In the end, ESO made mistakes during the Period 58–60 NTT service observing programme, but we also learned many valuable lessons. VLT science operations will benefit significantly from this initial prototype programme.

In the next article of this series, the OB creation process will be discussed.

8. Acknowledgements

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References


SOFI Infrared Images of the ‘NTT Deep Field’

Deep infrared J (1.25 µm) and Ks (2.16 µm) band images of a 5 x 5 arcmin field centred on 12° 05′ 26″ − 07 43 27 (J2000) obtained during the commissioning of SOFI (Moorwood, Cuby and Lidman, 1998, The Messenger, 91, 9) at the NTT in March 1998 will be made available via the Web (under Science Activities on ESO’s Homepage) in early June. The Ks image is shown here in Figure 1. This field contains the smaller region observed with SUSI (D’Odorico, 1997, The Messenger, 90, 1) for which visible images are already available on the Web. The infrared images have been constructed from jittered observations totalling 4.3 hours in J and 10.4 hours in Ks and have an average point source FWHM of about 0.75 arcsec. Limiting magnitudes (3σ within a 1.5 arcsec diameter aperture) are J = 24.66 and Ks = 22.87. Full details of the observations and data reduction will be put on the Web together with instructions for retrieving the images.

A. MOORWOOD

Figure 1: Ks (2.16 µm) image of the NTT Deep Field. The field is ~ 5 x 5 arcmin, seeing is ~ 0.75 arcsec and the 3σ limiting magnitude in a 1.5 arcsec diameter aperture is 22.87 (data reduced by P. Saracco).