

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Very Large Telescope Interferometer: Challenges for the Future

A JENAM 2002 Workshop to be held at Porto, Portugal on September 4-7

Sponsored by the European Southern Observatory

The last quarter of a century witnessed the maturing of optical interferometry and associated technologies. The third millennium started with common user facilities achieving first light: the Keck Interferometer, the Very Large Telescope Interferometer (VLTI), and the CHARA array.

The VLTI provides a unique combination of sensitivity and number of baselines therefore opening to the ESO community a mostly unexplored astrophysical territory. The challenge to the community is to make the VLTI a productive science machine.

This workshop will address optical interferometry science. It will start with a presentation of interferometry basics and of the VLTI instrumentation (AMBER/MIDI). Most of the workshop is devoted to the presentation of the current status and future prospects of interferometry science in the fields of exoplanets, stellar parameters and binary stars, young stellar object accretion disks and outflows, imaging stars and their environments, stellar shells, pulsations and mass loss, nuclear regions of AGNs - torus and broad line regions and radio jets, etc. The workshop will end with a look at competing/complementary facilities and a round table discussion on future directions in optical interferometry science and instrumentation.

More details are available at:

<http://www.sp-astronomia.pt/jenam2002/ws-vlti> or contact ws-vlti@sp-astronomia.pt

Workshop Scientific Organizing Committee:

M. Fridlund (ESA), A. Glindeman (ESO), C. Haniff (UK), T. Henning (Germany), F. Malbet (France), D. Queloz (Switzerland), A. Quirrenbach (Netherlands/USA), L. Testi (Italy) and P. Garcia (Portugal).

PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS

International Staff

(1 April – 30 June 2002)

ARRIVALS

EUROPE

BERGOND, Gilles (F), Associate
BÖCKER, Michael (D), Safety Engineer
DIETRICH, Jörg (D), Associate
HAASE, Jonas (DK), Astronomical Data Archive and
Pipeline Software Specialist
HARTUNG, Markus (A), Student
SCHEDL, Iris (A), Secretary

CHILE

DE FIGUEIREDO MELO, Claudio (BR), Fellow
FOELLM, Cédric (CH), Operations Astronomer
SANGASSET, Pierre (F), Mechanical Engineer
SMOKER, Jonathan (GB), Operations Staff Astronomer
WILLIS, Jon (GB), Fellow
ZALTRON, Paolo (I), Associate

DEPARTURES

EUROPE

CABANERO RODRIGUEZ, Susana (E), Student

CRISTIANI, Stefano (I), Instrument Scientist
DARBON GONCALVES, Anabela (P), Fellow
HESS, Joachim (D), Associate
QUEBATTE, Jean (CH), Manager ESO Photolab
TÜLLMANN, Ralph (D), Student

CHILE

KÜRSTER, Martin (D), Astronomer
LAGER, Michael (S), Associate SEST
MADEJSKY, Rainer (D), Associate
PINTE, Christophe (F), Associate

Local Staff

(1 March 2002 – 30 May 2002)

ARRIVALS

ROZAS PAYCHO, Felix Alberto, Maintenance Technician

DEPARTURES

DELGADO BORQUEZ, Francisco, Software Engineer
ROJAS BARRA, Manuel, Telescope Instruments Operator