

Hofstadt about removing the direct imaging facility at the 2.2-m. It is obvious that a larger involvement of the community of users in these decisions must be ensured. The importance of playing a leading role in large-scale digitized surveys of the sky was emphasized, to avoid to be confined to a secondary place as may have happened with the ESO Schmidt compared to the UK Schmidt. The DG replied that in this respect the scientific pressure of the ESO astronomers will be the driving factor.

B. Fort suggested that some work on the upgrading of the instruments could be carried out by institutes in Europe. This received a positive echo by the Director General, who explained that the examples of MEFOS and TIMMI are illustrative in this sense and that the

main limitations from the ESO side are related to manpower rather than to money. A general consensus was expressed about the importance of transmitting the experience gained in the VLT design to La Silla and to ensure a strong coupling of this project with the La Silla management. The VLT standards will become the La Silla standards: ethernet, VME, UNIX, MIDAS, VxWorks. The people of the VLT project will spend a considerable fraction of their time in Chile: having many short duty trips would simply not work in the case of the VLT, and this will allow the interchange of precious experience.

Finally, concerns were expressed about the future of MIDAS, the standard image-processing system at the telescopes in the VLT era. As remarked also

in the Users Committee last May, although there is a general satisfaction with its improvements, the progress of MIDAS is considered slow compared to IRAF. This fact together with the improvement of reduction facilities at the home institutes, is the probable cause of the decrease in the number of astronomers coming to Garching to use the ESO facilities. The Director General explained that it is not ESO's intention to compete with the much larger manpower available for the development of IRAF/STSDAS. MIDAS will be offered as built-in-house software for off-line reductions of data acquired with ESO telescopes and, with the same core, but with different and more user-friendly interfaces, as data acquisition software. MIDAS is coming into La Silla telescopes' control rooms!

This was more or less the point reached when the round table had to cede to an incipient clear observing night. I hope that the reader could get from this incomplete report enough material to answer the primitive question indicated by the title of this contribution.

Visiting Astronomers

(October 1, 1991 – April 1, 1992)

Observing time has now been allocated for Period 48 (October 1, 1991 – April 1, 1992). As usual, the demand for telescope time was much greater than the time actually available.

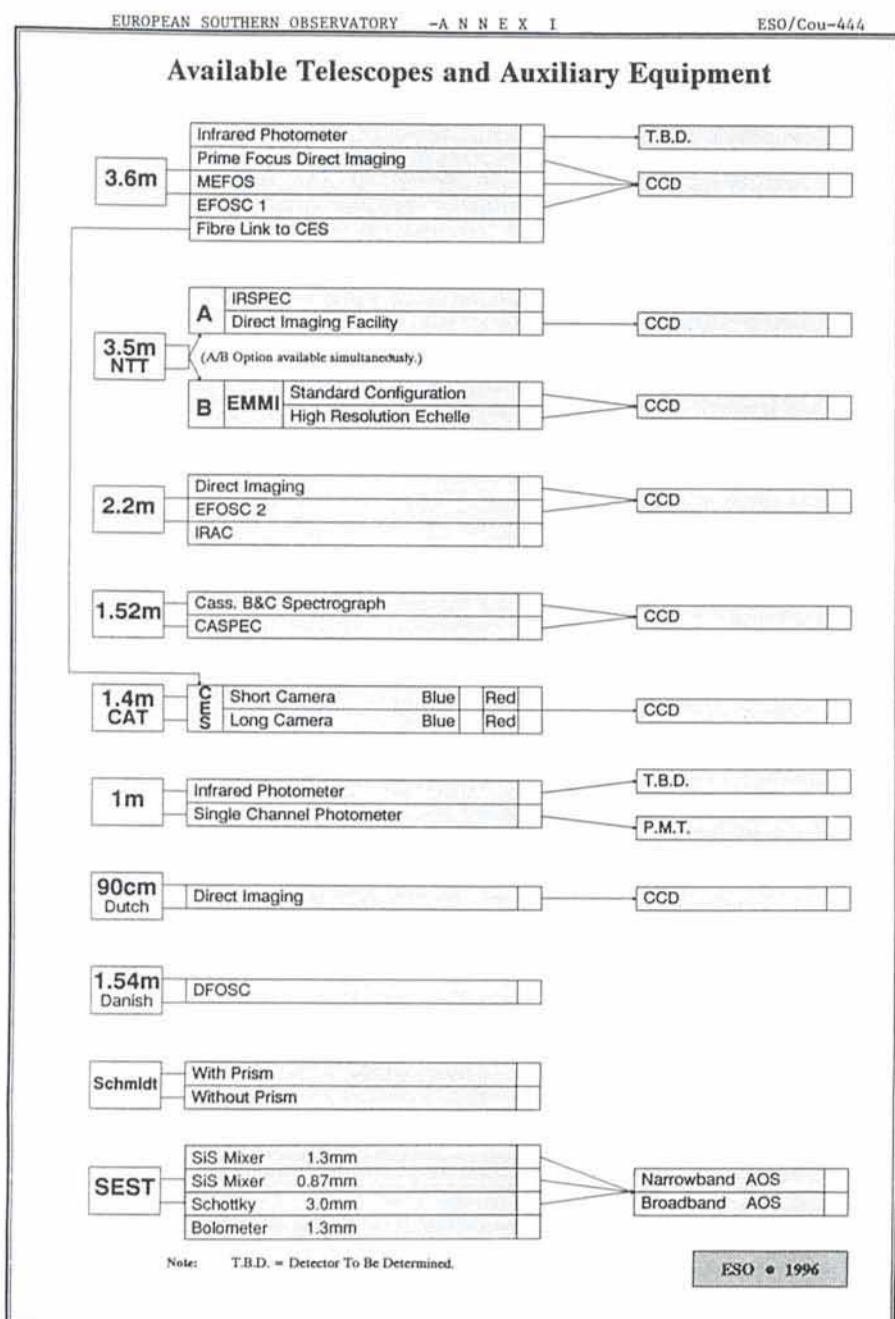
The following list gives the names of the visiting astronomers, by telescope and in chronological order. The complete list, with dates, equipment and programme titles, is available from ESO-Garching.

3.6-m Telescope

Oct. 1991: Mazure et al. (1-014-43K), La Franca/Hawkins/Véron/Andreani, Vettolani et al. (1-019-47K), Crane/Mandolesi/Palazzi/Wampler, Spite F./Spite M./François, Lennon/Kudritzki/Groth/Gabler, Groth/Kudritzki/Lennon/Humphreys, Testor/Schild.

Nov. 1991: Macchetto/Turnshek/Sparks, Danziger et al. (6-003-45K), Shaver/Böhlinger/Ebeling, Miley et al. (2-001-43K), Warren/lovino/Shaver, Warren/Hewett, Courvoisier/Bouchet/Blecha/Orr/Valtaoja, Danziger/Bouchet/Gouiffes/Lucy/Fransson/Mazzali/Della Valle, Habing et al. (7-008-47K), Gouiffes/Ögelman/Augusteijn Chincarani/Buzzoni/Molinari/Cavanna.

Dec. 1991: Soucaill/D'Odorico/Fort/Altieri/Mellier, Lorenz H./Mücket/Müller/Doroshkevich, Giraud/Ellis/Infante/Nottale, Marano/Cimatti/Mignoli/Zitelli/Zamorani, Moller/Warren, Dennefeld/Bertin/Boulangier/Moshir, De Boer et al. (3-003-43K) – Wolf, Gratton, De Boer et al. (3-003-43K) – Molaro, Anton/Seifert.



Jan. 1992: Beuermann/Trümper/Thomas/Reinsch/Simon, De Boer et al. (3-003-43K), Azzopardi, Hensberge et al. (5-005-45K), Schwarz, Hünsch/Reimers/Toussaint, Habing et al. (7-008-47K), Courvoisier/Bouchet/Blecha/Orr/Valtaoja, Danziger/Bouchet/Gouiffes/Lucy/Fransson/Mazzali/Della Valle, Gouiffes/Ögelman/Augustejn, Balkowski/Kraan-Korteweg/Cayatte.

Feb. 1992: Rasmussen PK/Jørgensen I/Franx, Turatto et al. (4-004-45K), Danziger et al. (6-003-45K), Wisotzki/Groote/Reimers, Hamann/Wessolowski/Koesterke, Reimers et al. (2-009-45K), Reimers et al. (2-009-45K), Caulet/Danks/Woodgate, Böhringer/Ebeling/Pierre/Voges/Horstmann/Schuecker/Seitter/Cruddace/Kowalski/Walling/Collins.

March 1992: Böhringer/Ebeling/Pierre/Voges/Horstmann/Schuecker/Seitter/Cruddace/Kowalski/Walling/Collins, Danziger et al. (6-003-45K), Vigroux/Vader, Hes/Fosbury/Barthel, Gouiffes/Ögelman/Augustejn, Molero/Bonifacio/Castelli/Pasquini, Mundt/Eislöffel/Neckel, Habing et al. (7-008-47K), Courvoisier/Bouchet/Blecha/Orr/Valtaoja, Danziger/Bouchet/Gouiffes/Lucy/Fransson/Mazzali/Della Valle, Boulesteix/Coradi/Aram/Le Coarer.

3.5-m NTT

Oct. 1991: Azzopardi/Breysacher/Lequeux, Bergvall/Rönningback, Gilmozzi/Griffiths/Danziger/Tolstoy, Saglia/Colless/Dunn, Danziger/Bouchet/Gouiffes/Lucy/Fransson/Mazzali/Della Valle, West/Hainaut/Marsden/Smette, Habing et al. (7-008-47K), Käuffl/Rosa/Viegas, De Boer et al. (3-003-43K) - Spite, Dubath/Mayor/Queloz.

Nov. 1991: Danziger/Bouchet/Gouiffes/Lucy/Fransson/Mazzali/Della Valle, West/Hainaut/Marsden/Smette, De Lapparent et al. (1-003-43K), Giallongo/Buson/Cristiani/Trevese, Bignami et al. (6-002-45K), Miley et al. (2-001-43K), Surdej et al. (2-003-43K), Butcher/van Rossum, Andersen M.I./Andersen J./Jørgensen U.G., Nieto/Fraix-Burnet/Poulain/Bender/Surma, Danziger/Bouchet/Gouiffes/Lucy/Fransson/Mazzali/Della Valle, West/Hainaut/Marsden/Smette.

Dec. 1991: Held/Mould, Tarengi/D'Odorico/Wampler/Peterson/Yoshii/Silk, Møller/Shaver/Warren/Hes/Padovani, De Boer et al. (3-003-43K) - Dennefeld, Miley/Griffiths/Tolstoy, Danziger/Bouchet/Gouiffes/Lucy/Fransson/Mazzali/Della Valle, De Boer et al. (3-003-43K) - Dennefeld, Lagrange-Henri/Beust/Beuzit/Deleuil/Gry/Ferlet/Vidal-Madjar, Heydari-Malayeri, Cappellaro/Capaccioli/Held/Ferrario.

Jan. 1992: Cappellaro/Capaccioli/Held/Ferrario, Fort et al. (1-015-45K), Reipurth, Surdej et al. (2-003-43K), Danziger/Bouchet/Gouiffes/Lucy/Fransson/Mazzali/Della Valle, Danziger/Moorwood/Oliva, Werner/Dreizler/Heber/Hunger/Rausch, Schönberner/Napitzki/Jordan.

Feb. 1992: Schwarz/Corradi/Sahai, Danziger/Bouchet/Gouiffes/Lucy/Fransson/Mazzali/Della Valle, Tammann et al. (1-022-47K), Bergeron et al. (1-012-43K) Wampler et al. (2-010-45K), Hamann/Wessolowski/Koesterke, Danziger/Bouchet/Gouiffes/Lucy/Fransson/

New Central Computer Facilities at ESO

The central computer facility at ESO Headquarters, a cluster of two VAX 8600 systems running the VAX/VMS operating system, will be replaced in the fall of 1991. After extensive benchmarking and evaluations of a wide range of UNIX systems, ESO has purchased two Solbourne 5E/802i machines, 40 MHz SPARC technology, running the UNIX operating system. They are compatible with SUN systems and offer a symmetric multiprocessor architecture with high I/O-bandwidth. The machines were purchased from Kontron, Echting near Munich.

In the course of September the machines will be made operational, whereas at the same time the support of both VAX 8600 machines will be scaled down with an anticipated removal in early November. Two VAX 3100 servers will be purchased to ensure a minimum VAX/VMS support for the user community. However, they will not be available for major computational tasks. Visitors who intend to use ESO computing facilities for data reduction and analysis are advised to discuss this issue with the Visiting Astronomers Section when they reserve time.

ESO can be contacted through electronic mail using either one of the following host names on the networks, EARN: DGAESO51, SPAN: ESO, EUNET: eso.uucp, and Internet: eso.org. The VAX/VMS dependent PSI-mail will be discontinued. For E-mail purposes, default account names consisting of the first initial and the last name (truncated to 8 characters) will be normally available. It will still be possible to get interactive access through either modem (300/1200/2400 baud), X.25, Internet or SPAN.

Mazzali/Della Valle, Møller/Shaver/Warren/Hes/Padovani, Tammann et al. (1-022-47K), Peterson/D'Odorico/Tarengi/Wampler/Yoshii/Silk.

March 1992: Peterson/D'Odorico/Tarengi/Wampler/Yoshii/Silk, Surdej et al. (2-003-43K), Carollo/Danziger, Danziger/Bouchet/Gouiffes/Lucy/Fransson/Mazzali/Della Valle, Turatto et al. (4-004-45K), Tammann et al. (1-022-47K), Habing et al. (7-008-47K), Fosbury/Moorwood/Oliva/Tsvetanov/Hes, Lagerkvist/Williams/Dahlgren/Fitzsimmons/Magnusson, Smette/Surdej/Shaver/Foltz, Danziger/Bouchet/Gouiffes/Lucy/Fransson/Mazzali/Della Valle.

2.2-m Telescope

Oct. 1991: Westerlund/Azzopardi/Rebeiro/Breysacher, Breysacher/Azzopardi/Lequeux/Stasinska/Westerlund, Turatto et al. (4-004-45K), Jarvis/Sackett, Barbieri et al. (2-007-43K), Vidal-Madjar/Arlot/Beust/Colas/Deleuil/Ferlet/Gry/Lagrange-Henri/Sevre, Cristiani/Miller/Goldschmidt.

Nov. 1991: Courvoisier/Blecha/Bouchet/Maraschi/Wagner, Meylan/Dubath/Mayor, Miley et al. (2-001-43K), Courvoisier/Blecha/Bouchet/Maraschi/Wagner, Surdej et al. (2-003-43K), Courvoisier/Blecha/Bouchet/Maraschi/Wagner, Courvoisier/Blecha/Bouchet/Maraschi/Wagner, Boisson/Joly/Moorwood/Oliva/Ward, Courvoisier/Blecha/Bouchet/Maraschi/Wagner, Courvoisier/Blecha/Bouchet/Maraschi/Wagner, Courvoisier/Blecha/Bouchet/Maraschi/Wagner, De Boer et al. (3-003-43K) - Koornneef, Andersen M.I./Andersen J./Jørgensen U.G., Habing et al. (7-008-47K), Courvoisier/Bouchet/Blecha/Orr/Valtaoja, Piotto/Capaccioli/Ortolani, Courvoisier/Blecha/Bouchet/Maraschi/Wagner, Courvoisier/Blecha/Bouchet/Maraschi/Wagner.

Dec. 1991: Courvoisier/Blecha/Bouchet/Maraschi/Wagner, Turatto et al. (4-004-45K), Bertola/Rix/Zeilinger, Zeilinger/Bertola, Den-

nefeld/Bertin/Boulanger/Moshir, Chiosi/Bertelli/Bressan/Ortolani/Vallenari, De Boer et al. (3-003-43K) Seggewiss, MPI TIME.

Jan. 1992: MPI TIME, Courvoisier/Bouchet/Blecha/Orr/Valtaoja, Habing et al. (7-008-47K), Waelkens/Van Winckel, Persi/Tapia/Roth/Origlia/Ferrari-Toniolo, Lin Yun/Clemens/Santos, Lin Yun/Clemens/Santos, Waelkens/Van Winckel, Turatto et al. (4-004-45K).

Feb. 1992: Danziger et al. (6-003-45K), Bertola et al. (1-008-43K), Jarvis/Sackett, Reimers et al. (2-009-45K), Courvoisier/Bouchet/Blecha/Orr/Valtaoja, Caulet/Käuffl, Courvoisier/Bouchet/Blecha/Orr/Valtaoja, Sabbadin/Cappellaro/Turatto/Benetti/Salvadori, Surdej et al. (2-003-43K).

March 1992: Capaccioli/Piotto/Corradi, Infante/Melnick/Lucey/Terlevich/Lahav/Lyn-den-Bell, Capaccioli/Piotto/Corradi, Carollo/Danziger, Covino/Palazzi/Penprase/Schwarz/Terranegra, Cox/Moneti/Bronfman/Deharveng, Courvoisier/Bouchet/Blecha/Orr/Valtaoja, Habing et al. (7-008-47K), Fosbury/Di Serego Alighieri/Prasad/Tadhunter, Spaenhauer/Labhardt, Turatto et al. (4-004-45K).

1.5-m Spectrographic Telescope

Oct. 1991: Danziger/Matteucci/Zeilinger/Carollo/Buson, Bertola/Amico/Zeilinger, Barbieri et al. (2-007-43K), Goudfrooij/De Jong T./Jørgensen H.E./Nørgaard-Nielsen/Hansen/van den Hoek, Testor, Ramella/Da Costa/Focardi/Geller/Nonino.

Nov. 1991: Ramella/Da Costa/Focardi/Geller/Nonino, Testor, Caon/Capaccioli/Ferrario, Gerbaldi et al. (5-004-43K), Danziger et al. (6-003-45K).

Dec. 1991: Bianchini/Della Valle/Ögelman/Orio/Bianchi, Dejonghe/Zeilinger, Rampazzo/Prugnelli/Sulentico/Bica, De Ruiter/Lub, Schöneich/Zelwanowa/Khokhlova, Courvoisier/Bouchet/Blecha, Beuermann/Trümper/Thomas/Reinsch/Simon.