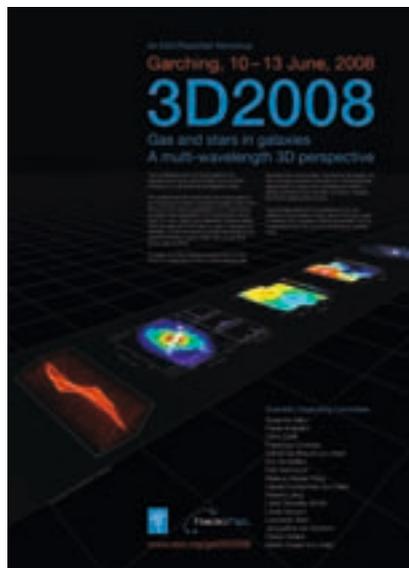


Announcement of the workshop on

Gas and Stars in Galaxies – a Multi-Wavelength 3D Perspective

10–13 June 2008, ESO Headquarters, Garching, Germany



This workshop aims to bring together the optical/near-IR and submm/radio communities working on 3-dimensional extragalactic data. The aim is to have a mainly science-driven conference, centred on both gas and stars in and around galaxies in all stages of their evolution.

The optical/near-IR community now has access to an increasing number of powerful Integral Field Units (IFUs) and the second-generation VLT instruments, as well as the proposed E-ELT instruments, will all have IFU units. Radio and millimetre interferometers have provided 3D information on gas in galaxies for decades. ALMA will – by design – always provide high spatial and spectral resolution data cubes, and so will other future radio facilities.

To foster an active research environment for the future it is important to have a good interchange between the communities. Combining the stellar, hot and cold

gas dynamics provides an unprecedented opportunity to study many processes involved in galaxy formation such as infall, outflows, mergers and AGN-related phenomena.

A secondary goal of this conference is for the different communities to learn about the tools used to analyse and visualise 3-dimensional data, and to understand how they can be combined in the most optimal ways.

We envisage a highly interactive meeting and aim to achieve a balance between the presentation of scientific results based on current technology, and an investigation into the exciting possibilities of future technologies. The workshop is jointly supported by ESO and RadioNet.

For registration and more information, please visit:
<http://www.eso.org/gal3D2008>.
The registration deadline is 1 March 2008.

Announcement of

ONTHEFRINGE: the Very Large Telescope Interferometer Training Schools

Astrometry and Imaging with the Very Large Telescope Interferometer, 2–13 June 2008, Keszthely, Hungary

Optical interferometry is a new technology enabling observations with an angular resolution an order of magnitude larger than that of the largest single telescopes available at visible and infrared wavelengths. Europe has achieved world leadership with the ESO Very Large Telescope Interferometer (VLTI). This science machine will play a central role in understanding the life cycles of stars in the Milky Way, in the discovery and characterisation of planets orbiting stars in the Solar Neighbourhood, and the understanding of the energy conversion mechanisms in Active Galactic Nuclei (AGN).

ONTHEFRINGE is a set of four schools on optical interferometry and related science financed by the Marie Curie programme. The goal of the schools is to train young astronomers in the use of the

VLTI, therefore optimising the scientific return of the VLTI investment. Two of the schools are on data reduction. The other two deal with scientific topics where the VLTI will bring significant advancements – circumstellar disks/planets and active galactic nuclei.

Three of the schools have already taken place and were very much enjoyed by both students and lecturers! It is now the last chance to be part of one of these stimulating schools. This final school themes are astrometry, imaging and on the exciting science made available by PRIMA. The goals of these schools are to train proficient VLTI users by: (a) teaching interferometry basics in order to prepare successful observational proposals for the VLTI; (b) providing practical ses-

sions on data reduction; (c) presenting advanced techniques, such as astrometry and imaging, with a hands-on approach.

“In addition” all schools have a complementary skills pack dealing with: (a) presentation skills; (b) topics in scientific written communication; (c) professional ethics; (d) career development; and (e) opportunities in FP7 for young researchers.

The schools are open only to 50 students, the vast majority having their participation (travel and living) fully financed by the Marie Curie programme.

For further information, including application deadlines and procedures, refer to the ONTHEFRINGE site at <http://www.vlti.org>.