

EP1 Seeking the progenitors of magnetic Ap/Bp stars: A search for magnetic fields in pre-main sequence Herbig Ae/Be stars using the ESO VLT

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The Herbig Ae/Be (HAEBE) stars are pre-main sequence objects of spectral type A and B. It is widely suspected that some of these objects are the progenitors of the main sequence magnetic Ap/Bp stars. This is supported by recent results (e.g. Bagnulo et al. 2003, 2004, Pohnl et al. 2003) indicating that magnetic Ap/Bp stars exist at the earliest phases of main sequence evolution, and that they likely acquire their magnetic fields at the pre-main sequence (or an earlier) phase.

In this poster, we describe the recent detection of magnetic fields in two HAEBE stars, obtained using the FORS1 instrument at the ESO VLT.
