

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

ESO Workshop on Science with Adaptive Optics

ESO Headquarters, Garching near Munich, September 16–19, 2003

Over the past ten years, the concept of adaptive optics has matured from early experimental stages to a standard observing tool now available at many large optical and near-infrared telescope facilities. Indeed, adaptive optics has become an integral part of all present and future large telescope initiatives, and will be essential in exploiting the full potential of the large optical interferometers currently under construction. Adaptive optics has been identified as one of the key technologies for astronomy in the 21st century.

Adaptive optics has already delivered exciting results covering areas from solar-system astronomy (both the sun and the planetary system) over the star-forming regions in the solar neighbourhood to Local Group galaxies and objects at cosmological distances.

Recent highlights include:

- Evolution of small-scale structures on the solar surface
- Discovery of binary asteroids and asteroids moons
- High-resolution studies of circumstellar disks around young stars
- Precise mass determination of the black hole in the Galactic Centre
- Spatially resolved studies of extragalactic stellar populations

The present meeting intends to bring together users of adaptive optics from all fields of astronomy to discuss the latest scientific results obtained with diverse adaptive optics systems and to exchange ideas on how to reduce and analyse such observations.

This ESO workshop aims also at educating the general astronomical community in Europe on the unique science potential of adaptive optics for all branches of astronomy. We want to bring together researchers working in many different areas of astronomy in order to provide a comprehensive picture of the utilization of adaptive optics in astronomy. Synergy effects are expected from the comparison of different observing and data analysis strategies.

Co-chairs: Wolfgang Brandner (MPIA), Markus Kasper (ESO)

Scientific Organizing Committee:

Danielle Alloin (ESO), Laird Close (Steward Obs., Tucson, USA), Tim Davidge (Herzberg Inst., Victoria, Canada), Reinhard Genzel (MPE, Germany), Thomas Henning (MPIA, Germany), Christoph Keller (NSO Tucson, USA), Anne-Marie Lagrange (LAOG, France), Simon Morris (Durham, UK), Francois Rigaut (Gemini, USA), Daniel Rouan (Obs. de Paris, France), Hans Zinnecker (AIP, Germany)

For more details and registration, see <http://www.eso.org/aoscience03>

Symposium Secretary: Christina Stoffer

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PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS

International Staff

(1 January – 28 February 2003)

ARRIVALS

EUROPE

ALBERTSEN, Maja (DK), Student
ANDOLFATO, Luigi (I), VLT Software Engineer
BRAUD, Jérémy (F), Associate
FRAHM, Robert (D), VLT Software Engineer
KASPER, Markus (D), Adaptive Optics Instrument Scientist
LIMA, Jorge (P), Associate
NEVES, Antonio (P/GB), European Project Manager ALMA
NORMAN, Colin (AUS), Associate
PASQUATO, Moreno (I), ALMA Software Integrator
PERCHERON, Isabelle (F), Astronomical Data Quality Control Scientist
POPOVIC, Dan (AUS), Software Engineer
RABIEN, Sebastian (D), Associate

CHILE

CASQUILHO FARIA, Daniel (S), Student
GAVIGNAUD, Isabelle (F), Student
SBORDONE, Luca (I), Student

DEPARTURES

EUROPE

DEMARCO, Ricardo (RCH), Student
FRIEDRICH, Yawo (D), Associate
GORSKI, Krzysztof (PL), Archive Astronomer
PIERFEDERICI, Francesco (I), Paid Associate
TEIXERA, Rui (P), Trainee
VAN BOEKEL, Roy (NL), Student

CHILE

SCHÜTZ, Oliver (D), Student
SLUSE, Dominique (B), Student