900 Å. During our runs, we usually recorded two consecutive spectra for each telescope pointing. In the following, one pointing is referred to as one epoch. Since our main goal was to look for short-period planets (100 days or less), we recorded several spectra of each target during each run whenever possible. In addition, we also recorded whenever possible spectra at two or three different epochs during one night, to
Table 1. Target list and stellar parameters.

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Notes. SpT refers to spectral type, MG stands for moving group while Disk indicates the presence of a dusty disk. The $v \sin i$ are from Weise et al. (2010), except for HD 90905 (Wright et al. 2004). The log($R'_{HK}$) are from (Wright et al. 2004) except for HD 61005 (Schröder et al. 2009). Ages are from Zuckerman & Song (2004) and Torres et (2008) for the moving groups members of AB Dor, β Pic, Tucana-Horologium (TucHor), Columba (Col), Carina (Car), and Argus, except when labelled $^{(a)}$ (Desidera et al. 2011), $^{(b)}$ (Vican 2012); and $^{(c)}$ Mamajek (2012). Young field stars are flagged as "Field".
identify possible high-frequency RV variations. For the bright-
est stars, we did not consider spectra with saturation that could
affect the RV measurements. We report in Table 2 information
about each star observation. The timespan varies between a few
hours for three of our targets and 1912 days. The stars with a
long timespan are early-type stars that happened to be part
of a previous survey of A-F stars described in Lagrange et al.
(2009a). The exposure times were computed to get a S/N larger
than 200 at 550 nm in most cases. This corresponds to expo-
sure times between less than one minute for the brightest targets
and 15 for the faintest ones.

Finally, for some of the earliest types, generally pulsating
stars, we performed continuous observations over typically one
to two hours to check that short-term pulsations are indeed
present and to estimate their amplitude.

3. Data analysis

3.1. RV measurements

The RV were computed using SAFIR, a tool dedicated to mea-
suring accurate RVs on fast rotators, as described in Galland
et al. (2005), and based on the Fourier interspectrum method
developed by Chelli (2000). SAFIR has been extensively used,
in particular in RV surveys of rapidly rotating stars (Lagrange
et al. 2009a). SAFIR input data are the extracted 2D spectra pro-
vided by the Data Reduction Software (DRS) pipeline and the
related wavelength calibration coefficients. SAFIR takes care of
the blaze correction, as well as bad-pixel correction (Galland
et al. 2005). The errors associated to the individual RV mea-
surements typically range between 1.5 m/s for the slowly rotat-
ing stars to 30–40 m/s for the fast-rotating stars. The values ob-
tained for slowly rotating stars are similar to those obtained by
the HARPS DRS; they show that the instrument internal errors
are very low. Lomb-Scargle periodograms of the RV variations
were also computed for each target.

3.2. Line profile variations and activity indicators

For stars with \( \sin i \) below typically 100 km s\(^{-1}\) and spectral
types later than A3V, it is possible to compute the bisector velo-
city spans (BVS) using the cross-correlation function, as shown
in Lagrange et al. (2009a). Typical examples are provided in
Fig. 1 for an active star (upper panels) and a pulsating one (lower
panels). The relation between BVS and RV is useful for further
characterizing the temporal RV variations whenever present.
A correlation between the RV and BVS variations indicates that
the RV are due to stellar activity (Desort et al. 2007), while
pulsation-dominated variations instead induce uncorrelated (RV,
BVS) variations. We also computed the \( \sin i \) using the cross-
correlation function for the low to moderately rotating stars, and
the obtained values are given in Table 2.

For active stars, we also computed the S-index that measures
the amount of chromospheric activity, and derived the Ca in-
dex \( R'_{\text{HK}} \) according to Duncan et al. (1991)\(^2\). In the case of

\(^2\) We did not apply any correction factor to the obtained \( R'_{\text{HK}} \) index, as
is sometimes done, to calibrate the values with those of Mount Wilson,
because 1) we are mainly interested here in relative variations; and
2) such corrections are possible only when a lot of values (for several
targets, with stable levels of activity), taken both at Mount Wilson and
in the other observing site, are available. Here, we are possibly deal-
ing with a strong variability, so a correction could only be applied if we
had simulutaneous measurements, for the same targets. Our \( \log \left( R'_{\text{HK}} \right) \) are
similar within 0.3 dex with those already published ones, however.

3.3. Detection-limit measurements

As extensively discussed in a previous dedicated paper (Meunier
et al. 2012, hereafter MLB12), there are different ways to esti-
mate detection limits associated to RV time series. We use two
methods in the present paper, namely the “rms-based method”
and the LPA method. Noticeably, we do not use the bootstrap
method that, we showed, provides detection limits that are not as
good as the LPA method and, in the case of pulsating stars, may
provide unrealistic results. We refer to MLB12 for a detailed de-
scription of these methods and their respective merits. We briefly
summarize the principles of the rms-based and LPA methods,
and examples of the obtained detection limits are provided in
Fig. 2.

The fastest method, the rms-based method, is based on the
measured standard deviation (hereafter rms) of the RV series
and was first described in Lagrange et al. (2009a). In the rms-
based method, we compute the RV produced by a planet with a
given mass and period for the actual temporal sampling and
then the rms of these simulated RV. This is done for 1000 orbital
phases. The distribution of this rms is Gaussian. If the rms of
the observed RV is lower than the average rms of the 1000 simu-
lated RV, the planet is detectable. The level of confidence (detec-
tion probability) is obtained by comparing the standard deviation
of the simulated distribution and the difference between the ob-
served rms and the average value of the simulated distribution.
We showed in Lagrange et al. (2009a) that, provided a very good
temporal sampling is available, the rms-based detection limit in
mass for a given period is similar to the mass of a planet that
would produce an RV amplitude equal to \( 3 \times \text{rms(RV)} \). In the
following, the latter limit will be referred to as the “rms-based
achievable limit”.

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Table 2. Observation results and typical detection limits.

<table>
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<th>HD</th>
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<th>Time span (days)</th>
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<th>RV unc (m/s)</th>
<th>RV amp (m/s)</th>
<th>BVS rms</th>
<th>BVS unc (m/s)</th>
<th>BVS ampl (m/s)</th>
<th>Bisector</th>
<th>$v \sin i$ (km s$^{-1}$)</th>
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Notes. $N$ is the number of spectra available for each target star. “RV rms” (respectively “BVS rms”) is the rms of the measured radial velocities (respectively bisector velocity-spans). “RV amp” (respectively “BVS amp.”) is the amplitude of the measured radial velocities (respectively bisector velocity-spans). “RV unc” (respectively “BVS unc”) is the average uncertainty associated to the RV (respectively bisector velocity-spans) data. The column labelled “bisector” provides a flag of the BVS quality: good (G), acceptable (A), bad (B), not enough point (NEP). The $v \sin i$ have been computed from our data (see Sect. 3.2). The column labelled “Ca line” provides a classification of the Ca emission with respect to the stellar line depth as follows: strong, medium, small, no, absorption Ca line. The mean log($R'_{HK}$) is indicated between parenthesis whenever possible. The variability classification is as follows: active (A), pulsating (P), high frequency RV variations (HFV), spectroscopic binary (SB), candidate companion (CC), not enough points (NEP). The slope of the (RV, BVS) is indicated between parenthesis for the most active stars. The detection limits are computed for periods of 3, 10, 100, 500, and 1000 days (whenever possible) using the LPA method on unaveraged data.
The LPA (local power analysis) method provides more accurate and lower detection limits when enough data are available (see below). Briefly, for a given period $P$, we compute the maximum of the periodogram of the observed RV in the range $0.75P - 1.25P$, and this provides a threshold for that period. Then, for a given planet (mass, period), we compare the maximum amplitude of the power spectrum of the RV induced by this planet on the same temporal sampling with that threshold, for 100 trials of the phase of the planet. If for all these trials, all “planet amplitudes” are above the threshold, then the planet mass is above the detection limit. We iterate on the planet mass until we reach a mass for which this condition is no longer met, indicating a mass below the detection limit. The smallest step we use is in general 0.1 $M_{\odot}$, but we choose a smaller step in a few cases to avoid a discretization of the detection limits. With our present set of data, we can use the LPA method for ten stars, for which more than 40 data points were available.

As expected, the LPA detection limits are much lower than the rms-based limits. To quantify the improvement, we computed the ratio between the rms-based and the LPA detection limits for each of the 200 periods considered, and then the median of the 200 ratio. The median ratio is typically a factor of 2 to 3, but may sometimes reach higher values (see Sect. 4). The improvement is due to the fact that the LPA method takes into account the variability of the power amplitude frequency, either due to an actual signal or to the temporal sampling, while the rms-based does not. The advantage of the rms-based is that the computation is fast and less sensitive to the number of data available. It provides an order of scale but a pessimistic estimation of the achievable detection limits (Lagrange et al. 2009a).

3.4. Search for circumstellar Ca in rapid rotators

Finally, as a by-product of these observations, we also used the spectra to search for narrow CaI absorption lines at the bottom of the rotationally broadened stellar lines. Such absorptions could indicate the presence of circumstellar gas, as present in the case of HD 39060 (e.g. Lagrange et al. 2000).

4. Results

4.1. RV time series and variability properties

We show in Appendix A the obtained RV times series for our 26 targets. The RV rms and amplitudes, as well as the BVS rms and amplitudes for stars with enough data points, are reported in Table 2. The average jitter of our eight A-type stars is 237 m/s, while that of the three F-type stars is 35 m/s and that of the thirteen G-K stars is 131 m/s. The median is 67 m/s in the last case. For the stars for which the BVS could be computed, the average BVS is 61 m/s for the F-type stars and 74 m/s for the G-K type stars. We recall though that within a given spectral type range, there is a large dispersion of jitters due to the star ages (see below). Among the 14 F-K stars with at least two epochs, only one, HD 224228, shows no detectable level of RV variations, with an RV jitter below 5 m/s. Twelve stars have jitters larger than 5 m/s. Among them, only three have jitters larger than 150 m/s (referred to as “high amplitude variable stars”), five have jitters between 50 and 105 m/s (referred to as “medium amplitude variable stars”), and four have jitters between 5 and 50 m/s (“low amplitude variable stars”).

The $\sin i$ deduced from our cross-correlation functions are also provided in Table 2, whenever possible. For the stars with already published values, our values typically agree within 10% with previously reported ones, except for the low $\sin i$ in HD 224228 for which we find 5.7 km s$^{-1}$ instead of 8.7 km s$^{-1}$. The average $\sin i$ is 20.1 km s$^{-1}$ for F-type stars and 20.5 km s$^{-1}$ for G-K stars (with a median of 13.3 km s$^{-1}$).

We also provide the $R_{\text{HK}}$ values whenever possible. They agree within 0.1–0.2 dex with reported ones, although the latter often show discrepancies from one author to the next. The differences can be due either to systematics or to intrinsic stellar variability, which would not be surprising because all these stars (except HD 224228) are active.

Finally, in Fig. 3, we show the RV rms and $\sin i$ as a function of the star ages, as well as the $\sin i$ as a function of RV jitters. We considered only stars with enough data available. We did not consider HD 177171 (F6V) either, because it shows clear signs of being a short-period spectroscopic binary, with a possible period of 1.7 days. (We note that HD 177171 was classified as a close binary by Frankowski et al. 2007, on the basis of HIPPARCOS astrometric data.) We see that globally, the $\sin i$ of

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3 We checked that considering different period ranges, such as 0.7P _–_ 1.3P, 0.8P _–_ 1.2P, 0.9P _–_ 1.1P does not significantly change the detection limit curves.

4 We do not consider HD 177171 in this section dedicated to the origin of the RV jitter, but we do consider it in the next section to get estimates of detection limits on this type of stars as well.
late-type stars significantly decreases with age. This is in qualitative agreement with the results of the Weise et al. (2010) analysis on a wider sample of stars and covering a wider age range. The RV jitter also generally decreases with age, and increases with \( v \sin i \). For early-type stars, the correlations between \( v \sin i \) and age, or RV jitter and age, are not as clear as for late-type stars.

4.2. Origin of the variability

We used the bisectors (see Appendix A), as well as extracted short-term time series of pulsating stars (see examples in Fig. 4), to classify the observed variations. The results of the classification (activity, pulsations, spectroscopic binarity) are reported in Table 2.

4.2.1. Early-type stars

All our A-type stars show high-frequency and high-amplitude (up to 5 km s\(^{-1}\)) RV variations that are characteristic of pulsations (see Table 2). Similar conclusions were reached in Lagrange et al. (2009a) for MS stars with similar spectral types.

4.2.2. Late-type stars

The RV and BVS of late-type stars are generally correlated well, as shown for example for HD 183414 in Fig. 1, indicating that the variability is due to stellar activity. We do not find any correlation between \( R'_{\text{HK}} \) and RV for any of our stars. This is compatible with the long-term activity of late-type stars being dominated by spots instead of plages, as proposed by Lockwood et al. (2007). Our observations show a similar effect on shorter timescales.

To help interpret our results, we ran several cold-spots simulations using SAFIR (see a description of the simulations in Desort et al. 2007) to characterize the RV and BVS variations using simulated spectra over the 377–691 nm region. All these simulations are done assuming a solar-type star, but we checked that the results for F5 and G2 stars are quite similar. The spot temperature contrast was 1200 K (Berdyugina 2005). Also, in these examples, a very high S/N (\( \geq 300 \)) was considered, to focus...
on the effects of star and spot parameters. Results are provided in Fig. B.1 in the case of a star seen edge-on with different \( v \sin i \), and in Fig. B.2 for different star inclinations, \( v \sin i \), and spot latitudes.

In most cases (HD 37572, HD 45270, HD 90905, HD 102458, HD 141493, HD 174429, HD 181327, HD 183414, and HD 217343), the (RV, BVS) diagrams indicate activity with a simple pattern, which are characteristic of either a single spot or slowly evolving spots at the same latitude (Desort et al. 2007). A more complex case, HD 105690, is described below.

We give details here for a few cases of interest.

- **HD 61005**: only three epochs are available, spread only over a few days. The data reveal variability, with an amplitude over 100 m/s. The amount of data is not sufficient to determine any periodicity in these variations, but they are compatible with a five-day period, as deduced from photometric data by Desidera et al. (2011). Setiawan et al. (2008) observed this star with FEROS and report strong variations with an amplitude of 150 m/s. Within the 10 m/s FEROS precision on RV, they found a correlation between RV and BVS as an indication of the presence of spots. Our results are compatible with these conclusions.

- **HD 105690**: the RV and BVS data shown in Fig. 5 are rather puzzling and very different from those of HD 183414 for example (Fig. 1). Most of the data are compatible with a single spot with a period of 4.88 days, as checked by fitting the RV data by a set of two signals with periods 4.88 and 2.44 days, which leads to a correlation between RV and BVS. However, the data recorded between JD 2454343 and JD 2454348 lead to a more complex (RV, BVS) diagramme, with an additional, more inclined and off-centred contribution. The RV variations between JD 2454343 and JD 2454348 are nonetheless still compatible with a period of about 4.8 days. The comparison with spot simulations shows that the observed (RV, BVS) characteristics can only be reproduced when assuming a small star inclination of \( \pm 10\sim 20 \) degrees with respect to pole-on. If we do not consider the data taken between JD 2454343 and JD 2454348, the observed RV is compatible with a spot with a projected surface of about 1% at \( \pm 30 \) degrees from the star pole. The spot latitude is not well constrained since the star is close to pole-on. Obviously, this spot must be long-lived. This agrees with our knowledge of young stars, even though short-lived spots can sometimes be found as well, as shown by García-Alvarez et al. (2011).

We tried to see whether we could reproduce the RV and BVS properties for the whole period by adding a short-lived spot. We did not find any configuration that would produce an acceptable match. We can therefore exclude additional spots located at latitude similar to that of the main, long-lasting spot, or to a spot at a lower latitude. More data and studies will be needed to understand HD 105690 RV variations.

- **HD 174429**: it shows high-amplitude RV and BVS variations5 (see Fig. 6). The observed bisector shape is closer to that of pulsating stars than to that of low \( v \sin i \) late-type active stars. Simulations show that for a given spot size, the RV and the BVS amplitudes significantly increase with \( v \sin i \) (see Figs. B.1 and B.2), so we conclude that the high RV and BVS amplitudes can be just a consequence of the star high \( v \sin i \). The PZ Tel \( v \sin i \), 80 km s\(^{-1}\), is the highest projected rotational velocity among our late-type stars. García-Alvarez et al. (2011) propose that this high \( v \sin i \) is due to accretion from a close TT star. We do not see spectroscopic signs of accretion, though.

- **HD 207575**: its (RV, BVS) shape is quite different from that of our other active F stars, and closer to that of earlier type stars. However, for a given spot pattern, the RV and BVS characteristics strongly depend on \( v \sin i \), as illustrated in Figs. B.1 and B.2. The (RV, BVS) shape depart from the roughly linear or even from the “eight-shape” form for stars seen with very low (5 degree) inclinations from pole-on and with \( v \sin i \) in the range 30–40 km s\(^{-1}\). Such a situation is, however, not compatible with the star spectral type and observed \( v \sin i \) of 35 km s\(^{-1}\).

### 4.3. Detection limits

#### 4.3.1. Obtained detection limits

In Appendix A, we provide the detection limits computed with the rms-based method and the LPA ones, when computed. The corresponding LPA-derived values for periods of 3, 10, 100, 500, and 1000 days are reported in Table 2. We recall that the LPA

5 The available data do not allow detecting the trend due to PZ Tel B, due to the limited time span available, and the amplitude of the RV variations.
method provides more accurate and better detection limits than the rms-based method. The rms-based limits are provided here only because we do not have enough data for several stars to compute the LPA detection limits. In Appendix A, we also indicate the rms-based detection limits that would theoretically be achieved with a much better temporal sampling (“achievable rms-based detection limits”), as well as the rms-based detection limits that would be achieved if the stars were not active or pulsating, i.e. if the noise was dominated by photon/instrumental noises.

The detection limits depend on both the monitoring quality (time-span and sampling) and the stars (spectral-type, $v \sin i$, and activity/pulsations). For most stars, the timespan of the RV monitoring allow us to compute significant detection limits for periods shorter than a few hundred days. For a few targets, the timespan is close to or longer than 1000 days. This is the case for HD 39060, HD 71555, HD 105690, HD 172555, HD 174429, HD 188228, HD 216956, and HD 218396.

In general, the conservative rms-based achievable limits are all below 10 $M_{\text{Jup}}$ for periods less than 100 days, except for the A-type highly pulsating stars HD 71555 and HD 218396. As expected, the LPA method provides better detection limits than the rms-based limits for all our stars.

For early-type stars, the detection limits strongly depend on the available data. This is very clear if one compares HD 39060 ($\beta$ Pictoris) and HD 172555, which have similar spectral types and RV jitters. The detection limits can be substantially improved when averaging RV obtained on long series of data (1–2 h). Planets of 2–3 $M_{\text{Jup}}$ can be found at periods up to 100 days on HD 39060 (see an extensive discussion in Lagrange et al. 2012), to be compared to masses of 4–10 $M_{\text{Jup}}$ for similar periods for HD 172555. HD 109536, with a temporal sampling covering only 93 days, has detection limits in the range 1–2 $M_{\text{Jup}}$ for periods up to tens of days, even though its rms(RV) is as large as 216 m/s. We conclude that, provided enough and well sampled data are available, it is possible to detect giant planets down to a few Jupiter masses, even with long periods, around these young early-type stars.

Excellent detection limits are obtained for HD 216956 (Fomalhaut) for periods up to more than 1000 days (Fig. 7).

A $\approx 30 M_{\text{Jup}}$ brown dwarf at 5 AU was proposed by Chiang et al. (2009) to explain the observed HIPPARCOS acceleration. The present detection limits do not allow us to rule out such a companion, because the timespan is not long enough, but the presence of such a companion could easily be tested provided a longer timespan and an appropriate observing strategy, as we did in the case of $\beta$ Pictoris (Lagrange et al. 2012).

Detection limits for late-type stars for periods below 100 days are most of the time lower than 1 $M_{\text{Jup}}$. Only for the few stars with the highest RV jitters, for example for HD 141593 which has a RV jitter of 235 m/s, these detection limits approach 5.5 $M_{\text{Jup}}$ for periods of 100 days. Stars with intermediate RV jitters, which are the most representative of our sample, have much lower detection limits. For the well-monitored HD 105690, with an RV rms of 60 m/s, we obtained a detection limit of 1.2 $M_{\text{Jup}}$ for a period of 100 days and of 2 $M_{\text{Jup}}$ for periods around 800 days. HD 183414, with RV rms of 60 m/s, has sub-Jupiter mass limits up to 100 days. Finally, HD 181327, which has a lower RV jitter of 15 m/s, has a detection limit between less than 0.1 $M_{\text{Jup}}$ and 0.2 $M_{\text{Jup}}$ for periods up to 40 days, and 0.3 $M_{\text{Jup}}$ for a period of 100 days. The periods considered here are only limited by the time spans of the data available. Additional data would allow increasing the range of periods to be considered.

We conclude that when enough and well-sampled data are available, it is possible to find giant planets down to very low masses, down to 1 $M_{\text{Jup}}$, or below, orbiting these active young late-type stars, up to long periods.

4.3.3. Improvements of the detection limits

As mentioned above, adopting adequate observing and averaging strategies is particularly efficient to improve the detection limits for early-type, pulsating stars. This is also illustrated in Fig. 7 in the case of HD 216956, for which we recorded long data sets of one to two hours at each epoch. In this case, the RV jitter is reduced from 56 m/s to 25 m/s after averaging.

For active stars, the detection limits obtained when taking the temporal structure of the stellar noise into account are already very satisfactory. Nonetheless, it is worth trying to improve
our detection capabilities. Several approaches have been proposed and given more or less successful results on solar-type MS stars: use of simultaneous photometric variations to correct from spots/plages (Aigrain et al. 2012; Lanza et al. 2011, and references therein), use of the BVS (Boisse et al. 2011, and references therein), and use of spectroscopic activity indicators (Boisse et al. 2011). Using simultaneous photometric data may be quite powerful when the signal is not dominated by convection (see an analysis in Meunier & Lagrange 2013). Using the BVS or other spectroscopic diagnostics is very tempting as these parameters are obtained exactly simultaneously with the RV data and do not request additional observations.

As seen previously, we do not observe any correlation between the Ca emission and the RV variations, so we cannot use the Ca emissions to improve our detection limits. We then consider the use of the BVS. The \( v \sin i \) of our stars are usually significantly higher than the spectral resolution, and this induces complex relationships between the BVS and the RV, as demonstrated by Desort et al. (2007) and Boisse et al. (2011). This is also seen in Appendix B in a number of examples. Departures from a linear correlation such as inclined “eights” or even more complex structures can be observed. The amount of departure from a simple linear dependence depends on the star \( v \sin i \), on the star orientation with respect to the line of sight \( \sin i \), and on the spot parameters.

We focussed on the three active stars with the largest number of data and for which a good (RV, BVS) correlation trend (hereafter slope) could be determined (with the measured RV jitter and \( v \sin i \) in parenthesis): HD 141943 (235 m/s, 35 km s\(^{-1}\)), HD 181327 (15 m/s, 17.9 km s\(^{-1}\)), and HD 183414 (67 m/s, 11.1 km s\(^{-1}\)). The slopes of the (RV, BVS) correlation are indicated in Table 2. After correction of the RV using the (BVS, RV) correlation, the RV jitters are significantly reduced, as well as the detection limits (see Fig. 8). For HD 141943, the RV jitter of the corrected RV is reduced from 238 m/s to 131 m/s, and the detection limits are reduced by a factor of 1.6 on average. They now fall in the range 1–5 \( M_{\text{Jup}} \) for periods below 100 days. For HD 183414, the RV jitter is reduced from 67 m/s to 25 m/s, and the detection limits are reduced by a factor larger than 2.9 on average, and they are at the Saturn mass level for periods below 100 days. Finally, for HD 181327, the RV jitter is reduced from 15 m/s to 12 m/s, and the detection limits are reduced by a factor of 1.5, and are in the 2–4 Neptune mass domain for periods below 100 days.

An even better correction could be expected by removing the spot signal itself, using for example simultaneous photometric data. A perfect correction would remove all activity-induced RV signal, and the achievable detections limits would be those achievable under photon and instrumental noises alone (see the third panels of Fig. A.1). As an exercise and for illustration purposes only, we tried to fit the observed RV of the same stars with a Keplerian signal (mimicking a spot) and then to estimate the detection limits on the residuals. Significant improvements were obtained for HD 141943 and HD 181327, as seen in Fig. 8. The detection limits after correction now reach levels below 1 \( M_{\text{Jup}} \) for the very active star HD 141943 and of one to two Neptune mass planets for the weakly active star HD 181327. However, this approach assumes that the spot signal can be fitted by a Keplerian signal, which is not always the case. In particular, this assumption does not apply when the spot is not always visible or when the activity pattern is complex, as illustrated by the simulations shown above. Even though the detection limits are significantly improved, we would therefore not advise using this method for planet detection unless simultaneous photometric data are available to provide independent constraints on the spot(s) properties.

4.3.3. Comparison with previous surveys

Before comparing our detection limits to those from other works, we recall that these quantities strongly depend on the targets themselves (jitter and temporal distribution of the stellar noise), on the observing strategy, and also on the way the limits are measured, as extensively discussed in Meunier et al. (2012). Our detection limits are much better than those observed by Bailey et al. (2012). However, the latter focussed on stars with spectral types M, i.e. later than those of our targets, and their detection limit estimation is probably conservative (like our rms-based method). Our detection limits, even before correcting for activity, are better than those obtained by Paulson & Yelda (2006) on the \( \beta \) Pic moving group; for these targets, their detection limits at short periods fall in the brown dwarf regime,
We have shown that RV monitoring with an appropriate observing strategy and data analysis can allow one to detect giant planets around young nearby stars despite their activity. The separations of detectable planets with RV techniques are, however, limited to a few AU. To get a complete view of planetary systems, it is necessary to complement RV data with other types of data: astrometric ones (e.g. Gaia, for typical separations of 2–5 AU Sozzetti 2011), and, above all, direct imaging data that can provide detection limits at much larger separations. Direct imaging is particularly interesting for young systems because the contrasts between young planets and their parent stars are more favorable than for older systems. The combination of these techniques therefore offers a unique opportunity to explore the giant planet population on the same class of stars.

We illustrate in this section the potential of the coupling of RV and AO deep imaging data, using the example of Harps, NaCo, and Sphere data.

We consider three stars of our sample for which we have both Harps RV and NaCo imaging data which could be considered as prototypes for such complementary studies, namely HD 183414, HD 181327, and HD 188228. The G-type star HD 183414 is an example of medium activity-level star, with a jitter of 67 m/s; it is located 35 pc away. The F-type star HD 181327, located at 51 pc, has a low activity level (jitter = 15 m/s). The pulsating A-type star HD 188228, located at 32 pc, has a jitter of 127 m/s (amplitude of 2 km s$^{-1}$). We plot in Fig. 9 the RV and imaging detection limits expressed in Jupiter masses for these three stars. The deep imaging detection limits are either those measured on NaCo data (Rameau et al. 2013), and the ones expected with Sphere (Mesa et al. 2011). The detection limits of HD 183414 are those obtained once correction for activity using the RV-BVS relation has been made. Different star inclinations are considered for the RV data. The limits are strongly affected for inclinations below 60 degrees. For larger inclinations, the RV derived detection limits are very similar. We see that the detection limits are in the planetary regime with both approaches. In these examples, the RV limits are much better than the NaCo ones for the G-type stars (this effect is even stronger when considering moderately active stars with an RV jitter below 50 m/s), while the AO limits are better than the RV ones for the A-type star.

The complementarity of HARPS and NaCo in terms of separation ranges is obvious. However, gaps are still present. This is particularly true for HD 183414, for which the available RV data are only spread over 189 days. In contrast, for HD 188228, which is located at a similar distance, there is an excellent overlap because we dispose of RV data spread over about 2000 days. Finally, the gap observed for HD 181327 is narrower than that of HD 183414 because the available RV data span is much larger (560 days), even though the star is located further away. We note the important impact of forthcoming imagers like SPHERE on the VLT: with inner working angles smaller than 0.15$''$, they will allow the detection of planets much closer to the stars than current imagers such as NaCo. This will fill the gap between RV data and imaging ones for stars closer than typically 30 pc, and significantly contribute to reducing the gap for stars located further away. Finally, we see that Gaia can help fill the gap, if any, between RV and AO direct imaging data. This will be particularly important for distant stars.

6. Concluding remarks

We have shown that RV data allow the detection of giant planets around stars in close-by young associations. Given the available data, we could explore different separations ranges, up to more than 2 AU for some stars in our sample. For low to moderately active stars, detection limits of a few Neptune masses
were obtained. The best detection limits were obtained for low to moderate $v \sin i$ in the range 10–30 km s$^{-1}$, which are generally observed for stars older than 30 Myr, although there are some exceptions. Early-type stars are generally pulsating, and averaging over the high-frequency variations reduces the achievable detection limits considerably. Values well within the giant planet domain were obtained.

Finally, we illustrated the tremendous interest of coupling RV and deep AO data using Harps and NaCo data and, even more, future Sphere data. RV data covering more than 2000 days allow planet detection and characterization for separations up to 3–5 AU, while forthcoming imagers will provide excellent detection limits for separations greater than 0.15–0.2", which correspond to 4–5 AU at 30 pc. For more distant stars, Gaia will fill the remaining gap. In the next decade and for the first time, we will have a unique opportunity to make an exhaustive giant planet search around these stars, which will in turn lead to unprecedented studies of giant planet formation and evolution.

Acknowledgements. We acknowledge support from the French CNRS and from the Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANRBLANC10-0504.01). We are grateful to the ESO staff for their help during the observations and to the Programme National de Planétologie (PNP, INSU). These results have made use of the SIMBAD astronomical database, operated at the Centre de Données Astronomiques de Strasbourg, France, and NASAs Astrophysics Data System. We also thank Gérard Zins and Sylvain Cètre for their help in implementing the SAFIR interface.

References


Appendix A: Observed RV, BVS, and measured detection limits

Fig. A.1. From left to right: 1) RV time series. 2) (RV, BVS) diagramme. The slope of the (RV, BVS) correlation is indicated. In a few cases, the value is obviously impacted by a single deviating data point. 3) rms-based detection limits with a 99.8% probability (solid black curve) and a 68.2% probability (dotted curve), achievable limits with a perfect sampling (black solid straight line) and achievable limits if the signal was limited only by photon and instrumental noises and with a perfect temporal sampling (dotted straight lines). The vertical lines in the (period, detection limit) diagramme indicate the timespan for each star. 4) detection limits obtained with the LPA method. “r” indicates the factor of improvement between the LPA and rms-based detection limits.
Fig. A.1. continued.
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<tr>
<th>Harps − HD197890 − K0V − 202 km s −1</th>
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<td>Harps − HD207575 − F6V − 33 km s −1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harps − HD216956 − A3V − 85 km s −1</td>
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<td>Harps − HD217343 − G2V − 12 km s −1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harps − HD218396 − A5V − 40 km s −1</td>
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### Fig. A.1. continued.

![Graphs and plots](image-url)
Fig. A.1. continued.
Appendix B: Simulations results

**Fig. B.1.** *First column:* RV versus time of a simulated equatorial spot covering 1.5% of the visible surface and a temperature contrast of 1200 K, for a seen edge-on sun-like star and for five different values of $v \sin i$ from the upper panels to the lower panels: 3 km s$^{-1}$, 10 km s$^{-1}$, 30 km s$^{-1}$, 50 km s$^{-1}$, 80 km s$^{-1}$. *Second column:* same for the bissectors. *Third column:* BV versus RV. *Fourth column:* BVS versus time.
Fig. B.2. Same as Fig. 10 for an inclination of 30 degrees (three first lines) and 5 degrees (three last lines), a colatitude (from the pole) of 30 degrees (except 5th line with a colatitude of 60 degrees), and $v \sin i$ (from upper panels to lower panels) of 3, 10, 40, 10, 10, and 10 km s$^{-1}$. 