

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT

ESO Workshop on Minor Bodies in the Outer Solar System

ESO Headquarters, Garching, Germany

November 2–5, 1998

A four-day ESO Workshop on Minor Bodies in the Outer Solar System (ESO MBOSS-98), their orbital and physical characteristics, as well as their origins and inter-relationships will be held at a time when several new observational facilities, including the ESO Very Large Telescope (VLT), are about to enter into operation. With larger collecting areas and equipped with a host of advanced instruments, they have the potential of revolutionising observational studies of these faint objects. An overview of this active research field at this time will therefore provide an important contribution to the efficient planning of these investigations.

This is a hot subject in current solar-system studies. There is an image emerging of interconnections between Jovian Trojans, the Centaurs, the newly found classes of TNO's, comet nuclei, interplanetary dust and the icy moons of outer planets, including Pluto itself. The ESO Workshop will allow observers and theoreticians to get together and to discuss plans for future studies in this rapidly evolving field. The emphasis will be on establishing a comprehensive, overall picture which attempts to describe the formation, evolution and interaction of these components.

The meeting will be held in the ESO main auditorium, and the number of participants is therefore limited to a maximum of approximately 120.

The main topics of the Workshop will be the following:

- Inventory of Minor Bodies in Outer Solar System (overview)
- Outer Solar System reservoirs (Outer Main Belt and Trojans; Centaurs and Interplanetary Rings; TNO's and Edgeworth-Kuiper Belt; Trans-Neptunian Disk and Oort Cloud)
- Orbital dynamics and evolution (High-precision orbital determinations; Resonance trapping; Similarity and diversity of orbital types; Pathways between the reservoirs)
- Physical properties (Size, shape and rotation; Composition and atmospheres)
- Physical interrelationships (Transitional asteroid/comet cases; Interplanetary dust)
- Origin and physical evolution (Theories of planetary formation; Collisional history; Growth and physical evolution)
- Future lines of research (Research possibilities with new generation of very large telescopes; Spacecraft missions; Innovative techniques; Collaboration/coordination)

Scientific Organising Committee:

Rudi Albrecht (ST/ECF, Garching, Germany); Mark Bailey (Armagh Observatory, N. Ireland, UK); Hermann Boehnhardt (ESO, Santiago, Chile); Martin Duncan (Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada); Julio A. Fernandez (Universidad de la Republica, Montevideo, Uruguay); Alan Fitzsimmons (Queen's University, Belfast, N. Ireland, UK; SOC Chair); David Jewitt (Institute of Astronomy, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA); Hans Rickman (Astronomiska Observatoriet, Uppsala, Sweden); Alan Stern (South-West Research Institute, Austin, Texas, USA); Jun-ichi Watanabe (National Observatory, Tokyo, Japan); Richard West (ESO, Garching, Germany; LOC Chair)

More details and a registration form can be found at: <http://www.eso.org/gen-fac/meetings/mboss98/> or contact: rwest@eso.org for more information or one of the SOC members.

1271. P.A. Woudt et al.: Multiwavelength Observations of a Seyfert 1 Galaxy Detected in ACO 3627. *A&A*.
1272. E. Tolstoy et al.: WFPC2 Observations of Leo A: A Predominantly Young Galaxy within the Local Group. *The Astronomical Journal*.
1273. Th. Rivinius et al.: Stellar and Circumstellar Activity of the Be Star μ Cen. II. Multiperiodic Low-Order Line-Profile Variability. *A&A*.

DICHIRICO, Canio (I), Temporary transfer to Paranal
GIORDANO, Paul (F), Temporary transfer to Paranal
DOUBLIER, Vanessa (F), Fellow La Silla
PATAT, Ferdinando (I), Fellow La Silla
MARCO, Olivier (F), Fellow La Silla
VANZI, Leonardo (I), Fellow La Silla
SELMAN, Fernando (RCH), Associate

PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS

International Staff (1 April – 30 June 1998)

ARRIVALS

EUROPE

MØLLER, Palle (DK), User Support Astronomer
TOLSTOY, Eline (NL), Fellow Garching

CHILE

FRANÇOIS, Patrick (F), Astronomer
STERZIK, Michael (D), Astronomer

DEPARTURES

EUROPE

HERLIN, Thomas (DK), Software Engineer
HESS, Matthias (D), Mechanical Engineer
VAN DIJSSELDONK, Anton (NL), Opt. Lab. Technician
KAPER, Lex (NL), Senior Fellow Garching
BÜTTINGHAUS, Ralf (D), Mechanic
CRANE, Philippe (USA), Astronomer/Physicist

CHILE

GREDEL, Roland (D), Astronomer
KRETSCHMER, Gerhard (D), Mechanical Engineer

ESO, the European Southern Observatory, was created in 1962 to . . . establish and operate an astronomical observatory in the southern hemisphere, equipped with powerful instruments, with the aim of furthering and organising collaboration in astronomy . . . It is supported by eight countries: Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland. It operates the La Silla observatory in the Atacama desert, 600 km north of Santiago de Chile, at 2,400 m altitude, where fourteen optical telescopes with diameters up to 3.6 m and a 15-m submillimetre radio telescope (SEST) are now in operation. The 3.5-m New Technology Telescope (NTT) became operational in 1990, and a giant telescope (VLT = Very Large Telescope), consisting of four 8-m telescopes (equivalent aperture = 16 m) is under construction. It is being erected on Paranal, a 2,600 m high mountain in northern Chile, approximately 130 km south of Antofagasta. Eight hundred scientists make proposals each year for the use of the telescopes at La Silla. The ESO Headquarters are located in Garching, near Munich, Germany. It is the scientific, technical and administrative centre of ESO where technical development programmes are carried out to provide the La Silla observatory with the most advanced instruments. There are also extensive facilities which enable the scientists to analyse their data. In Europe ESO employs about 200 international Staff members, Fellows and Associates; at La Silla about 50 and, in addition, 150 local Staff members.

The ESO MESSENGER is published four times a year: normally in March, June, September and December. ESO also publishes Conference Proceedings, Preprints, Technical Notes and other material connected to its activities. Press Releases inform the media about particular events. For further information, contact the ESO Information Service at the following address:

EUROPEAN
SOUTHERN OBSERVATORY
Karl-Schwarzschild-Str. 2
D-85748 Garching bei München
Germany
Tel. (089) 320 06-0
Telex 5-28282-0 eo d
Telefax (089) 3202362
ips@eso.org (internet)
ESO::IPS (decnet)

The ESO Messenger:
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Germany

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Local Staff (1 April – 30 June 1998)

ARRIVALS

RICHARDSON, Felipe (RCH), Software Engineer Developer
RODRIGO, Manuel (RCH), Scientific Instruments Operator/ Night Assistant
MONTEZ, Lucia (RCH), Bilingual Secretary

DEPARTURES:

WENDEROTH, Erich (RCH), Scientific Instruments Operator
TIMMERMANN, Gero (RCH), Electronic

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