

Update³ An Update on the Update on the Update of FLUOR



Nicholas J Scott March 2013



































Differences

- Improved camera
- Remote operations
- Software & hardware integrated with CHARA environment
- Spectral dispersion mode
- Pupil imaging
- Improved fiber injection

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Improved alignment procedure























Current status report

- All optical-mechanical components installed
- Alignments completed and new alignment procedures being documented
- Alignment cameras tested
 - IRcam functional, viscam needs software integration
- On-sky fringes obtained
- Remote ops tested and working
- Most software functionality complete
 - GUI
- Data reduction pipeline in the works
- Expect first science in May







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Camera changes

Decision made to replace intended camera (CALI) with upgraded NICMOS

Disadvantages of CALI

- Lack of engineering support
- Inadequate sensitivity
- High readout noise
- Poor dynamic range
- Complex interface
- Very small Dewar

Advantage of NICMOS

- Known behavior (previous use & NIRO)
- Upgrade to increase readout speed
- Easier integration with CHARA

















CHARA

Spectral dispersion

- K band
- 10 spectral channels
- Remove chromatic biases / bandwidth smearing
- Expect factor of 100 improvement when science star and calibrator are of different types





Remote operations

Meudon (ROCMe) Atlanta (AROC) Sydney (ROCS) Michigan (ROCMi) Nice (GROC)

> Image 2012 TerraMetrics Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO © 2012 Cnes/Spot Image

39°44'28.24" N 103°05'00.31" W elev 4555 ft



Eye alt 6155





Remote observing procedure and requirements

- VPN connection
- CHARA control tree install
 - CentOS 5 or 6
- Skype
- On-site operator does star acquisition sequences or controls needed systems
 - saves bandwidth and time
 - Insures safety of telescopes
- Operator may be running other (1-2) combiners
- Screen real estate



















🐝 Applications Places System 🔳 🥹 🙆 🗾

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Wed Nov 7, 4:26 PM CHARA Observer



REOPEN

PING

CLEAR DISP

QUIT

ROI MOVIE

GeorgiaStateUniversity

ROI SCAN

REOPEN CALI

2.24







Evolution / dynamics

- Dust production mechanism poorly understood
- Close-in dust extremely short lived ≈ few yrs
 - ≈ 10⁻⁸ M_⊕/yr to replenish (10 Hale-Bopps per day)
- **Destruction factors:**
 - Sublimation
 - **Radiation Pressure**
 - Poynting-Robertson (P-R) drag
- Amount of





time

- Models:
 - Steady state/continuous replenishment
 - Steady state/trapped nano-grains [Su et al. (2013), Lebreton et al. (2013)]
 - LHB & outgassing

























Age or amount of available material?

- A stars: not clear if correlation with metallicity
- FGK stars lack warm dust due to ages > 1 Gyr

Absil et al. 2013 (submitted)













NASA Origins Program with Betrand Mennesson

- 3 year program: exozodi disk survey
 - ≈ 100 nearby MS stars

20% long/short, rest only short baselines

- hot dust (1000-1500K), expected in 25-30% of MS systems
- Goal: excesses at 0.5% level (5 σ) for m_K=5
 - Determine grain properties, disk morphology, correlations b/t stellar properties

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• Visibility precision to <0.1%



















Future plans

- CHARA AO
 - Increased sensitivity
 - Fainter magnitude limit
 - More targets
 - On axis, small field of view AO systems for each telescope.

CHAMP

 Full fringe tracking and locking capability on all baselines.

for FLUOR

- Spectral Dispersion mode
- Integration with CHAMP
- H band
- Further camera and software improvements



















Complementary studies

- Follow-up of gravitational microlensing survey
 - Faint, 7th mag
 - Targets of opportunity
 - Alert network?

(Cassan 2012)

• CHEOPS

(CHaracterizing ExOPlanet Satellite)

- Photometry of known exoplanet host stars
 - Bright, low activity stars
- Determine radii, dynamics, and atmospheric properties
- Investigate potential targets of EChO transit space mission
 - 2022 launch
 - Feasibility study, full program requires CHARA AO
 - ≈ 100 planetary spectra



















Star

(gravitational pull of the star)

e are the conditions for planet formation and the gence of life?

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