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The address is: Prof. Dr. D.B. Herrmann, Archenhold-Sternwarte, Alt-Treptow 1, DDR-1193 Berlin, German Democratic Republic. They will be happy to hear from you. *The editor*

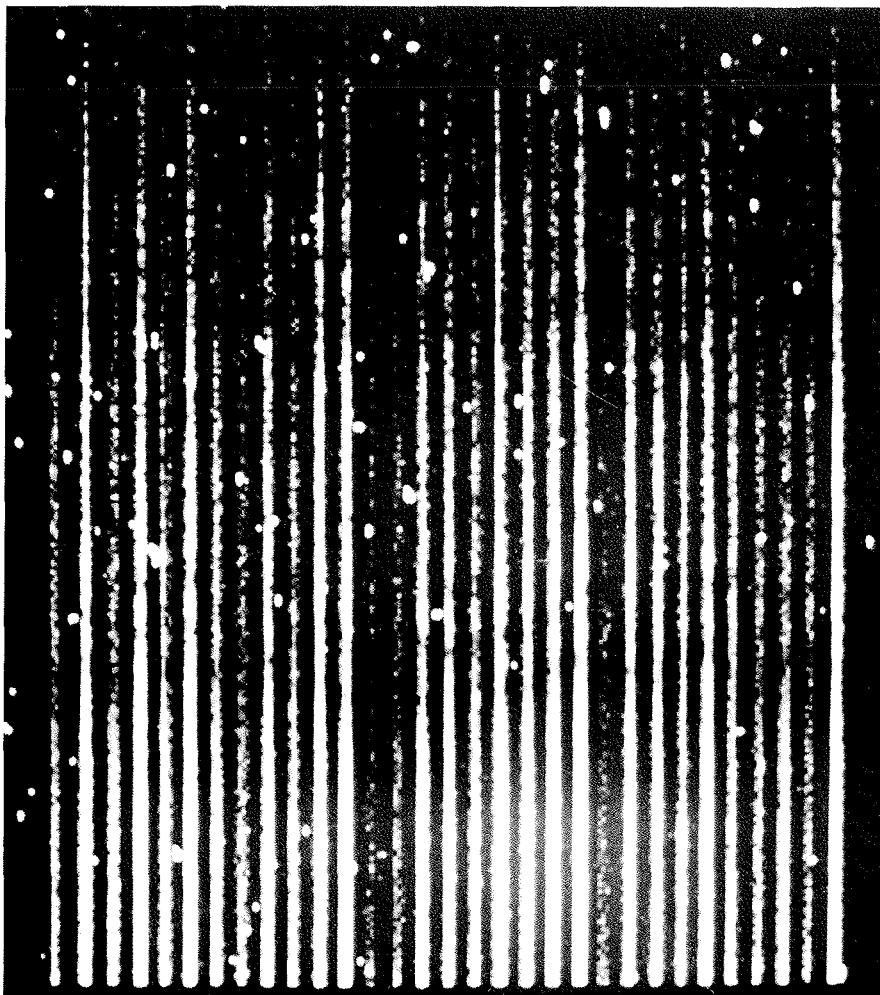
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## Jacques Beckers Elected to Dutch and Norwegian Academies

On August 28, Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands confirmed the election of ESO staff member Jacques Beckers as "Correspondent" of the Division for Sciences of the Royal Academy of Sciences of the Netherlands. Corresponding members are researchers with a degree from a university in the Netherlands, residing abroad.

Jacques Beckers, who joined ESO in 1988 to become Head of the Interferometry Group, also became a foreign member of the Mathematics-Physics Sciences Division of the Norwegian Academy of Sciences last year.

Our best congratulations to Jacques at the time of these well-deserved honours!



### The Efficiency of OPTOPUS

This is part of an OPTOPUS frame resulting from an exposure of galaxies in the cluster Abell 3158, as obtained during the first run (in September 1989) of the ESO Key Programme on "Structure and Dynamics of Rich Clusters of Galaxies".

Note that only the blue parts of the 31 spectra (of 28 galaxies and 3 "skies") are shown in this picture, which covers the wavelength range from  $\sim 383$  nm (top) to  $\sim 440$  nm (bottom). The bluest CaII doublet (about one third of the way down) is from sky; the redder CaII doublet (about two thirds of the way down) is from the galaxies, and visually displays the dispersion of the radial velocities of the galaxies in the cluster.

In total, 37 exposures were obtained during the run, which yielded a total of about 1000 galaxy spectra. *P. Katgert (Leiden)*

## An Accurate Wavelength Calibration of CCD CASPEC Echelle Spectra

*H. HENSBERGE<sup>1</sup>, W. VERSCHUEREN<sup>2</sup>*

<sup>1</sup>*Koninklijke Sterrenwacht van België, Brussels, Belgium*

<sup>2</sup>*Theoretical Mechanics and Astrophysics, University of Antwerp (RUCA), Belgium*

### Introduction

In December 1986 and January 1988 we obtained with CASPEC at the 3.6-m telescope spectra of early-type member stars of the young stellar cluster NGC 2244 with the main purpose of deter-

mining accurate radial velocities. We focused our attention on the blue wavelength region (3700–4700 Å) and used CCD # 3 in combination with the 52 l/mm echelle grating.

For the study of the internal kinema-

tics of the cluster and dealing with relatively few lines in early-type stars, it is evidently of primary interest to achieve high precision in the wavelength calibration, particularly avoiding systematic errors with wavelength. Th-Ar calibra-