

The ESO Workshop on Infrared Astronomy

About 60 astronomers attended the workshop on IR astronomy jointly organized by the Stockholm Observatory and ESO on the island of Utö on June 20–22, 1978. The number of participants, significantly larger than originally planned, was in itself a sign of the increasing interest among the European astronomers in the scientific and observational aspects of ground-based IR astronomy.

The first day was devoted to the presentation of a number of review talks on the contribution of infrared observations to the understanding of various astrophysical problems in the fields of extragalactic, galactic and solar-system astronomy.

The instrumental techniques were the topic of the second day, integrated by communications by European

groups active in the field and by reports on various projects for airborne and ground-based facilities for IR astronomy.

An extended discussion on which should be the priorities for ESO in the development of infrared instrumentation for the observatory at La Silla took place in the morning of the last day.

Among the numerous suggestions and proposals, two obtained wider support: the first was that of concentrating the effort on intermediate-resolution spectroscopy after completion of the presently developed IR spectrophotometers, and the second was to modify for optimal IR performances, in addition to the 3.6 m telescope, also a telescope of smaller size to be used in the infrared for a prevailing fraction of time.

Piero Salinari

The ESO Measuring Machines in Geneva

The ESO S-3000 plate-scanner and Grant machine are now fully operational and are available for use by visiting astronomers for the reduction of direct plates and photographic spectra.

The S-3000 microdensitometer can accommodate plates up to 14 x 14 inches in suitable plate-holders and much larger plates taped on top of the stage. The accuracy of this machine is better than one micron for positional work and comparable to that of a PDS machine for density measurements up to 3.0 D. The data are stored on magnetic tapes and can be processed with the ESO Interactive Image Processing Package (cf. *Messenger* No. 10, p. 16).

The ESO computer-controlled Grant machine can be used either in the conventional mode for manual measurements of radial velocities or as a one-dimensional microdensitometer for scanning of photographic spectra which can be reduced with the Image Processing Package mentioned above.

For further information and in order to apply for time on these machines, please write to Jorge Melnick, ESO c/o CERN, CH-1211 Geneva 23, Switzerland, specifying the dates when you wish to use a given machine and enclose a short description of the proposed measurement programme.

ESO Astronomer Honoured!

The following announcement can be read in *Minor Planet Circular* No. 4358, which was published by the Center in Cincinnati on April 30, 1978:

New name of minor planet

(2018) SCHUSTER = 1931 UC

Discovered 1931 Oct. 17 by K. Reinmuth at Heidelberg.

Named in honour of Hans-Emil Schuster, astronomer at the European Southern Observatory, who is active as an observer and discoverer of minor planets and comets.

PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS

(A) Staff

ARRIVALS

Garching

Ursula LIESE (German), shorthand-typist (telephone and telex operations), 1.11.1978

Geneva

Peter SCHABEL (Austrian), senior electronics engineer,

1.9.1978

Alan F. M. MOORWOOD (British), infrared astronomer, 1.10.1978

La Silla

Patrick HALLEGUEN (French), electronics technician, 1.8.1978

Günter G. SCHUBA (German), electronics technician, 1.11.1978

DEPARTURES

Geneva

Norbert RODGERS (British), administrative officer, 31.8.1978

Susan KAY (British), secretary, 31.8.1978

Peter SCHARNWEBER (German), electronics engineer, 31.8.1978

Dietmar PLATHNER (German), mechanical engineer, 31.8.1978

Bernard PILLET (French), laboratory assistant (photography), 15.9.1978

La Silla

Christopher SMITH (Canadian), resident astronomer, 15.9.1978

(B) Paid Associates – Fellows – Coopérants

ARRIVALS

Geneva (Scientific Group)

Peter A. SHAVER (Canadian), paid associate, 1.9.1978

Danielle M. ALLOIN (French), fellow, September 1978

Guillermo TENORIO-TAGLE (Mexican), fellow, 14.9.1978

Hans R. DE RUITER (Dutch), fellow, 1.10.1978

Eduardus J. ZUIDERWIJK (Dutch), fellow, 1.10.1978

Per Olof LINDBLAD (Swedish), paid associate, 1.11.1978

La Silla

Holger PEDERSEN (Danish), paid associate, 1.9.1978

Christian PERRIER (French), coopérant, October 1978

DEPARTURES

Geneva (Scientific Group)

Jean MANFROID (Belgian), fellow, 30.9.1978

Irena J. SEMENIUK (Polish), paid associate, 30.9.1978

Marco SALVATI (Italian), paid associate, 7.8.1978

Svend LAUSTSEN (Danish), scientific associate, 4.7.1978

Franco PACINI (Italian), paid associate, 31.10.1978