

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 organizing collaboration in astronomy . . . It is supported by eight countries: Belgium, Denmark, France, the Federal Republic of 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 thirteen optical telescopes with diameters up to 3.6 m and a 15-m submillimetre radio telescope (SEST) are now in operation. A 3.5-m New Technology Telescope (NTT) will become operational in late 1988 and a giant telescope (VLT=Very Large Telescope), consisting of four 8-m telescopes (equivalent aperture = 16 m) is under construction. 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, FRG. 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 analyze their data. In Europe ESO employs about 150 international Staff members, Fellows and Associates; at La Silla about 40 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:

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New ESO Publications

The Proceedings of the NOAO-ESO Conference on

High-Resolution Imaging by Interferometry – Ground-Based Interferometry at Visible and Infrared Wavelengths

held from 15 to 18 March 1988, are now in the printing press and will be available by the end of September.

The Proceedings, which are divided in two volumes, contain a total of 1143 pages and are sold at a price of DM 95.—. This price includes packing and postage (surface mail) and has to be prepaid.

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Please do not forget to indicate your full address and the title of the Proceedings.

The Proceedings of the ESO Conference on

Very Large Telescopes and Their Instrumentation

(21–25 March 1988)

are now being edited and it is expected that they will be available at the end of October. They will also be published in two volumes and may be obtained at the same price and the same conditions as the above-mentioned Proceedings.

Los editores sienten comunicar que debido a algunas noticias de último minuto el texto en español ha sido postergado para el próximo número.

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