

## Kinematic evidence for an embedded protoplanet in a circumstellar disc

C. PINTE,<sup>1,2</sup> D. J. PRICE,<sup>1</sup> F. MÉNARD,<sup>2</sup> G. DUCHÊNE,<sup>3,2</sup> W.R.F. DENT,<sup>4</sup> T. HILL,<sup>4</sup> I. DE GREGORIO-MONSALVO,<sup>4</sup>  
A. HALES,<sup>4,5</sup> AND D. MENTIPLAY<sup>1</sup><sup>1</sup>*Monash Centre for Astrophysics (MoCA) and School of Physics and Astronomy, Monash University, Clayton Vic 3800, Australia*<sup>2</sup>*Univ. Grenoble Alpes, CNRS, IPAG, F-38000 Grenoble, France*<sup>3</sup>*Astronomy Department, University of California, Berkeley CA 94720-3411, USA*<sup>4</sup>*Atacama Large Millimeter / Submillimeter Array, Joint ALMA Observatory, Alonso de Córdova 3107, Vitacura 763-0355, Santiago, Chile*<sup>5</sup>*National Radio Astronomy Observatory, 520 Edgemont Road, Charlottesville, VA 22903-2475, United States of America*

## ABSTRACT

Discs of gas and dust surrounding young stars are the birthplace of planets. However, direct detection of protoplanets forming within discs has proved elusive to date. We present the detection of a large, localized deviation from Keplerian velocity in the protoplanetary disc surrounding the young star HD 163296. The observed velocity pattern is consistent with the dynamical effect of a two Jupiter-mass planet orbiting at a radius  $\approx 260$  au from the star.

**Keywords:** stars: individual (HD 163296) — protoplanetary discs — planet-disc interaction — submillimeter: planetary systems — hydrodynamics — radiative transfer

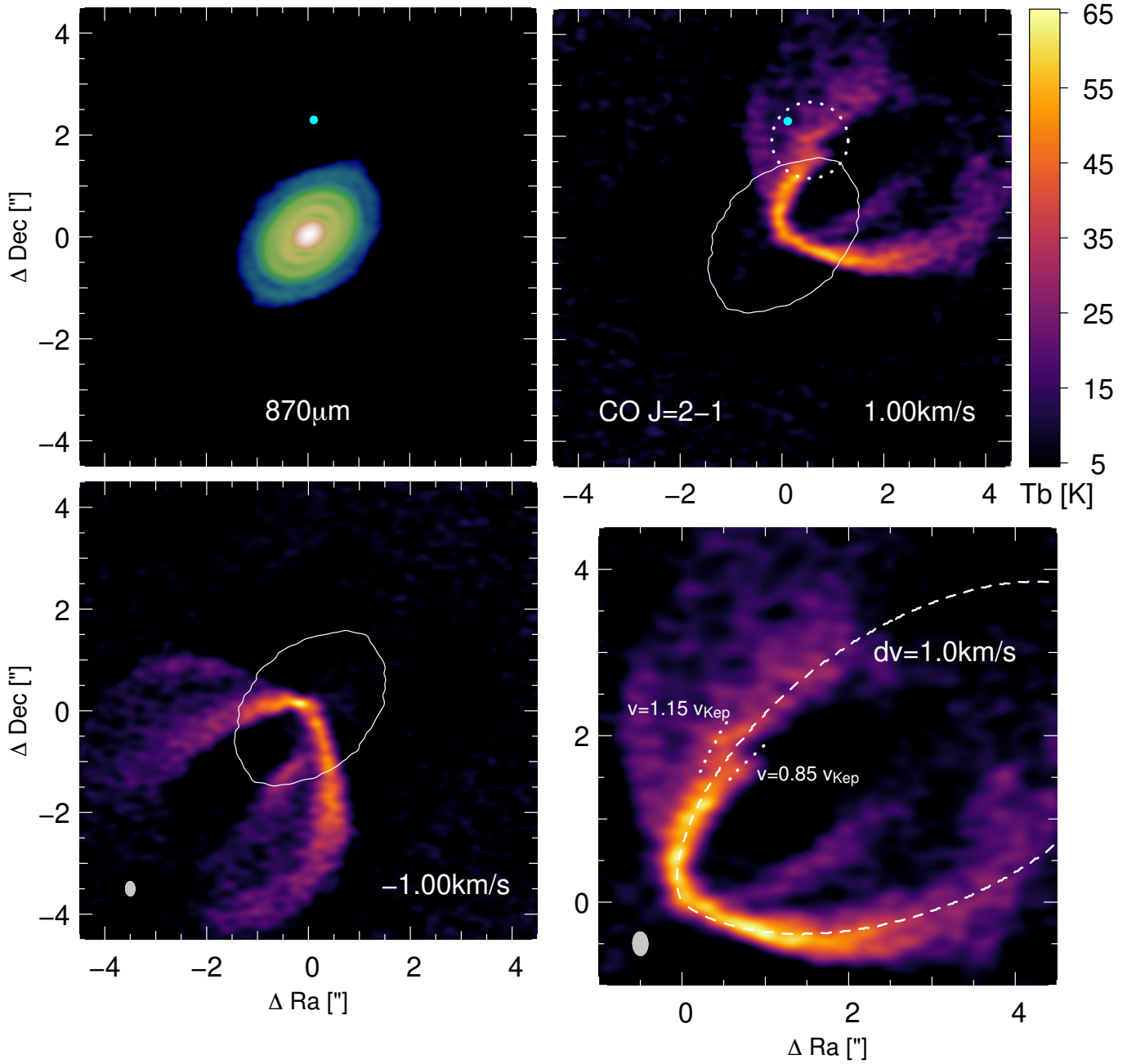
## 1. INTRODUCTION

Direct observations of forming planets in protoplanetary discs is the ultimate goal of disc studies. The disc usually outshines the planet, requiring observations at high contrast and angular resolution. Detections by direct imaging have been reported in several discs: HD 100546 (Quanz et al. 2013a; Brittain et al. 2014; Quanz et al. 2015; Currie et al. 2015), LkCa 15 (Kraus & Ireland 2012; Sallum et al. 2015), HD 169142 (Quanz et al. 2013b; Biller et al. 2014; Reggiani et al. 2014), and MWC 758 (Reggiani et al. 2018). Yet, most of the detections to date have been subsequently challenged (e.g., Thalmann et al. 2015, 2016; Rameau et al. 2017; Ligi et al. 2018). The quest continues.

An alternative approach is to search for indirect signatures imprinted by planets on their host disc. ALMA, and adaptive optics systems have revealed a variety of structures: gaps and rings (ALMA Partnership et al. 2015; Andrews et al. 2016; Isella et al. 2016), spirals (e.g. Benisty et al. 2015; Stolker et al. 2016), that could be signposts of planets, but numerous other explanations exist that do not require planets (e.g. Takahashi & Inutsuka 2014; Flock et al. 2015; Zhang et al. 2015; Gonzalez et al. 2015; Lorén-Aguilar & Bate 2015; Béthune

et al. 2016). Embedded planets in circumstellar discs will launch spiral waves at Lindblad resonances both inside and outside of their orbit (e.g. Ogilvie & Lubow 2002), disturbing the local Keplerian velocity pattern. Hydrodynamical simulations show that the impact on the velocity pattern should be detectable by high spectral resolution ALMA line observations (Perez et al. 2015). Deviations from Keplerian rotation have been detected around circumbinary discs, with streamers at near free-fall velocities (Casassus et al. 2015; Price et al. 2018) and radial flows or warps (Walsh et al. 2017).

HD 163296 is a  $\sim 4.4$  Myr old Herbig Ae star located at a distance of  $101.5 \pm 1.2$  pc from the Sun (Gaia Collaboration et al. 2018). We rescaled all relevant quantities from previous papers based on the new Gaia distance. HD 163296 has a mass of  $1.9 M_{\odot}$  (e.g. Flaherty et al. 2015), a luminosity of  $25 L_{\odot}$  (Natta et al. 2004) and a A1Ve spectral type, with effective temperature 9300 K. Observations with the Hubble Space Telescope revealed a disc in scattered light that extends as far out as 375 au (Grady et al. 2000). Interestingly, Grady et al. (2000) inferred the presence of a giant planet at  $\approx 270$  au based on the gap observed in scattered light at that radius. de Gregorio-Monsalvo et al. (2013) presented ALMA data and showed that the gaseous component of the disc extends to distances of at least  $R_{\text{out-CO}} = 415$  au in CO while the continuum is



**Figure 1.** Kinematic asymmetry in HD163296. Band 6 continuum emission (top left) and channel map of  $^{12}\text{CO}$  line emission at  $+1\text{km/s}$  from the systemic velocity (top right, with close up shown in bottom right) shows a distinct ‘kink’ in the emission (highlighted by the dotted circle). Comparison with the continuum emission (top left) locates this outside the outermost dust ring. The corresponding emission on the opposite side of the disc (bottom left; showing  $-1\text{km/s}$  channel) shows no corresponding feature, indicating the disturbance to the flow is localised in both radius and azimuth. The channel width is  $\Delta v = 0.1\text{ km.s}^{-1}$ . The white contour shows the  $5-\sigma$  ( $\sigma = 0.1\text{ mJy/beam}$ ) level of the continuum map. The dashed line is the expected location of the isovelocity curve on the upper surface of a disc with an opening angle of  $15^\circ$  and an inclination of  $45^\circ$ . Dotted lines in the bottom right figure indicate 15% deviations ( $\approx 0.4\text{ km.s}^{-1}$ ) from Keplerian flow around the star. The potential planet location is marked by a cyan dot, assuming it is located in the midplane.

detected only to  $R_{\text{out-Dust}} = 200$  au. Higher resolution ALMA imaging revealed a bright inner disc component within the inner  $0.''5$ , and a spectacular series of three rings at  $\approx 65$  au, 100 au, with a fainter ring at 160 au (Isella et al. 2016).

In this Letter, we present the detection of a local deviation from the Keplerian velocity pattern found in high spectral resolution ALMA imaging. By comparing with models we find this to be consistent with the presence of a few Jupiter mass protoplanet in the disc.

## 2. OBSERVATIONS AND DATA REDUCTION

We use archival ALMA data. Observations were performed on 2012 June 9, 11, 22, and July 6 at Band 7 (2011.0.000010.SV), and on 2015 August 5, 8 and 9 at Band 6 (2013.1.00601.S). A complete description of the data was presented in de Gregorio-Monsalvo et al. (2013) and Isella et al. (2016). For the Band 7 data, we re-used the maps produced by de Gregorio-Monsalvo et al. (2013), with a  $0.52'' \times 0.38''$  beam at  $\text{PA} = 82^\circ$ , and a channel width of  $0.11 \text{ km.s}^{-1}$ .

We used CASA scripts provided by ALMA to calibrate the Band 6 data. Since the data from the night of the 9<sup>th</sup> of August showed significantly higher noise and flux levels, we selected only the data from the 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of August for the analysis. We performed three successive rounds of phase self-calibration, the last with solutions calculated for each individual integration (6s), followed by a phase and amplitude self-calibration. The continuum self-calibration solutions were applied to the CO lines. Imaging was performed at  $0.1 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  resolution, using Briggs weighting with a robust parameter of -0.5 to obtain a synthesized beam of  $0.28'' \times 0.18''$  at  $\text{PA} = -88^\circ$ . We did not subtract the continuum emission, to avoid underestimating the gas temperature and affecting the apparent morphology of the emission (e.g. Weaver et al. 2018). At the location of the detected velocity deviation, continuum emission is negligible, and an analysis on continuum-subtracted data would lead to the same results.

## 3. RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

The disc shows the typical butterfly pattern of discs in Keplerian rotation (de Gregorio-Monsalvo et al. 2013; Rosenfeld et al. 2013). In a given channel, the emission is concentrated along an isovelocity curve, corresponding to the region of the disc where the projected velocity is equal to the channel velocity. The emission from the upper and lower surfaces — above and below the mid-plane as seen by the observer — and from the near and far sides of these surfaces, is well separated (Fig. 1, and schematic view in Fig. 3).

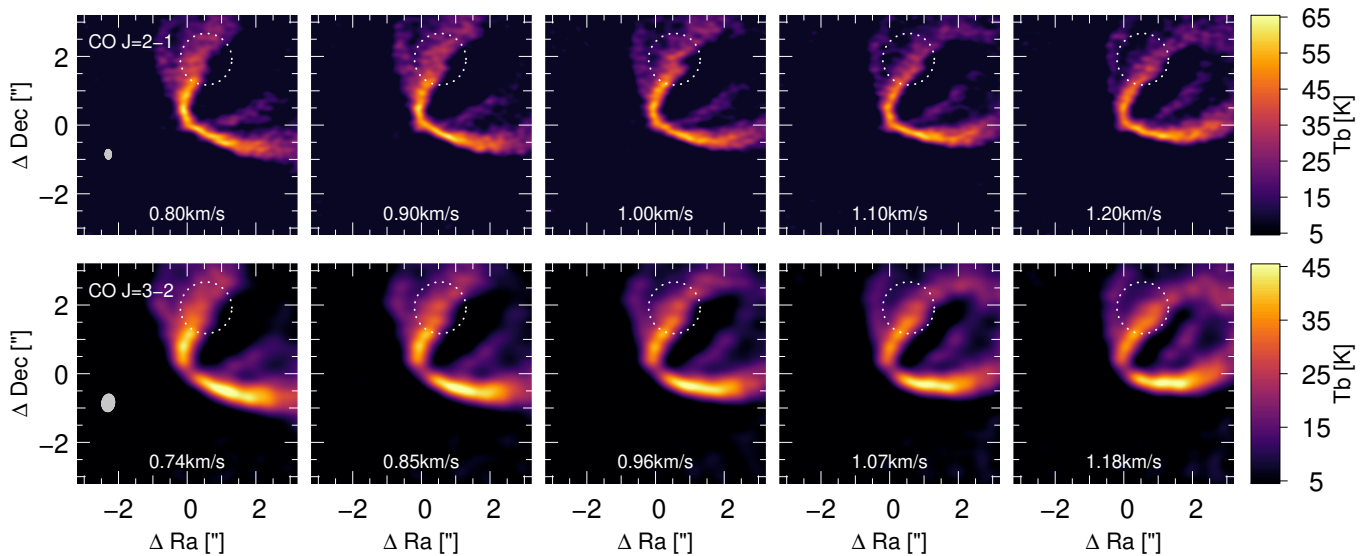
In a recent paper (Pinte et al. 2018) we showed how to reconstruct the position and velocity of each of the CO layers, for discs at intermediate inclination, by simple geometrical arguments based on the emission in each channel map. HD 163296 displays a similar scale height and velocity profile to the T Tauri star IM Lupi (Pinte et al. 2018), with a flared CO emitting surface and decreasing velocities and temperature with radius (Pinte et al, in prep.).

Significantly, HD 163296 shows an asymmetry between the South-East and North-West sides of the disc at a cylindrical radius of  $\approx 260$  au, outside the third dust ring seen in continuum emission. This asymmetry is most evident in channels at a projected velocity of  $\approx 6.8 \pm 0.2 \text{ km.s}^{-1}$  ( $\approx 1 \text{ km.s}^{-1}$  from the systemic velocity). Fig. 1 shows the corresponding individual velocity channels. The emission feature — highlighted by the dotted circle — corresponds to a kink in the upper surface isovelocity curve North-West of the central object at velocities close to  $dv = +1 \text{ km.s}^{-1}$ . The symmetric channel ( $dv = -1 \text{ km.s}^{-1}$ ) shows a smooth Keplerian profile to the South-East. We detect a similar deformation of the isovelocity curves at the same location in both  $^{12}\text{CO}$  J=2-1 and 3-2 transitions (Fig. 2). While it is not as obvious in the Band 7 Early-Science data due to the limited spatial resolution, the deformation of the isovelocity curve is present and could already be seen, with the benefit of hindsight from our Band 6 detection, in de Gregorio-Monsalvo et al. (2013) and Rosenfeld et al. (2013) (their Fig. 3 and 2 respectively). The asymmetry is not detectable in the less abundant isotologues  $^{13}\text{CO}$  and  $\text{C}^{18}\text{O}$ , where the emission is more diffuse and fainter because of the lower optical depth.

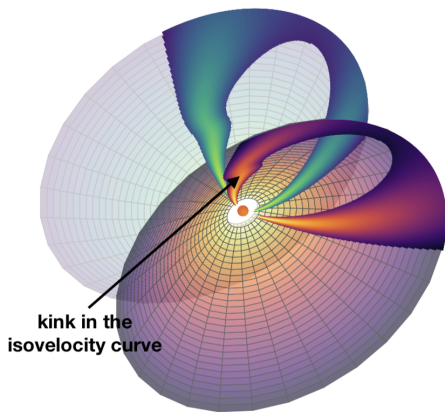
The deformation of the emission is localised to an area approximately  $0.5''$  in size (indicated by the dotted circle in Figures 1 and 2) and to channel maps at velocities between  $0.8$  and  $1.2 \text{ km.s}^{-1}$  from the systemic velocity (top row of Fig. 2), this argues for a localised perturbation and excludes an origin from any large scale structure in the disc.

## 4. MODELS AND DISCUSSION

The detected asymmetry matches our expectations for a local deviation from Keplerian velocity caused by a massive body embedded in the disc. A local deviation of  $\approx 0.4 \text{ km.s}^{-1}$  is enough to reproduce the observed spatial shift (Fig. 1, bottom right panel). The dotted lines shown in the bottom right panel delineate what would be  $\approx 15\%$  deviations in the local velocity field, which is the approximate extent of the deviation from Keplerian rotation. Most significantly, the shape of the deviation in the emission maps is similar to the prediction by Perez



**Figure 2.** Channel maps around the detected deviation from Keplerian velocity. The ‘kink’ is most visible in channels at velocities between 0.8 and 1.2 km/s (top row) and is also seen in the J=3–2 transition in similar velocity channels (bottom row) indicating it is localised in both space and velocity.



**Figure 3.** Geometry of the inclined and flared disc, showing a schematic of the expected emission from two infinitely thin emitting surfaces. Green shows the emission from the lower surface of the disc, red shows the upper surface. We added a 10% deviation in azimuthal velocity North of the star, which shows as a ‘kink’ in the line emission. Emission is only seen when the projected velocity matches the channel velocity, producing the characteristic ‘butterfly’ shape. Emission is preferentially seen on the upper surface of the disc due to the higher inclination with respect to the line of sight.

et al. (2015) for the kinematical signatures of an embedded planet, where the wake of the spiral generated by the planet was shown to produce a kink in the emission due to the deviation from the Keplerian rotation around the central star.

The basic feature of the channel maps can be explained with a simple model assuming emission from two infinitely thin emitting surfaces. Figure 3 shows the expected emission arising from such a model, showing the

butterfly signature from the disc. Asymmetries of the velocity field, added in an ad hoc manner in the model for illustrative purposes, are evident as small bumps on the line emissions.

To go beyond this simple model and infer the mass of the putative planet, we performed a series of 3D global simulations using the PHANTOM Smoothed Particle Hydrodynamics (SPH) code (Price et al. 2017). We adopted the gas disc parameters from de Gregorio-Monsalvo et al. (2013). We employed gas-only simulations, ignoring the effect of dust, using 1 million SPH particles and a central mass of  $1.9 M_{\odot}$ . The inner radius of the disc in our model was set to 50 au (mainly to speed up the calculations as the inner disc is irrelevant for our present purpose), with an initial outer radius set to 500 au. We set the gas mass between those radii to  $10^{-2} M_{\odot}$ , and use an exponentially tapered power-law surface density profile with a critical radius of 100 au, power-law index of  $p = -1.0$  and an exponent  $\gamma = 0.8$ . The disc aspect ratio was set to 0.08 at 50 au, with a vertically isothermal profile. We set the artificial viscosity in the code in order to obtain an average Shakura & Sunyaev (1973) viscosity of  $10^{-3}$  (Lodato & Price 2010), in agreement with the upper limits found by Flaherty et al. (2015, 2017).

We embedded a single planet in the disc orbiting at 260 au with a mass of either 1, 2, 3 or  $5 M_{\text{Jup}}$ . We used sink particles (Bate et al. 1995) to represent the star and planet. We set the accretion radius of the planet to half the Hill radius (7.05, 8.85, 10.15 and 12 au, respectively), with an accretion radius of 10 au for the central star. The model surface density is plotted in Fig. 4 for the



211  $2 M_{\text{jup}}$  planet. We evolved the models for 35 orbits of  
 212 the planet ( $\approx 100\,000$  yr) which is sufficient for the flow  
 213 pattern around the planet to be established

214 To compute the temperature and synthetic line maps,  
 215 we used the MCFOST Monte Carlo radiative transfer code  
 216 (Pinte et al. 2006, 2009), assuming  $T_{\text{gas}} = T_{\text{dust}}$ , and  
 217 local thermodynamic equilibrium as we are looking at  
 218 low-J CO lines. The central star was represented by a  
 219 sphere of radius  $2.1 R_{\odot}$ , radiating isotropically with a  
 220 Kurucz spectrum at 9,250 K. We used a Voronoi tesse-  
 221 lation where each cell corresponds to an SPH particle,  
 222 avoiding the need to interpolate between the SPH and  
 223 radiative transfer codes. We set the CO abundance fol-  
 224 lowing the prescription in Appendix B of Pinte et al.  
 225 (2018) to account for freeze-out where  $T < 20$  K, as  
 226 well as photo-dissociation and photo-desorption in lo-  
 227 cations where the UV radiation is high. We adopted a  
 228 turbulent velocity of  $50 \text{ ms}^{-1}$ , consistent with the up-  
 229 per limits found by Flaherty et al. (2015) and Flaherty  
 230 et al. (2017). We assumed a population of astrosilicate  
 231 (Draine 2003) grains with sizes ranging from  $0.03$  to  
 232  $1000 \mu\text{m}$  and following a power-law  $dn(a) \propto a^{-3.5} da$ , a  
 233 gas-to-dust ratio of 100, and computed the dust optical  
 234 properties using Mie theory.

235 Figure 5 presents the predicted emission in  $^{12}\text{CO}$  J=2–  
 236 1 of our theoretical models for four different planet  
 237 masses. A  $2 M_{\text{jup}}$  planet appears to reproduce a de-  
 238 formation of the  $^{12}\text{CO}$  isovelocity curve that is consis-  
 239 tent with the observations. At  $1 M_{\text{jup}}$ , the planet only  
 240 produces a small deformation that is barely visible in  
 241 the channel maps, while a more massive planet triggers  
 242 a strong spiral arm that would have been detected in  
 243 channels maps at least up to  $0.5 \text{ km.s}^{-1}$  from the nom-  
 244 inal velocity of  $1 \text{ km.s}^{-1}$ . The twisted emission in the  
 245 channel maps is a direct consequence of deviation from  
 246 Keplerian velocity generated by the planet along the  
 247 wake of the spiral arms (Fig. 4, right panel). Perez et al.  
 248 (2015) also predicts that the circumplanetary disc can  
 249 be detected as a compact emission separated in velocity  
 250 from the circumstellar disc emission. The circumplan-  
 251 etary disc radius is about one-third of the Hill radius  
 252 (e.g. Ayliffe & Bate 2009). A 2 to 5 Jupiter mass planet  
 253 would produce a circumplanetary disc with a diameter  
 254 smaller than 6 to 8 au, respectively. At the current spa-  
 255 tial resolution of the ALMA observations, its flux will  
 256 be diluted in the beam ( $\approx 20$  au).

257 Note that for the adopted disc parameters, the planet  
 258 migrates by about 30 au during the simulation, and the  
 259 synthetic maps display the velocity deviation slightly  
 260 closer to the star than in the data. At this rate, the  
 261 planet would reach the star in about 1 Myr (though we  
 262 overestimate the migration rate by a factor of 2–3 due

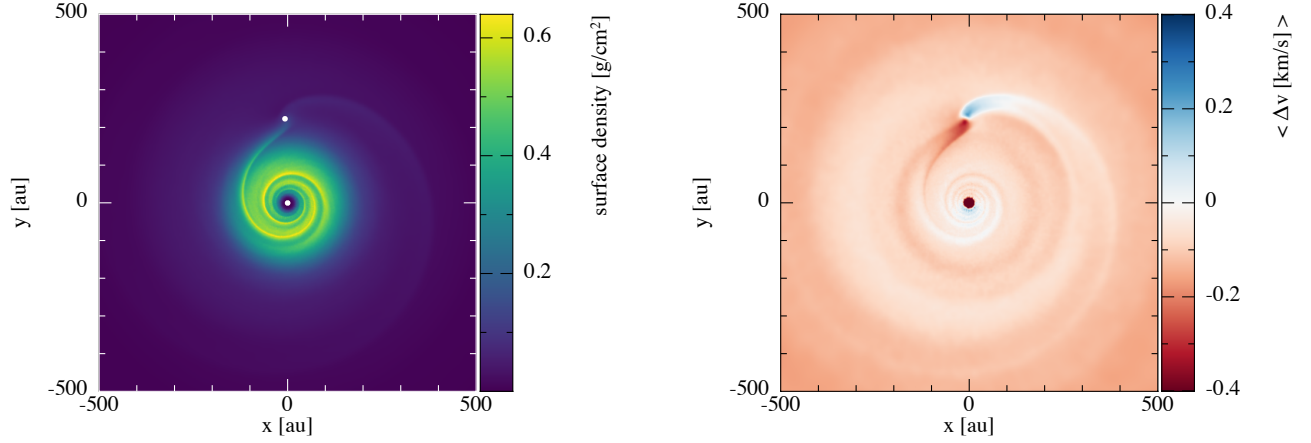
263 to the relatively large sink particle radius we adopted;  
 264 see Ayliffe & Bate 2010). If the detection is confirmed,  
 265 the survival of such an embedded planet could put addi-  
 266 tional constraints on the disc surface density profile and  
 267 viscosity.

268 Grady et al. (2000) detected a gap in the scattered  
 269 light images with HST/STIS at 260 au, and estimated  
 270 the mass of a potential planet to be  $0.4 M_{\text{jup}}$  (based on  
 271 some simple analytical derivation). Isella et al. (2016)  
 272 also detected a small dip in the integrated CO brightness  
 273 profile at  $\approx 2.2''$  (see their Fig.1 or Fig.5 in Liu et al.  
 274 2018). In our model, the gap appears in scattered light  
 275 for a planet mass larger than  $2 M_{\text{jup}}$ , but remains un-  
 276 detected in the synthetic CO maps. The final profile of  
 277 a planetary gap establishes itself on a viscous timescale  
 278 however (thousands of orbits with a viscosity of  $10^{-3}$ ),  
 279 and the gap width and depth in our models are only  
 280 lower limits.

281 The effect of the planet appears fainter in the  $^{13}\text{CO}$   
 282 channels maps than in the  $^{12}\text{CO}$  maps, even if the  
 283 planet is located in the midplane. This is due to opti-  
 284 cal depth and vertical temperature gradient effects: the  
 285  $^{12}\text{CO}$  is coming from a vertically narrow and warm layer  
 286 above the midplane, while the  $^{13}\text{CO}$  is originating from  
 287 a deeper, thicker layer, where the disc is almost verti-  
 288 cally isothermal, resulting in a uniform emissivity, which  
 289 washes out some of the kinematics signal.

290 Are we seeing the signature of an embedded planet?  
 291 Can we exclude wishful thinking? The strongest evi-  
 292 dence is that the perturbation to the disc kinematics  
 293 is highly localised in both space and velocity. This ex-  
 294 cludes any mechanism that merely produces axisymmet-  
 295 ric rings in discs. This excludes, for example, ice lines  
 296 (Zhang et al. 2015), self-induced dust traps (Gonzalez  
 297 et al. 2015), instabilities (Takahashi & Inutsuka 2014;  
 298 Lorén-Aguilar & Bate 2015) and zonal flows (Flock et al.  
 299 2015). A spiral wave could in principle result from the  
 300 disc self-gravity, but multiple, large scale spirals would  
 301 be expected in that case (e.g. Dipierro et al. 2015) which  
 302 the localized deviation seen in HD163296 would seem to  
 303 exclude.

304 The localised nature of the kinematic perturbation,  
 305 that it occurs close to the gap found by Grady et al.  
 306 (2000), and the similarity to the signatures predicted  
 307 by our hydrodynamic models is a strong evidence for a  
 308 young protoplanet in a gas rich disc. However, confir-  
 309 mation with direct imaging is the only way to be sure.  
 310 The relatively large planet mass and its known location  
 311 in the disc means direct imaging follow-up might be able  
 312 to detect it, depending on how embedded in disc it is.  
 313 No point source has so far been detected at the loca-  
 314 tion of the potential planet with near-IR adaptive optics



**Figure 4.** Left: Surface density in 3D hydrodynamics simulations of the HD163296 disc, shown after 35 orbits of a  $2 M_{\text{Jup}}$  planet and viewed at a face-on inclination. Dots mark the star and planet. Right: Deviation of the azimuthal velocity from Keplerian velocity.

systems. A  $2 M_{\text{Jup}}$  planet is consistent with the upper limits (for an unobscured planet) obtained by adaptive optics systems, such as SPHERE (Muro-Arena et al. 2018) and Keck L' (Guidi et al, submitted). Using the formalism developed in Pinte et al. (2018), we find that the velocity kink is located at a distance of  $\approx 260$  au, and an elevation above the midplane of  $\approx 70$  au. Assuming the potential planet is located in the midplane, it would be at a projected distance of  $2.3 \pm 0.2''$  and PA  $= -3 \pm 5^\circ$  from the star, where we estimated the uncertainties by locating the velocity deviation with half a beam accuracy. If the planet orbit is slightly inclined compared to the disc's plane, the position on the sky will be shifted along a line going from the North-East to the South-West directions.

Can massive planets form at a distance of 250 au from the star? While the location of giant planets in the outer regions of discs would be broadly consistent with gravitational instability. On the other hand the timescale for core accretion may also be reasonable given that HD163296 is a relatively old disc ( $\approx 5$  Myr). The planet may also have undergone outwards migration, depending on the initial profile of the disc. It is beyond the scope of this paper to speculate further.

## 5. SUMMARY

We detected a 15% deviation from Keplerian flow around the star in the disc around HD163296. The deviation was detected in both Band 6 and Band 7 in two different transitions of  $^{12}\text{CO}$  and matches the kinematic signature predicted for an embedded protoplanet.

Comparing the observations to a series of 3D hydrodynamical and radiative transfer models of embedded

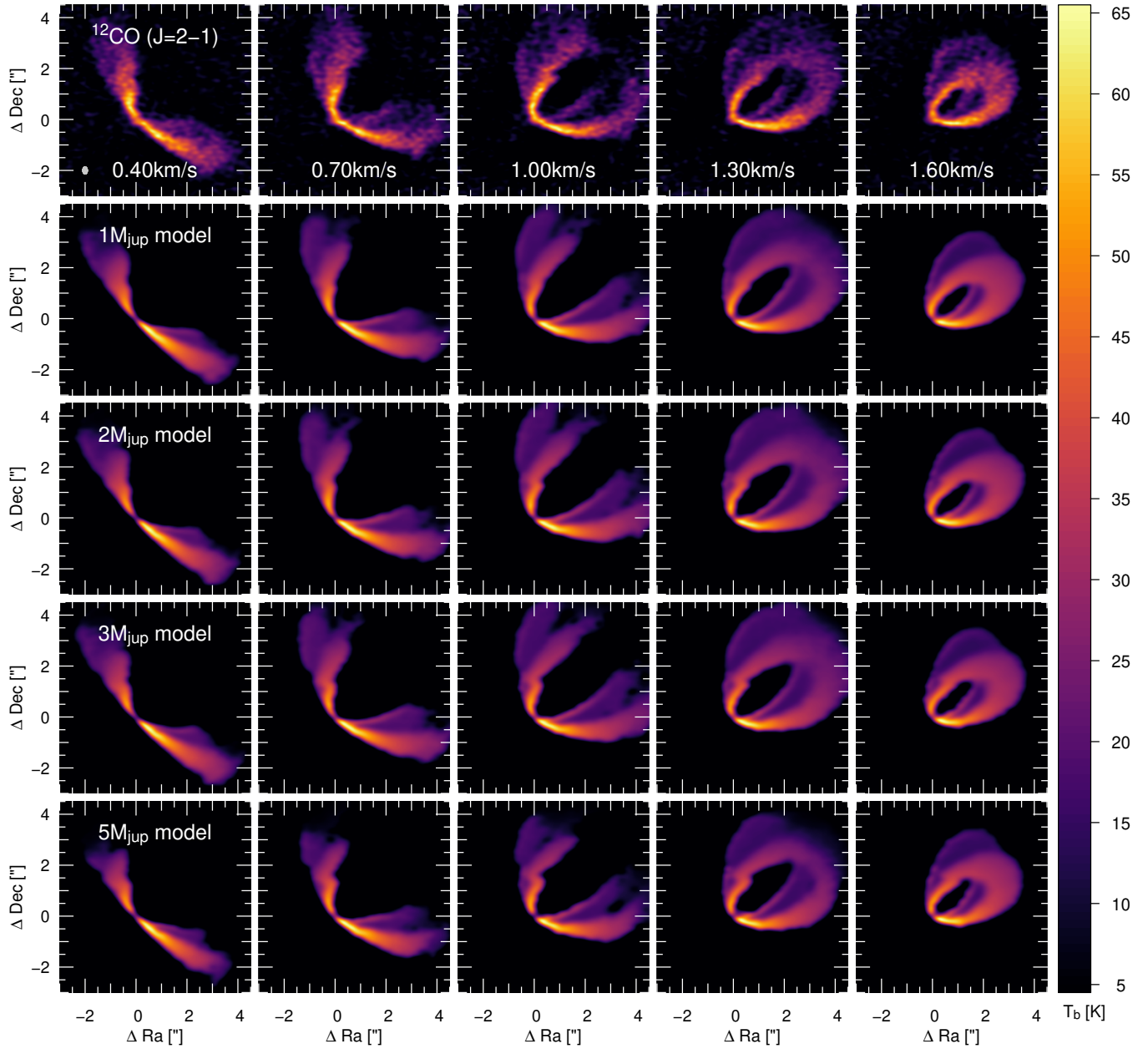
planets suggests the kinematic feature is caused by a planet of  $\approx 2 M_{\text{Jup}}$  in the midplane. Such a planet would be located at a distance of  $\approx 260$  au.

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*Facilities:* ALMA

*Software:* CASA (McMullin et al. 2007), phantom (Price et al. 2017), splash (Price 2007), mcfost (Pinte et al. 2006, 2009)



**Figure 5.** Comparison of  $^{12}\text{CO}$  J=2–1 ALMA observations (top row) with synthetic channel maps from our 3D hydrodynamics calculations with embedded planets of 1, 2, 3 and 5  $M_{\text{Jup}}$  (from top to bottom). Channel width is  $0.1\text{km.s}^{-1}$ . Synthetic maps were convolved to a Gaussian beam to match the spatial resolution of the observations .

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