Young intermediate-mass stars: from a HIFI spectral survey to the physics of the disk inner rim
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1. The hundreds of diverse lines in the HIFI spectrum of OMC-2 FIR 4 reveal the presence of several previously unseen components, including a hot core like center, a compact outflow and a layer of tenuous foreground gas. [Chapters 2, 3 and 4]

2. Some molecules (above all CO, H$_2$O, CH$_3$OH) that dominate line emission from protostellar cores between 500 and 2000 GHz generally contribute similarly to the total flux in different sources, while the emission from others (e.g. SO, SO$_2$) varies dramatically. [Chapter 2]

3. Spectral surveys are living up to the promise of a comprehensive and comparative look at the chemical inventory and the range of physical conditions in protostars, but the main lessons are yet to be learned. [Chapter 2]

4. Emission from high-velocity water and carbon monoxide - detectable thanks to the unique spectrometer, HIFI - suggests that the protostar OMC-2 FIR 4 has a previously unknown compact outflow, with a surprisingly low post-shock gas density of 5x10$^4$ cm$^{-3}$. [Chapter 4]

5. With the quality of modern spectrally and spatially resolved data, protostellar cores cannot anymore be assumed to be spherically symmetric and neatly layered, or at least such models must be interpreted with care. [Chapters 2, 3 and 4]

6. The inner rims of protoplanetary disks have a wide range of radial distances over which continuum optical depth may be built up, depending on the dust surface density, composition and size distribution. [Chapter 5]

7. Great science includes asking good questions, going in depth, getting good data, communicating clearly and questioning oneself. Humans are not naturally good at any of these, and we scientists are more human than we usually assume.

8. The amount our entire civilization invests per year in the direct search for extraterrestrial intelligence, SETI, is only equivalent to hiring one top athlete. This should be increased.

9. Freedom, for a scientist as well as for a society, comes with the responsibility to know and educate oneself, and to make choices and live with them.

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