

The Manchester-Athens Wide-Field Camera (MAWFC): A new 30deg diameter narrow-band optical camera

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The motivation...

The sky at high galactic latitudes is host to a wide range of extensive phenomena that emit faintly in optical lines over a range of excitations. These features remain largely unexplored for the majority of the observing programmes of the World's largest telescopes which have been concentrated on achieving high angular resolution over small fields.

- the foreground, very diffuse, line emission from the galactic plane needs accurate evaluation down to resolutions of 1 arcmin to improve the interpretation of the Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB).
- the 100 degree long non-thermal radio spur apparently projecting from the Galactic centre. The question still remains as to whether or not this is a nearby supernova remnant or the more dramatic ejection of relativistic particles from the Galactic nucleus into the Galactic halo. Remarkably, no optical identification has yet occurred.
- The complexity of the nearest HII 30 degree diameter, 'bubble' in Eridanus also needs evaluating with far deeper emission line observations to distinguish between its radiatively ionized and more filamentary, collisionally ionized components. It is the extremely large angular sizes of these phenomena that inhibits their observation.

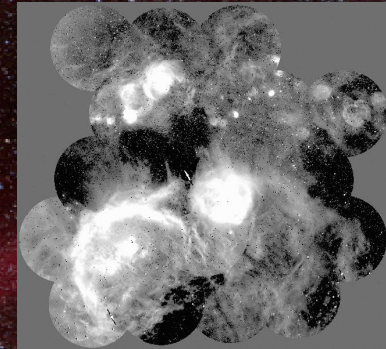
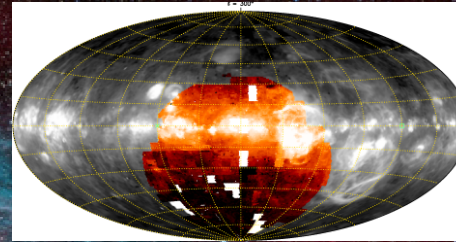
Previous Wide-Field Surveys

WHAM (Wisconsin H-Alpha Mapper) – 1995/2012

It is specialized to observe the warm ionized interstellar gas of our Galaxy.

FOV=10deg, 1.6' resolution

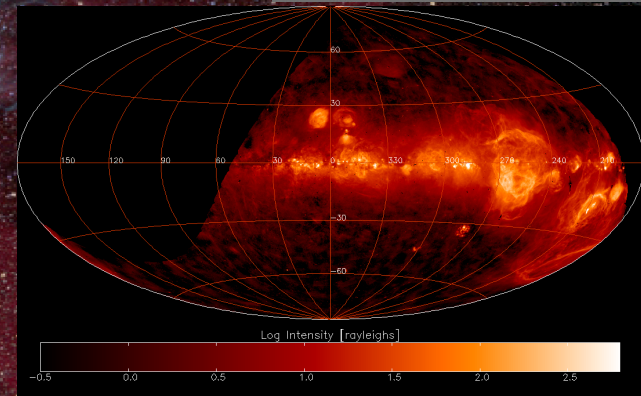
Covered the Northern Galactic plane.



VTSS (Virginia Tech Spectral-Line Survey) – 1996/2001

It is specialized to study the distribution and kinematics of diffuse, ionized gas in the Milky Way.

FOV=1deg, 8-12km/s resolution spatially beam of the sky. Higher sensitivity, lower angular resolution than SHASSA.



SHASSA (Southern H-Alpha Sky Survey Atlas – 2000/2003

It is specialized to observe the warm ionized interstellar gas of our Galaxy.

FOV=13deg, 0.8' resolution [0.6m telescope]

IPHAS - 2003/08 & VPHAS – 2011 [Photometric H α Surveys]

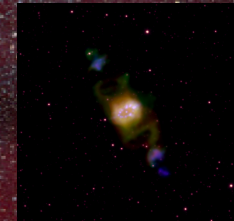
Both specialized to observe emission line objects (WR, OB stars etc.)

IPHAS – at 2.5m INT Northern (La Palma), H α , r, i down to 20mag

FOV=0.3deg, 0.33" resolution

VPHAS – at 2.6m VST South (Paranal), u,g,r,i,H α

FOV=1deg, 0.21" resolution(32 x 2kx4k ccd - OmegaCam)



The past.....

1st version - Wide Field Filter Camera (WFFC) -1977

Johnson, Kaye, Meaburn, 1978, Applied Optics, 17, 442

32 deg, narrowband filters, ipcs camera, 8' resolution

2nd version – Manchester Wide Field Camera (MWFC) -1996

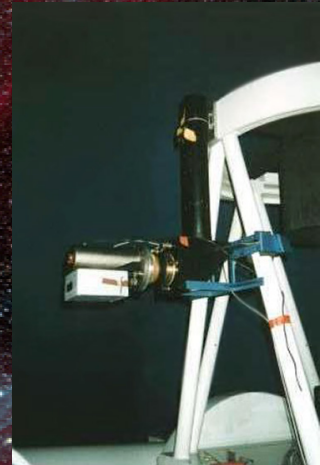
Boumis et al. 2001, MNRAS, 320, 61

21x30 deg, narrowband filters, LN ccd camera, ~3.3' resolution

3rd version – Manchester Wide Field Camera (MWFC) -2001

Dickinson 2002, PhD thesis

~32 deg, narrowband filters, Apogee ccd camera, ~7' resolution



Manchester Wide Field Camera

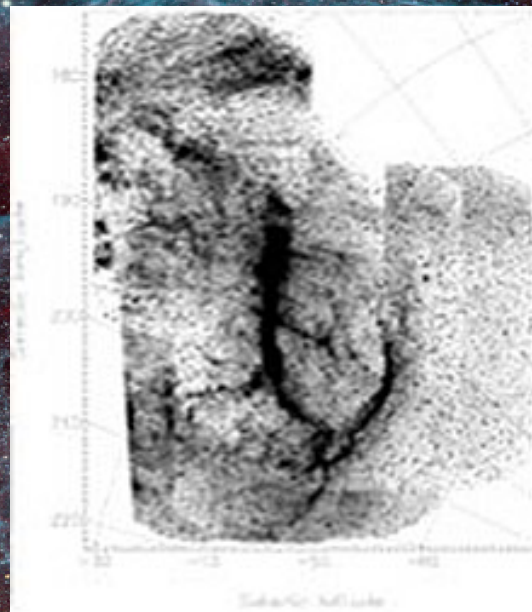
2nd version -1996

Boumis et al. 2001, MNRAS, 320, 61

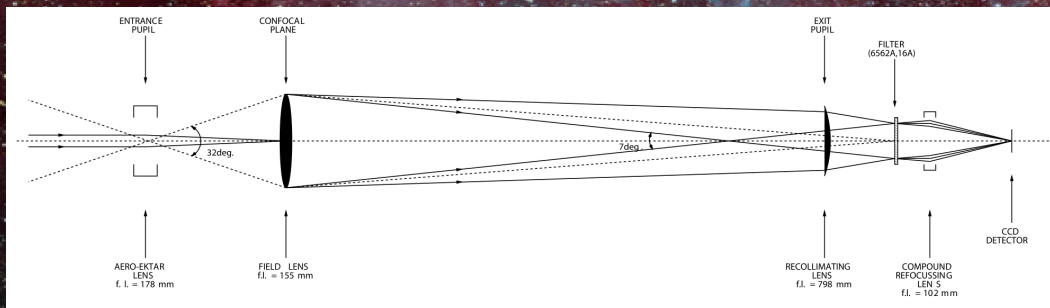
21x30 deg, narrowband filters, ccd camera, ~3.3' resolution

It is concluded that these filamentary arcs are the superimposed images of separate shells (driven by supernova explosions and/or stellar winds) rather than the edges of a single 'superbubble' stretching from Barnard's Arc (and the Orion Nebula) to these high galactic latitudes.

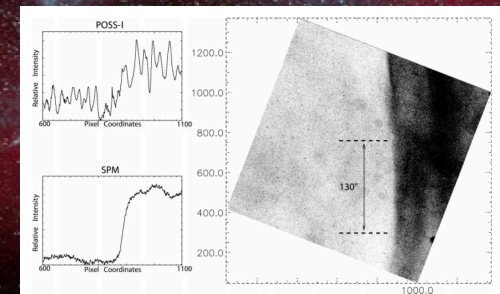
Deep H α imagery of the Eridanus shell



Deep H α imagery of the Orion Nebula



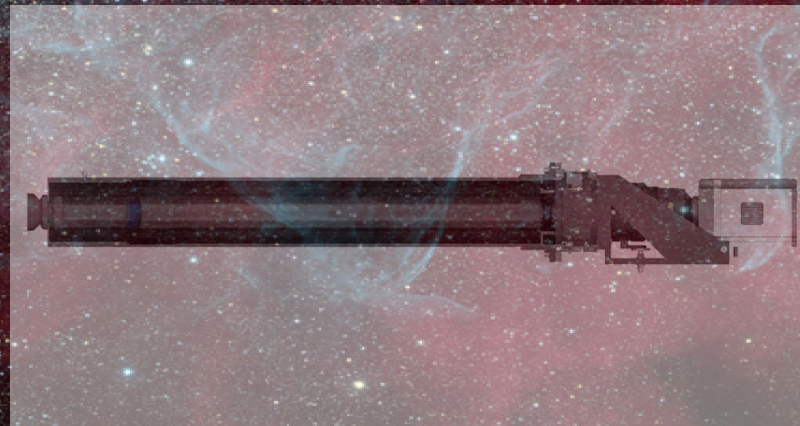
Upper limit
PM=.13"/yr
1951 R
1996 H α



Manchester-Athens Wide Field Camera

The proposed project was to design and construct a state-of-the-art, wide-field (~ 30 degree diameter), narrow-band, optical filter camera – The 'Manchester-Athens Wide Field Camera' (MAWFC).

- The standalone camera is the first scientific instrument for astronomy that was constructed and tested completely in Greece
- We will conduct a large-area sky survey that will provide maps at less than 1 arcmin resolution, in order to investigate the very extensive, but faint, line emission regions over the whole sky.
- We will make deep observations of the northern sky in the optical emission lines of $H\alpha$, $[O III]$ and $H\beta$, from astronomical sites. The successful outcome will have a significant impact on topical astronomical areas of research



Manchester-Athens Wide Field Camera

Observational technical information:

- Over a period of ~7 to 8 months, using dark time to minimize background contributions (2 weeks/month), we will make deep observations of the northern-sky.
- With a FOV of ~30-degree diameter, we can cover the northern hemisphere with ~75 individual pointings, with adequate overlap between fields for calibration of baselines.
- For each pointing, we will require at least ~10 of 20 min exposures to provide deep (≥ 3 hour) observations using narrow-band (~10-20 Å) H α , H β and [O III] filters, and shorter observations in continuum bands (~100 Å wide) to remove stellar contamination. The total integration time required is ~700 hours, which should be readily achieved on a timescale of ~7 to 8 months.

Manchester-Athens Wide Field Camera

Analysis information:

- We will use the ratio of $H\alpha$ and $H\beta$ brightnesses to estimate the dust extinction at $H\alpha$ (see e.g. [Casassus et al. 2004](#))
- Absolute calibration will be achieved using standard nebular sources (e.g. the California nebula) or via the publically available Wisconsin H-Alpha Mapper (WHAM) Fabry-Perot data on large angular scales ([Haffner et al. 2003](#)).
- The images will then be combined, with appropriate background corrections, to make a large mosaic map. Combining this with other surveys (WHAM and SHASSA) will allow an accurate full-sky map of $H\alpha$, with an angular resolution of ~ 1 arcmin. This will be complementary to high-resolution Galactic plane surveys in $H\alpha$ such as the IPHASS/VPHAS surveys, and will become a Legacy Survey to be used for many years to come for studying diffuse Galactic emission (e.g. [Dobler, Draine & Finkbeiner, 2009](#)).
- The calibrated sky maps will be made publically available.

A possible future extension to the survey would be to map other lines (e.g. $[S\ II]$ etc.) or to map the Southern sky with particular emphasis on the environment of the Magellanic Clouds.

Manchester-Athens Wide Field Camera

Commissioning Plan

- **2014 March:** Starting Point (17 months instead of 26 - 312.000 EUR)
- **2014 March - August:** Personnel hired (3 postdocs, 1 IT technician), Optical design, equipment decided – quotation & orders. Scientific studies & starting Pipeline development.
- **2014 August – 2015 February:** Mechanical design, equipment quotations, orders & deliveries. Tests the equipment in the Optical lab and Pipeline development.
- **2015 January – March:** Manufacture of all mechanical parts, equipment delivery and tests in the optical lab. Pipeline development.
- **2015 April-May:** Commissioning of MAWFC in the optical lab, testing period in Penteli hill – First light on sky (1st of April).
- **2015 June-October:** Commissioning of MAWFC at Krioneri Observatory, tests on sky, starting observations campaign and data analysis. Finalize Pipeline and present first results.

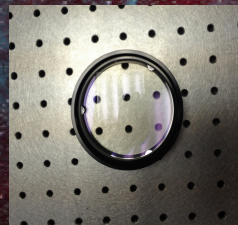
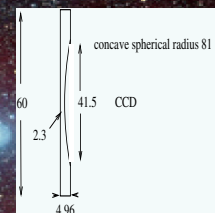
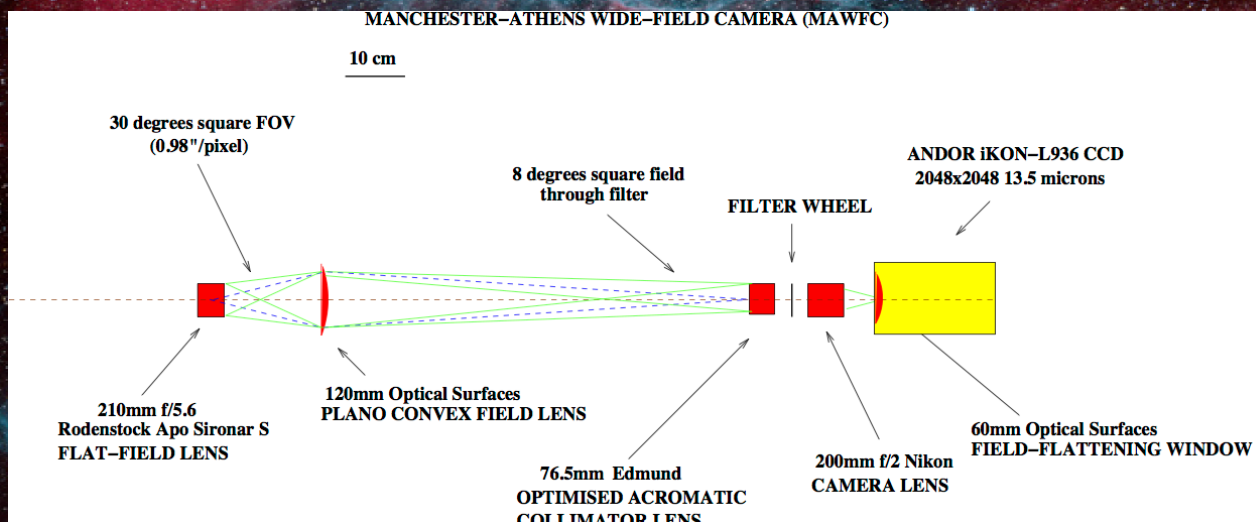
Manchester-Athens Wide Field Camera

4th version -2015

Boumis et al. 2015, MNRAS, in prep.

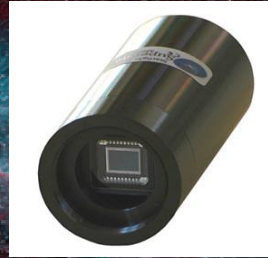
30 deg, narrowband filters, ccd camera, $\sim 1'$ resolution

Optical layout / design (2014 March – August)



Manchester-Athens Wide Field Camera

Testing in the Optical lab (Aug 2014 – Feb 2015)



Guiding telescope
Skywatcher ED80 (f/7.5)
Guiding ccd
Starlight Superstar (1.4kx1.0k, 4.65 μ m
QE~50%)
Equat. Mount: Paramount ME II

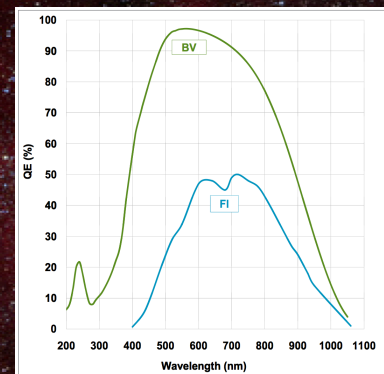


Manchester-Athens Wide Field Camera

Testing in the Optical lab (Aug 2014 – Feb 2015)



Andor iKon-L ccd
2k x 2k, 13.5μm
-100 C Peltier cooler
QE > 90%



```
ecl> hedit bias*.fits 'date'
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bias_06.fits,DATE = 2015-01-09T16:19:03
bias_07.fits,DATE = 2015-01-09T16:19:07
bias_08.fits,DATE = 2015-01-09T16:19:10
bias_09.fits,DATE = 2015-01-09T16:19:14
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bias_11.fits,DATE = 2015-01-09T16:19:21
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#          IMAGE          NPIX      MEAN      STDEV      MIN
MAX
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1398. bias_02.fits 4194304 1361.    5.339    1333.
1448. bias_03.fits 4194304 1361.    5.356    1248.
1392. bias_04.fits 4194304 1361.    5.362    1325.
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1515. bias_07.fits 4194304 1361.    5.353    1334.
1388. bias_08.fits 4194304 1361.    5.338    1333.
1387. bias_09.fits 4194304 1361.    5.359    1276.
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1389.

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dark_06.fits,EXPOSURE = 30.00001
dark_07.fits,EXPOSURE = 60.00002
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for_trace_light.fits,EXPOSURE = 3. (saturated exposure)

ecl> imstat dark*
#          IMAGE          NPIX      MEAN      STDEV      MIN
MAX
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31894, 42151,

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bias_06.fits,DATE = 2015-01-09T17:12:19
bias_07.fits,DATE = 2015-01-09T17:12:22
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bias_09.fits,DATE = 2015-01-09T17:12:33
bias_10.fits,DATE = 2015-01-09T17:12:36

ecl> imstat bias*
#          IMAGE          NPIX      MEAN      STDEV      MIN
MAX
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1388. bias_02.fits 4194304 1362.    5.335    1334.
1388. bias_03.fits 4194304 1362.    5.367    1336.
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2273. bias_05.fits 4194304 1362.    5.372    1337.
1391. bias_06.fits 4194304 1362.    5.329    1270.
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1388. bias_09.fits 4194304 1361.    5.36    1333.
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1391.

Statistics BAD column 1516 and adjacent columns
=====
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#          IMAGE          NPIX      MEAN      STDEV
MIN          MAX
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1031. 9024.

#          IMAGE          NPIX      MEAN      STDEV
MIN          MAX
ecl> imstat flat10a.fits[1516:1516,1567:1666]
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1031. 9024.
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```

```
flat10a.fits[1514:1515,1567:1666] 200 11580. 120.3
11271. 11014.
ecl> imstat flat10a.fits[1517:1517,1567:1666]
flat10a.fits[1517:1517,1567:1666] 100 11943. 134.1
11692. 12416.
ecl> imstat flat10a.fits[1518:1519,1567:1666]
flat10a.fits[1518:1519,1567:1666] 200 11563. 126.3
11256. 11855.
ecl>
ecl> imstat flat10a.fits[1514:1515,1667:1766]
#          IMAGE          NPIX      MEAN      STDEV
MIN          MAX
flat10a.fits[1514:1515,1667:1766] 200 11255. 119.5
10934. 11526.
ecl> imstat flat10a.fits[1516:1516,1667:1766]
flat10a.fits[1516:1516,1667:1766] 100 3291. 87.21
3121. 3441.
ecl> imstat flat10a.fits[1517:1517,1667:1766]
flat10a.fits[1517:1517,1667:1766] 100 11584. 122.4
11331. 11905.
ecl> imstat flat10a.fits[1518:1519,1667:1766]
flat10a.fits[1518:1519,1667:1766] 200 11227. 110.9
10984. 11542.

Line 1539
=====
ecl> imstat flat10a.fits[1250:1649,1537:1538]
#          IMAGE          NPIX      MEAN      STDEV
MIN          MAX
flat10a.fits[1250:1649,1537:1538] 800 1915. 148.4
11485. 12279.
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flat10a.fits[1250:1649,1539:1539] 400 11669. 133.5
11302. 11903.
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flat10a.fits[1250:1649,1540:1541] 800 11924. 146.7
11521. 12270.

RATIO MEAN(flat10a.fits[1250:1649,1539:1539]) /
MEAN(flat10a.fits[1250:1649,1540:1541])
11669 / 11924 ~ 0.98

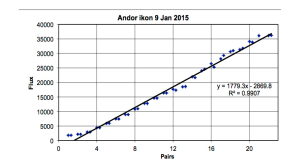
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#          IMAGE          NPIX      MEAN      STDEV
MIN          MAX
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12812. 13813.
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12507. 13434.
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11271. 11014.
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flat10a.fits[1517:1517,1567:1666] 100 11943. 134.1
11692. 12416.
ecl> imstat flat10a.fits[1518:1519,1567:1666]
flat10a.fits[1518:1519,1567:1666] 200 11563. 126.3
11256. 11855.
ecl>
ecl> imstat flat10a.fits[1514:1515,1667:1766]
#          IMAGE          NPIX      MEAN      STDEV
MIN          MAX
flat10a.fits[1514:1515,1667:1766] 200 11255. 119.5
10934. 11526.
ecl> imstat flat10a.fits[1516:1516,1667:1766]
flat10a.fits[1516:1516,1667:1766] 100 3291. 87.21
3121. 3441.
ecl> imstat flat10a.fits[1517:1517,1667:1766]
flat10a.fits[1517:1517,1667:1766] 100 11584. 122.4
11331. 11905.
ecl> imstat flat10a.fits[1518:1519,1667:1766]
flat10a.fits[1518:1519,1667:1766] 200 11227. 110.9
10984. 11542.

Line 1539
=====
ecl> imstat flat10a.fits[1250:1649,1537:1538]
#          IMAGE          NPIX      MEAN      STDEV
MIN          MAX
flat10a.fits[1250:1649,1537:1538] 800 1915. 148.4
11485. 12279.
ecl> imstat flat10a.fits[1250:1649,1539:1539]
flat10a.fits[1250:1649,1539:1539] 400 11669. 133.5
11302. 11903.
ecl> imstat flat10a.fits[1250:1649,1540:1541]
flat10a.fits[1250:1649,1540:1541] 800 11924. 146.7
11521. 12270.

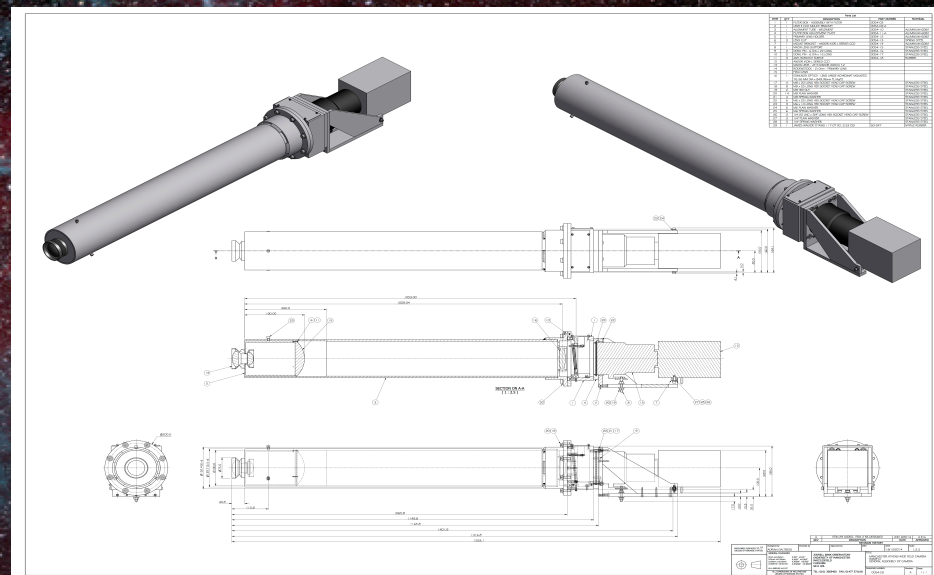
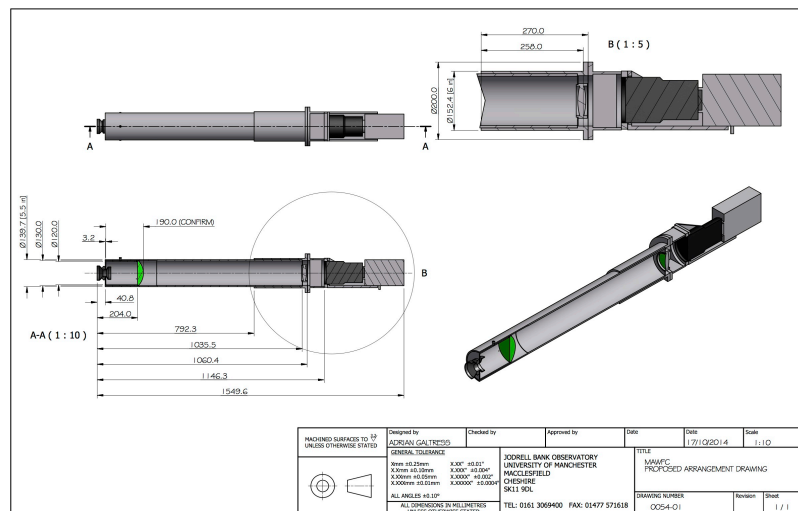
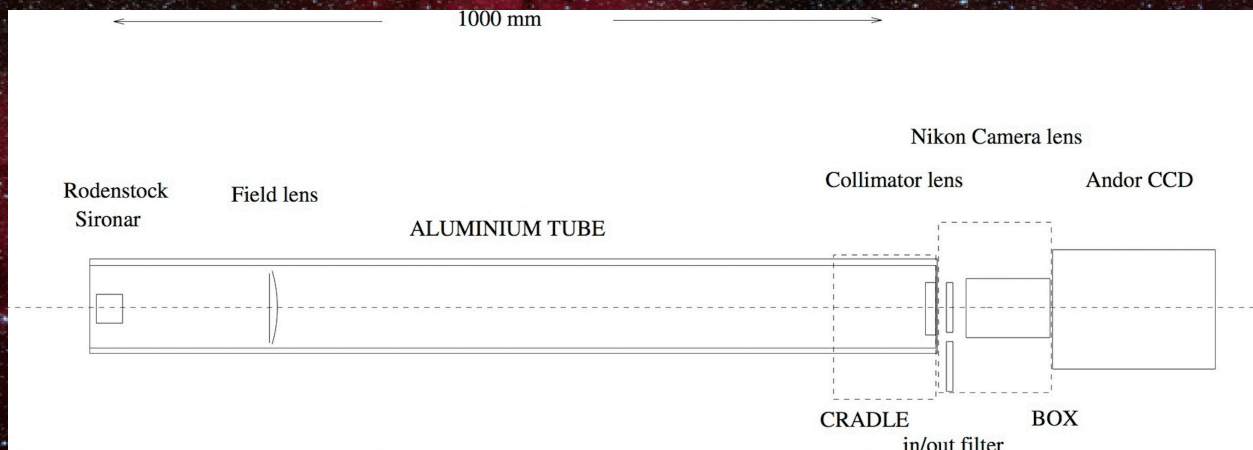
RATIO MEAN(flat10a.fits[1250:1649,1539:1539]) /
MEAN(flat10a.fits[1250:1649,1540:1541])
11669 / 11924 ~ 0.98

Line 1027
=====
ecl> imstat flat10a.fits[1250:1649,1025:1026]
#          IMAGE          NPIX      MEAN      STDEV
MIN          MAX
flat10a.fits[1250:1649,1025:1026] 800 13320. 199.5
12812. 13813.
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flat10a.fits[1250:1649,1027:1027] 400 13012. 184.1
12507. 13434.
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```



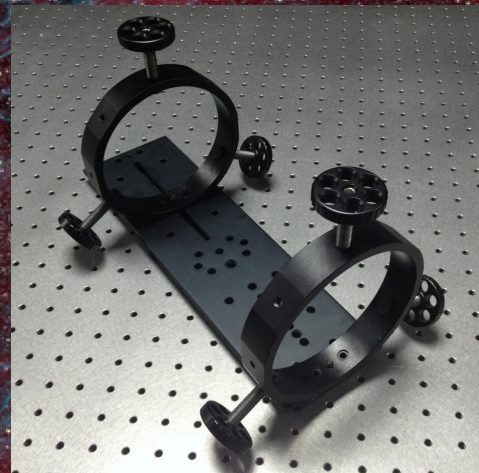
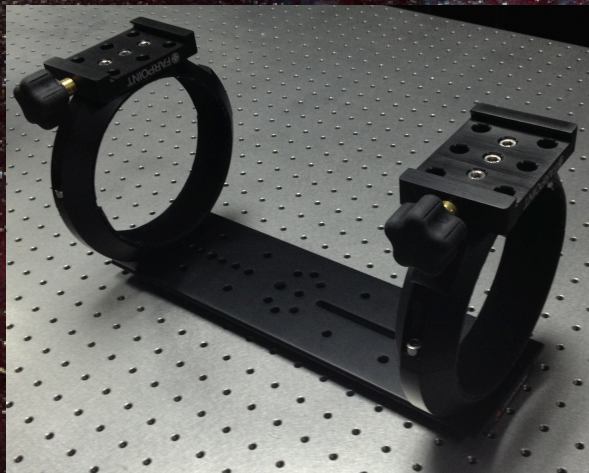
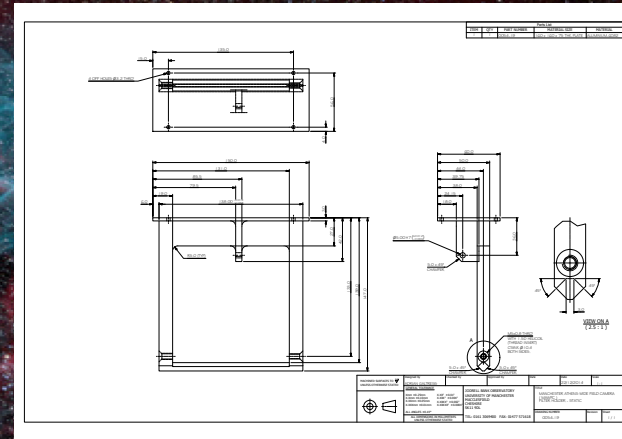
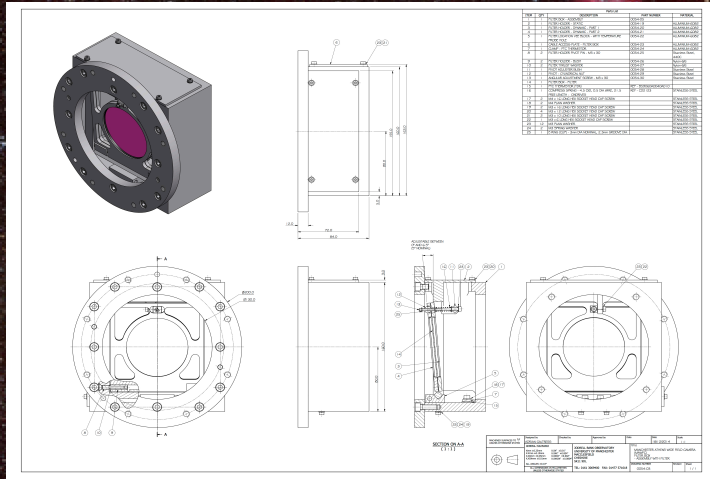
Manchester-Athens Wide Field Camera

Mechanical layout / Design (Sep 2014 - Jan 2015)



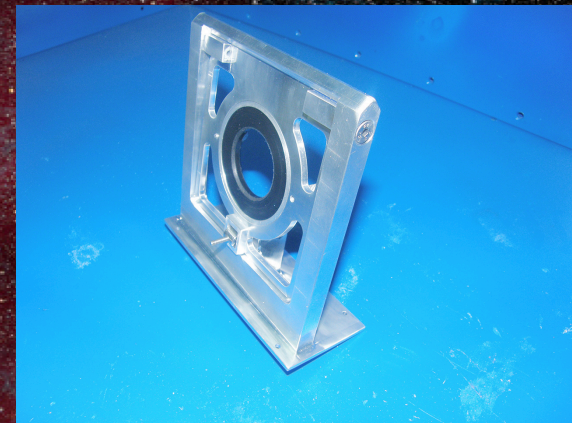
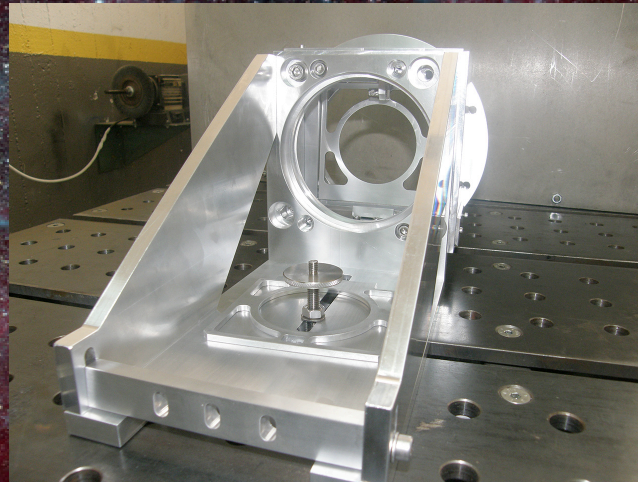
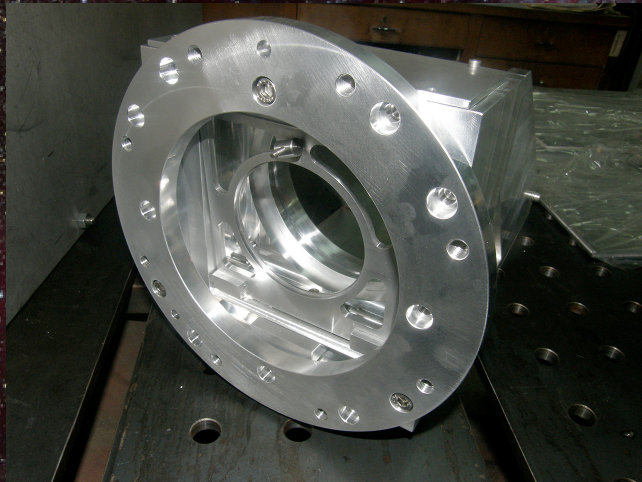
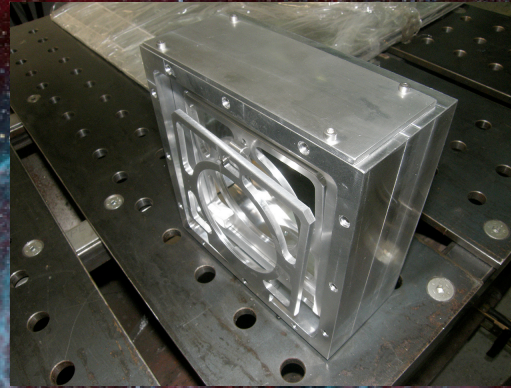
Manchester-Athens Wide Field Camera

Mechanical Design / Parts (Sep 2014 - Jan 2015)



Manchester-Athens Wide Field Camera

Mechanical manufacturing (Jan – Mar 2015)



Mechanical laboratory – University of Patras (MYEDPP)

Manchester-Athens Wide Field Camera

Mechanical manufacturing (Jan – Mar 2015)

MAWFC completed in the mechanical lab.
Acceptance tests performed successfully

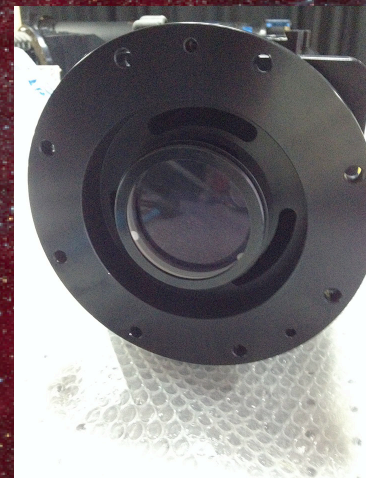
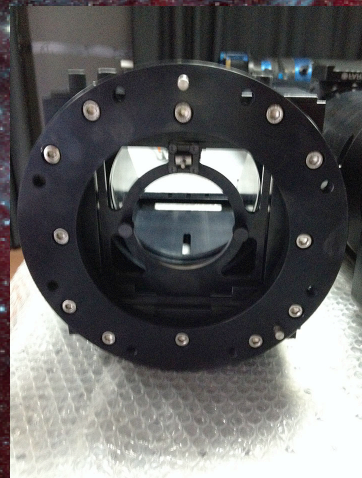
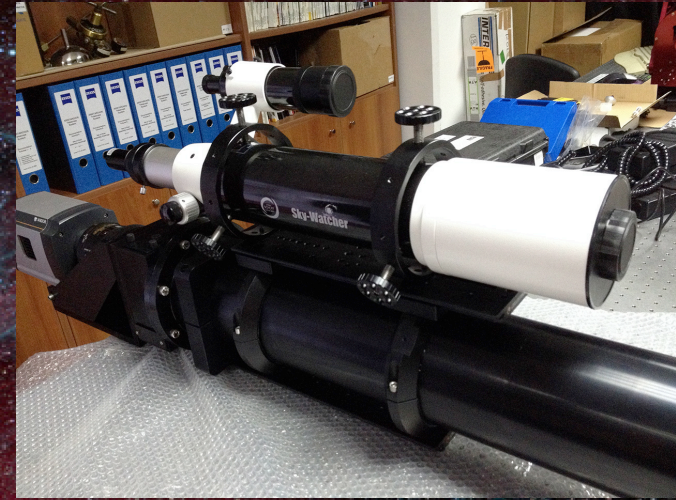
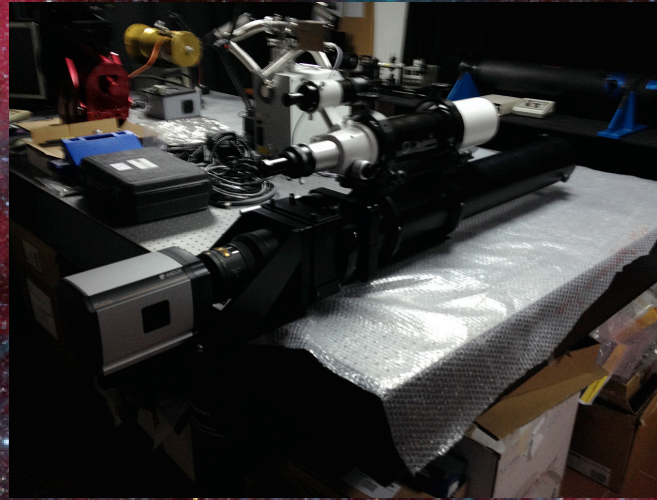


Mechanical laboratory – University of Patras (MYEDPP)

Manchester-Athens Wide Field Camera

MAWFC in the Optical lab (Mar 2015)

Optical tests / Alignments



Manchester-Athens Wide Field Camera

Mechanical 3D layout



Manchester-Athens Wide Field Camera

Mechanical 3D layout

Optical lenses:

- 210mm f/5.6 Flat-field lens
- 120mm plano-convex field lens
- 76.5mm collimator lens
- 200mm f/2 camera lens
- 60mm field-flattening window lens



Manchester-Athens Wide Field Camera

First light on sky tests (1st April 2015)

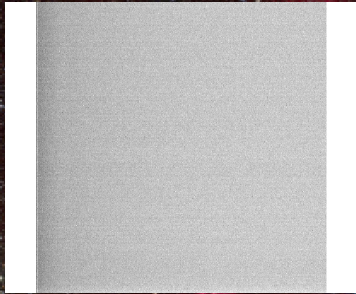
IAASARS head-quarters in Penteli hill



Manchester-Athens Wide Field Camera

First light on sky tests (1st April 2015)

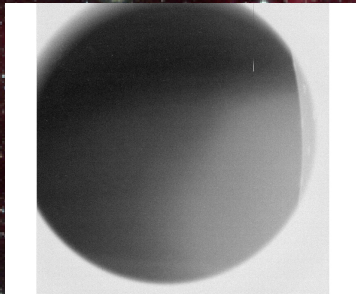
IAASARS head-quarters in Penteli hill



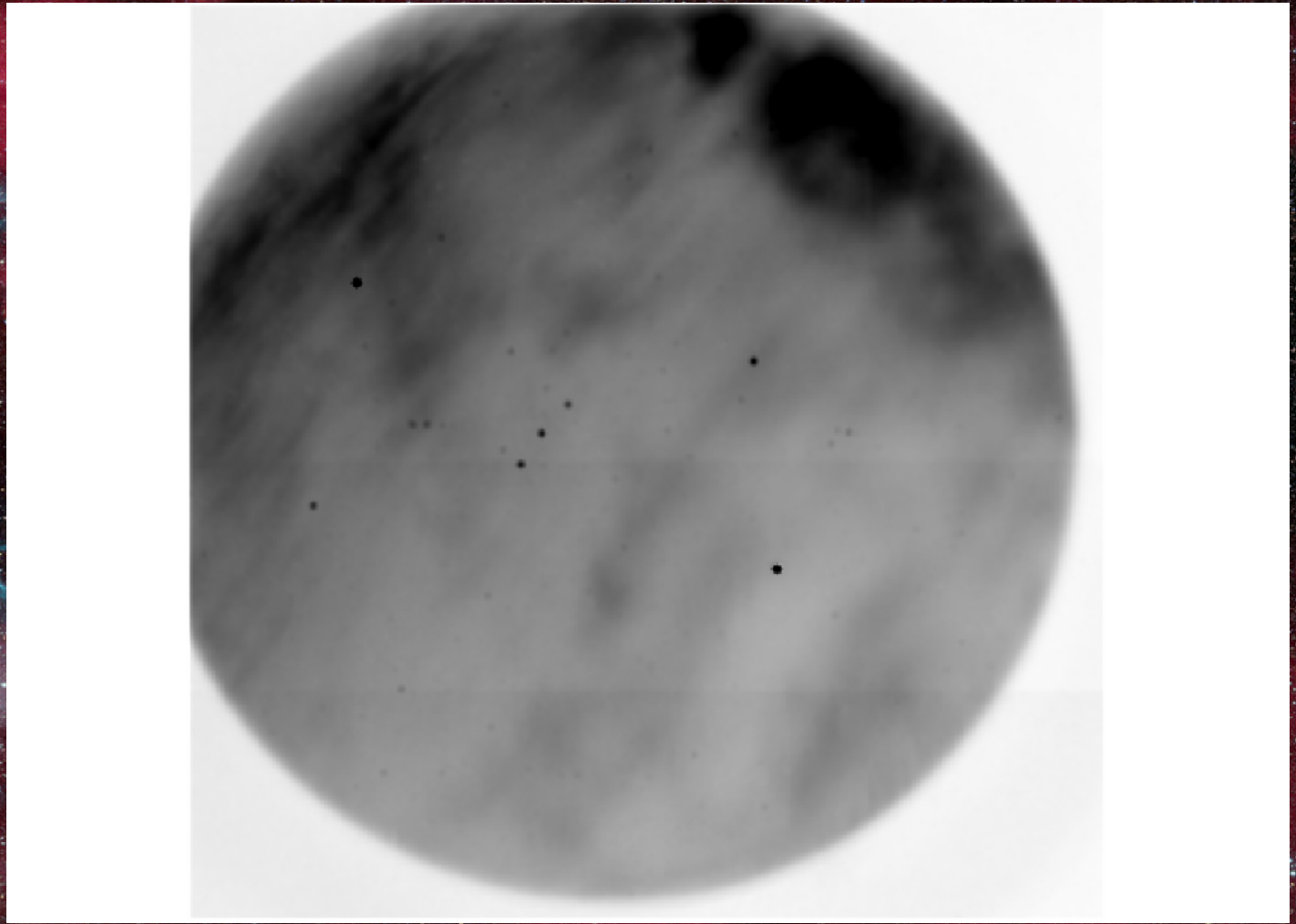
Bias frame (-90 C)



Dark frame (-90 C)



Optics tests



First light image in Orion without a filter

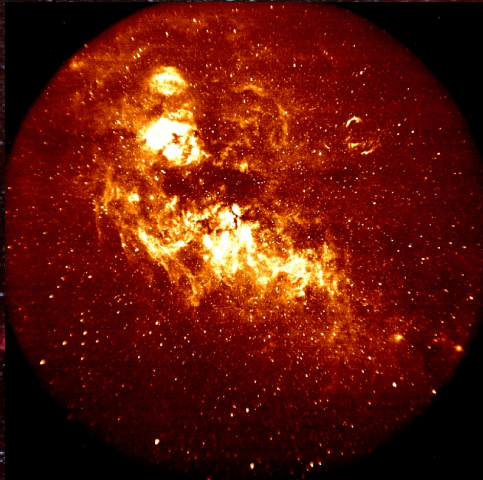
Manchester-Athens Wide Field Camera

First light on sky tests at Kryoneri Observatory (12th June 2015)

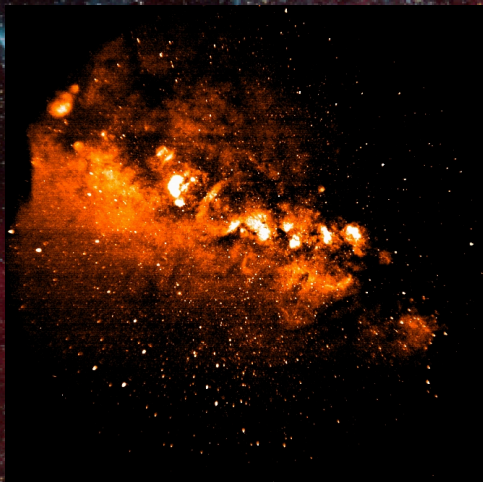
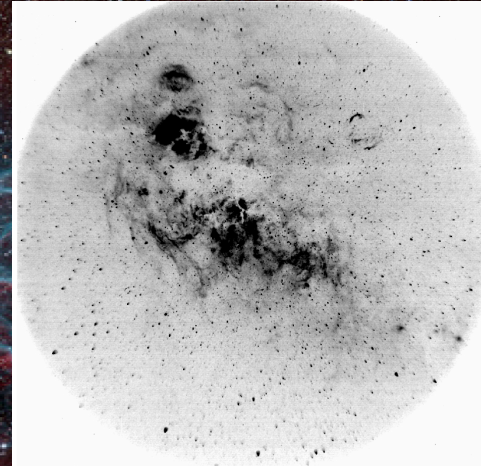


Manchester-Athens Wide Field Camera

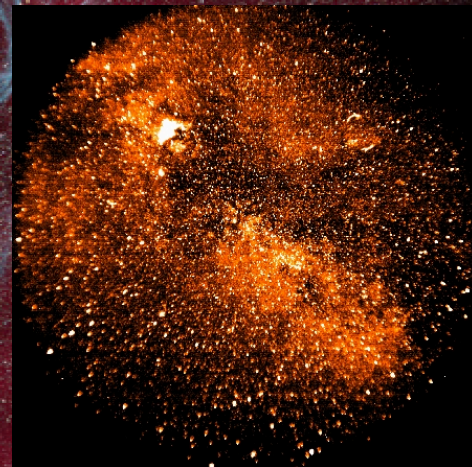
First light on sky tests at Kryoneri Observatory (12th June 2015)



First light H α image in Cygnus – 20min



First light H α image in Smith Neb – 20min



First light [O III] image in Cygnus – 20min

Manchester-Athens Wide Field Camera

MAWFC web page: <http://mawfc.astro.noa.gr>

MAWFC pipeline:

MAWFC

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MAWFC

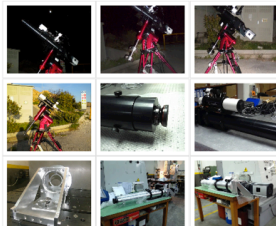
The Manchester-Athens Wide-Field (Narrow-Band) Camera:
A Deep Sky-Survey of the Extensive Line Emission Regions at High Galactic Latitudes

Welcome to MAWFC website

LATEST NEWS

- First light on sky tests have been performed in Penteli hill (IAASARS/NOA head-quarters)**
April 1, 2015 - 09:00
- MAWFC in the optical lab of IAASARS - Optical tests/alignments.**
March 31, 2015 - 09:00
- MAWFC completed in the mechanical lab (MYEDPP) - Final Acceptance tests performed successfully.**
March 20, 2015 - 09:00
- MAWFC constructed in the mechanical lab (MYEDPP) - First Acceptance tests performed successfully.**
March 2, 2015 - 09:00
- Mechanical construction of MAWFC in the mechanical laboratory/University of Patras (MYEDPP).**
February 3, 2015 - 09:00
- Mechanical design of MAWFC at JBCA/University of Manchester, UK**
October 1, 2014 - 09:00

GALLERY



PREVIOUS VERSIONS

Photo of the Manchester Wide-Field Camera on the 1.2m Kryonerion telescope in Greece (circa 1995)



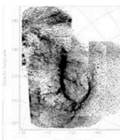
PREVIOUS VERSIONS

Photo of the Manchester Wide-Field Camera, being tested in the Lab at JBCA/Manchester (circa 2001)



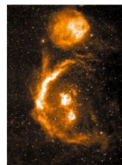
MOSAIC

Deep, mosaic Hi image of the high Galactic latitude Eridanus shells, made with this early version of the camera (1996)



ORION NEBULA

Deep, Hi image of the Orion Nebula taken with an earlier version camera (1996)



Pipeline Manual for Manchester-Athens Wide-Field Camera (MAWFC)

MAWFC

April, 2015 Version 4



IAASARS, National Observatory of Athens
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SUPERNOVA REMNANTS

AN ODYSSEY IN SPACE AFTER STELLAR DEATH

6 - 11 JUNE 2016, CHANIA, CRETE, GREECE

Scientific Topics

- Radiation studies from gamma-rays to radio in Galactic and Extragalactic SNRs
- The search for the binary companions of SN progenitors in SNRs in the Milky Way and Local Group
- Pulsar winds nebulae (including Crab flares)
- Magnetic fields in SNRs and PWNe
- Collisionless shock waves in SNRs
- Jets in SNRs
- SNRs as probes and drivers of galaxy structure
- SNe and SNRs cosmic ray acceleration
- SN ejecta – abundances, clumpiness
- SNe and SNRs with circumstellar interactions

Scientific Organizing Committee (SOC)

P. Boumis (Greece, co-chair), J. Raymond (USA, co-chair), T. Bell (UK), W. Blair (USA), K. Borkowski (USA), A. Decourchelle (France), R. Fesen (USA), D. Green (UK), R. Kothes (Canada), A. Rest (USA), P. Slane (USA)

Local Organizing Committee (LOC)

P. Boumis (Greece, co-chair), A. Bonanos (Greece, co-chair), D. Abartzi (Greece), S. Akas (Brazil), J. Alikakos (Greece), A. Chiotellis (Greece), M. Kopsacheili (Greece), M. Kourniotis (Greece), I. Leonidaki (Greece), M. Pliatsika (Greece), S. Williams (Greece)

<http://snr2016.astro.noa.gr>



STAR ALLIANCE

