#### **CHARA Collaboration Year-Three Science Review**



# FLUOR technical issues

#### V. Coudé du Foresto



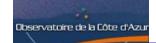






ir guide







### Camera – short term issues

- On CHARA, FLUOR was using CHARA Classic's NICMOS until Summer 2006
- It was then expected that the IOTA NICMOS camera (originally used by FLUOR 1998-2002) could be assigned to FLUOR:
  - This would enable dual Classic / FLUOR operation
  - CHARA NICMOS optimized for Classic
- But:
  - IOTA NICMOS chip turned out to be dead
  - Replacement chip found at NOAO (thanks Steve!), should be installed soon
    - Performances remain to be evaluated (engineering array?)
    - If positive FLUOR can then be offered again





#### Camera – longer term perspective

- LESIA to build 2 (possibly 3) clone camera systems
  - One « lab camera » for Persée interferometric nuller bench
  - One « sky camera » for 'OHANA and FLUOR
    - Possibly two sky cameras if budget permits (~250k€ total)
- These systems will be optimized of HAR applications
  - Based on PICNIC array (near-science grade for sky)
  - Low-noise (read and reset), fast readout electronics, windowing options
  - Dedicated electronics (no SIDECAR ASIC) based on 'Ohana solution
  - Digital fast I/O interface
- Gains for FLUOR:
  - Better sensitivity
  - Throughput in spectrally dispersed mode
  - More robust solution than current IOTA NICMOS
- Project timeline:

Georgia State University

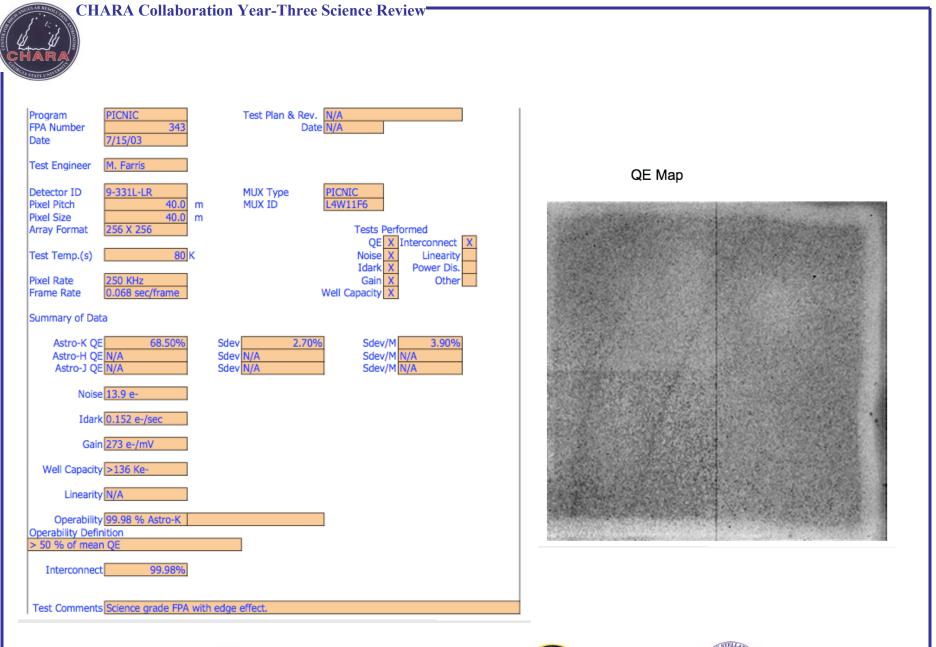
- 11/06: start of project (JM Réess PM, + 2 electronics engineers, + 1 cryogenist)

bservatoire

LESIA

- 03/07: start procurement of arrays
- 07/07: delivery of arrays
- Autumn 07: commissionning in Meudon
- Winter 08: commissionning at CHARA











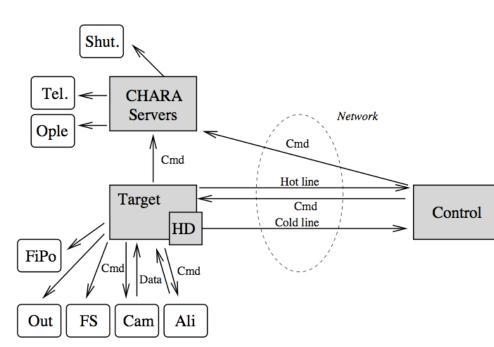


## FLUOR control SW overhaul

- Why an overhaul?
  - Current control SW written in LabView:
    - No longer supported for MacOS => migration is needed anyhow
    - Exotic platform in the CHARA environment
    - « Legacy software » => maintenance and upgrade gets more and more difficult
    - New camera will force major SW changes anyhow
    - Not well adapted for remote control



**CHARA Collaboration Year-Three Science Review** 



- Phased approach:
  - First FLUOR G3 to be replaced by Target RT Linux box
  - Then overhaul of FLUOR control GUI
  - Final objective is easy remote operation from Meudon
- Implementation in line with new camera

Observatoire de la Côte d'Azu

• A dedicated SW engineer for this project (A. Sevin)

Figure 1: Design for a futur implementation of the FLUOR control software

GeorgiaStateUniversity

Observatoire

LESIA

#### Other issues

- Trees...
  - At S2 for observations of  $\zeta$  Lep,  $\gamma$  UMa,  $\beta$  Uma
- Real estate?
  - Need to anticipate changes, if any

