LES HOUCHES

centre de physique

EUROWINTER SCHOOL

Observing with the Very Large Telescope Interferometer

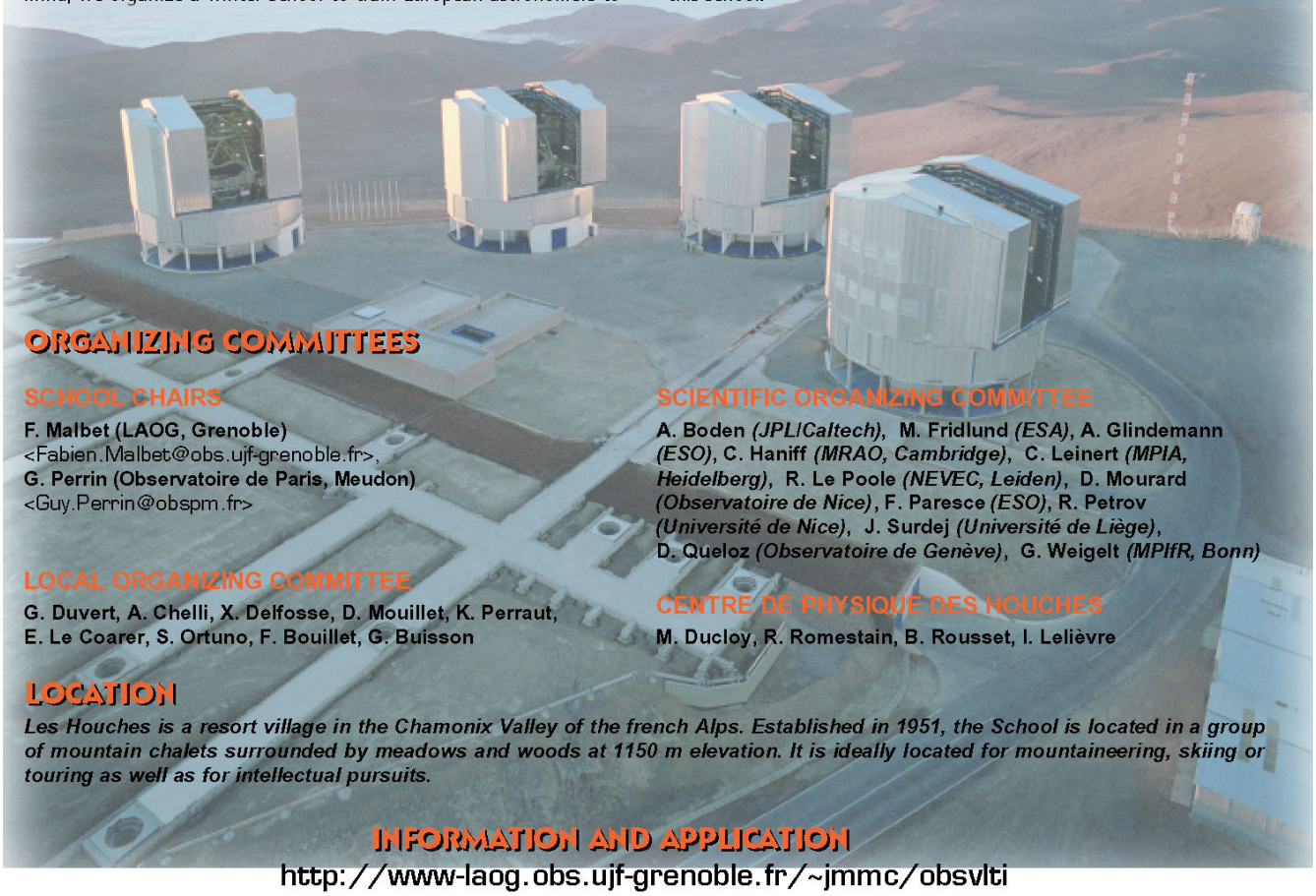
3-8 FEBRUARY 2002

The European Southern Observatory (ESO) in collaboration with European institutes will start operating the Very Large Telescope Interferometer (VLTI) in 2003. Two scientific instruments, AMBER in the near-infrared and MIDI in the thermal infrared, will be offered to the European community.

The expected performances of the VLTI and its instruments will be unique in terms of flux sensitivity and angular resolution, because of the large collecting area of the 8-m and 1.8-m telescopes and multiple baselines up to 200 meters. However the scientific outcome will be at the same level as the VLTI performance only if astronomers get prepared to interferometric observations. With this objective in mind, we organize a winter school to train European astronomers to the optimal use of the VLTI and to the preparation of the first observations.

The objective of the school is focused on practical exercizes. The curriculum of the school consists in general lectures for 30% of the time, practical training for 50% of it and informal seminars for the remaining time. The school is opened to a maximum of 50 participants from any country and any nationality.

The financial support from the European Union together with other sponsors will allow us to cover the most of the costs of the school (housing and travel) for all European participants. This financial aspect should prevent any student or scientist from not taking part to this school.



ORGANIZING COMMITTEES

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CENTRE DE PHYSIQUE DES HOUCHES

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LOCATION

Les Houches is a resort village in the Chamonix Valley of the french Alps. Established in 1951, the School is located in a group of mountain chalets surrounded by meadows and woods at 1150 m elevation. It is ideally located for mountaineering, skiing or touring as well as for intellectual pursuits.

INFORMATION AND APPLICATION

http://www-laog.obs.ujf-grenoble.fr/~jmmc/obsvlti

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