

# Second Workshop on Robotic Autonomous Observatories

Torremolinos, Málaga, Spain, 5 - 10 June 2011



[www.iaa.es/astrorob2011](http://www.iaa.es/astrorob2011)  
e-mail: [astrorob@iaa.es](mailto:astrorob@iaa.es)



## Summary

A.F. Żarnecki  
University of Warsaw

SOC

### Main Topics

Robotic Astronomy: historical perspective  
Existing robotic observatories worldwide  
New hardware and software developments  
Real-time analysis pipelines  
Archiving the data and quality control

Carl Akerlind (University of Michigan, USA)

Alberto J. Castro-Tirado (IAA-CSIC Granada, Spain; chair)

Lorraine Hanton (UCD Dublin, Ireland)

René Hudec (ASU AV ČR Ondřejov, Czech Republic)

Alain Klotz (CEBR Toulouse, France)

Vladimir Lipunov (Moscow State University, Russia)

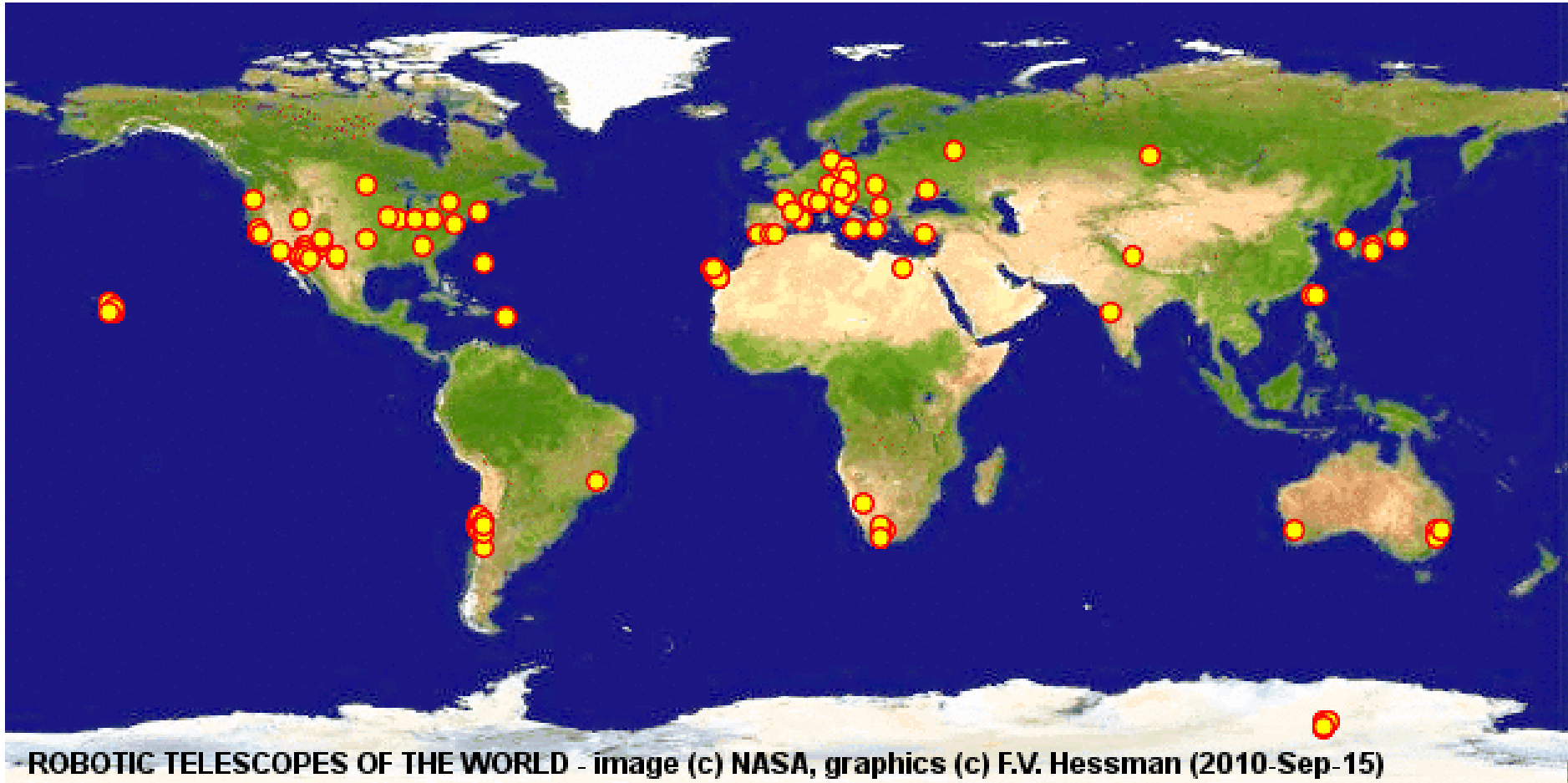
Lech Mankiewicz (CFT Warszawa, Poland)

Francisco Manuel Sánchez-Moreno (UPM Madrid, Spain)

Klaus Strassmeier (Astrophysical Institute Potsdam, Germany)

Filippo Zerbi (Oss. Astron. Brera, Italy)

# RAO World Map



# Why do we need robotic telescopes ?

- research

GRB hunting is only ~25%

many more interesting targets

# Optical monitoring of FR II-type galaxies



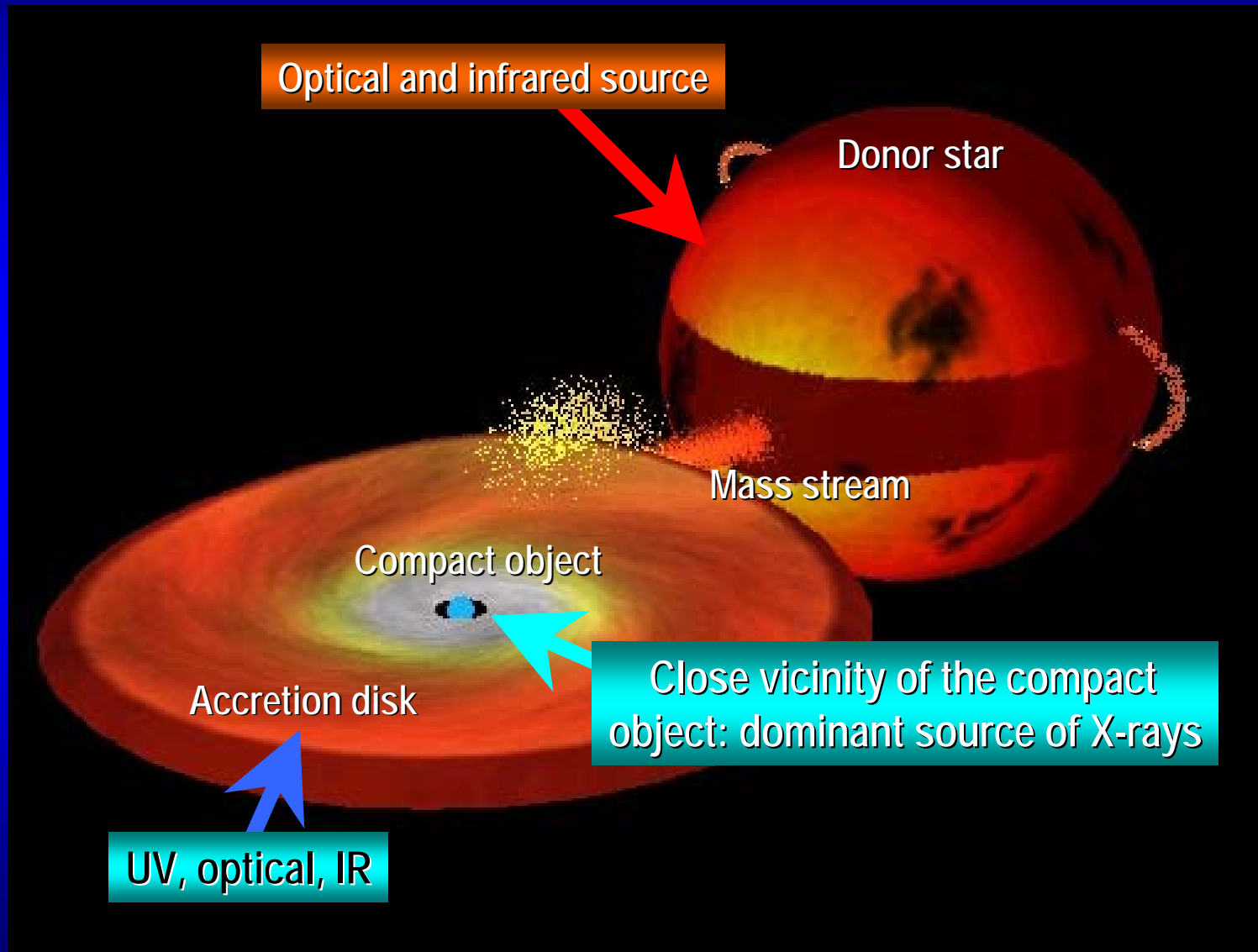
S. Zola, A. Kuźmicz, M. Jamrozy

M. Winiarski, M. Drózdź, T. Szymański, D. Koziel-Wierzbowska, E. Kuligowska, M. Drózdź, A. Erdem, M. Siwak, G. Stachowski, M. Kurpińska-Winiarska, D. Jabłeka, W. Ogłóza

OAUJ, SUHORA, COMU

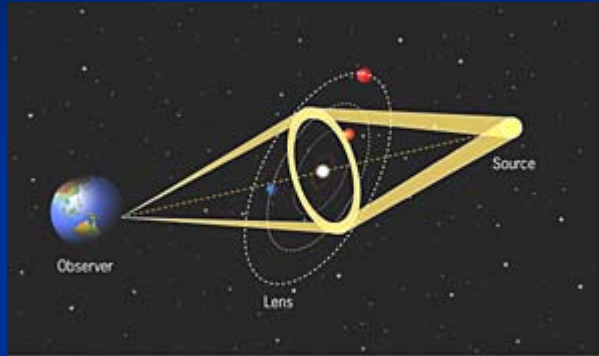
Malaga June 7th, 2011

# Typical structure of low-mass X-ray binaries (LMXBs) and cataclysmic variables (CVs)

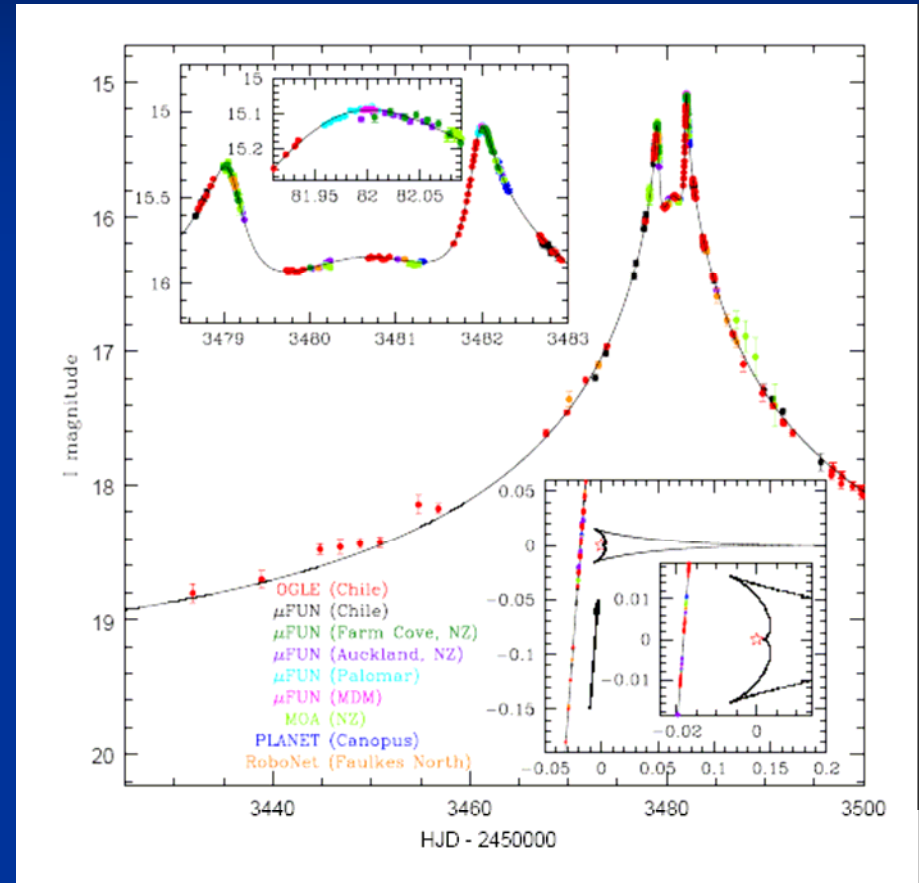


# Microlensing Research

## Global Network most essential



A 3x Earth mass planet (Bennet et al. 2008)



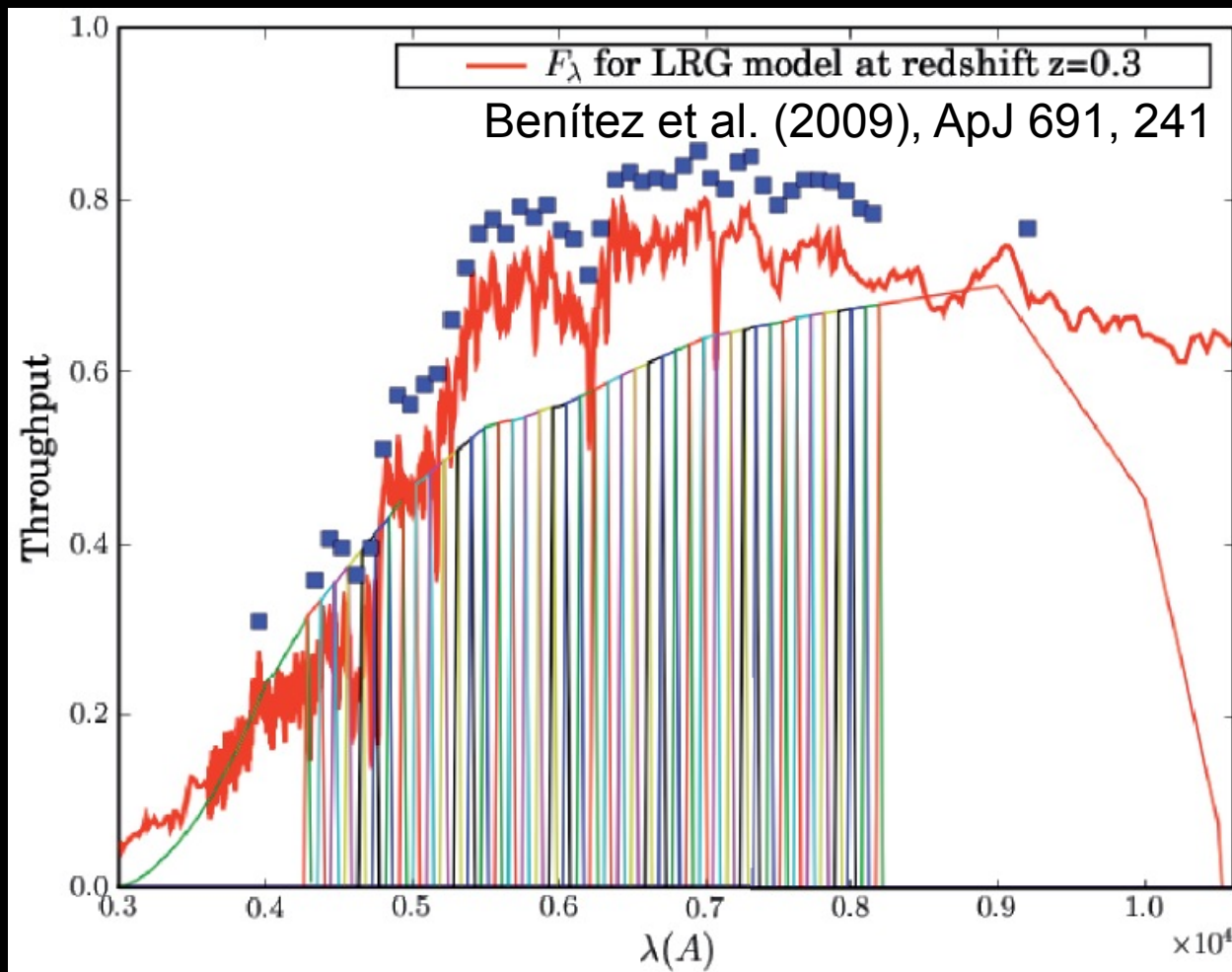
Jovian mass planet. < 1%  
Precision photometry requested.  
Udalski et al. (2008)

# Robotic Telescopes at Javalambre



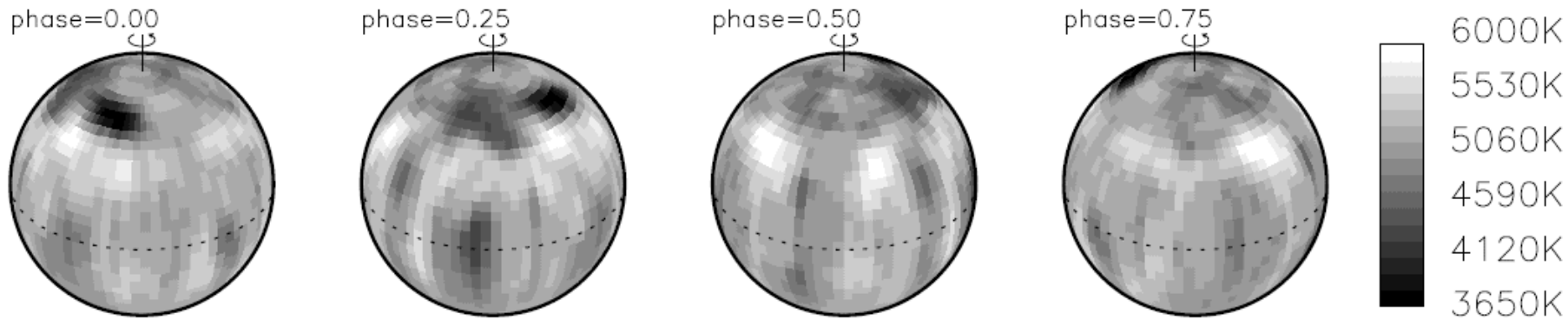
## SCIENTIFIC MOTIVATION

### THE JAVALAMBRE-PAU ASTROPHYSICAL SURVEY (J-PAS)

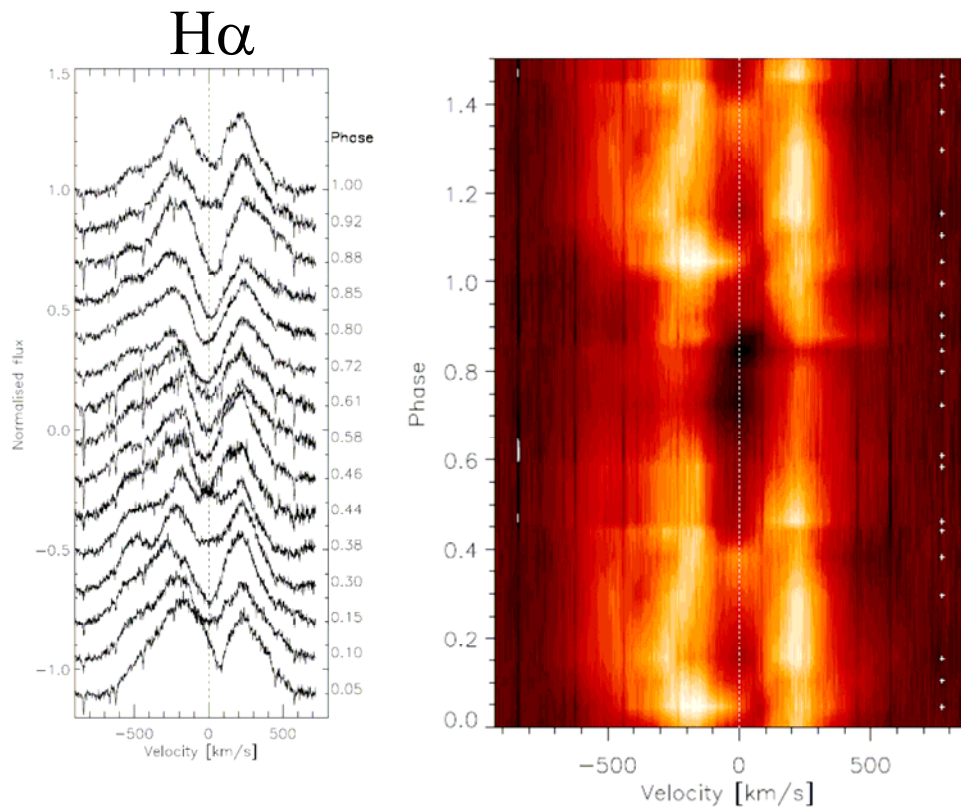


Sky area: 8000 deg<sup>2</sup>  
56 filters of  $\sim 100\text{\AA}$  width  
Time: 4-5 years

- To determine photo-z's ( $\Delta z \sim 0.3\%$ ) for millions of LRGs, to study the *Barionic Acoustic Oscillations* and constrain the equation of state of the *Dark Energy*.
- **Many other scientific returns** for free: galaxy evolution, SFR evolution, galaxy clusters, 2D stellar populations, Milky Way structure, SNe, GRBs, very low mass objects, exoplanets, Solar System minor bodies...



**Figure 3.** The surface temperature map of FK Com. The surface is shown at four different rotational phases which are 0.25 in phase apart. The gray scale gives the temperature in Kelvin.



\* Based on observations collected at the European Southern Observatory, Chile (Prg. 280.D-5075); at the automatic STELLA observatory at Tenerife, Spain; and with the Vienna automatic photometric telescopes Wolfgang and Amadeus, Arizona, USA  
 † E-mail:hkorhone@eso.org



Fabra-ROA telescope at Montsec, Jose Luis Muinos

Robotic tracking of LEO Delta1 R/B  
Orbit: 304 x 1,608 km, 89.1°  
0.3 s exposure, 07 Feb 2011



# Why do we need robotic telescopes ?

- research

GRB hunting is only ~25%

many more interesting targets

- education

and outreach

astronomy and science in general

HOME

PROJECTS

ABOUT

EDUCATION

BLOGS

RESEARCHERS

CONTACT



## Galaxy Zoo: Hubble

The latest version of the original Zooniverse project. Help astronomers figure out how galaxies form and evolve by classifying their shape. Now with added Hubble galaxies.

[JOIN IN](#)

## The Zooniverse Community

430,913 people just like you...

Name: Amanda Peters

Age: 38

Occupation: **I work at a science centre**

Joined Zooniverse: **August 2009**

's Zooniverse: *"I try and come on as much as possible. I enjoy Classifying galaxies as you never know what's going to come up next. I can't observe the sky as I would like to. Galaxy Zoo gives me the chance to do science and view some wonderful pictures of the sky."*



Amanda Peters

I'd like to be featured here too!

## Live Projects

planethunters.org

THE MILKY WAY PROJECT

MOON ZOO

GALAXY ZOO HUBBLE

oldWeather

SOLAR STORMWATCH

***"Science isn't just a subject at school, it is a human endeavour."***

### Objectives of Blackrock Castle Observatory

- To foster an interest in science, engineering and technology, through the medium of astronomy, amongst people of all age groups
- To become a focus for science outreach in Cork
- To develop a robotic astronomical observatory which will perform research in a number of areas, including:
  - Blazars
  - Extra-solar planets
  - Near Earth Objects
  - Gamma Ray Bursts
- To provide facilities for students to complete research programmes for various purposes, from Transition Year Projects to Doctorates.



# EMO Green astronomy projects and the community, Nezar Hezam





# Recent developments

New instruments focus on:

- sensitivity and precision
- fast response
- high temporal resolution

# What makes a good observing site?

Clear

High

Dry

Cold

Clean

Dark

Low precipitation

No lightning

No forest fires

Low surface wind

Low wind throughout  
atmosphere

No high level turbulence

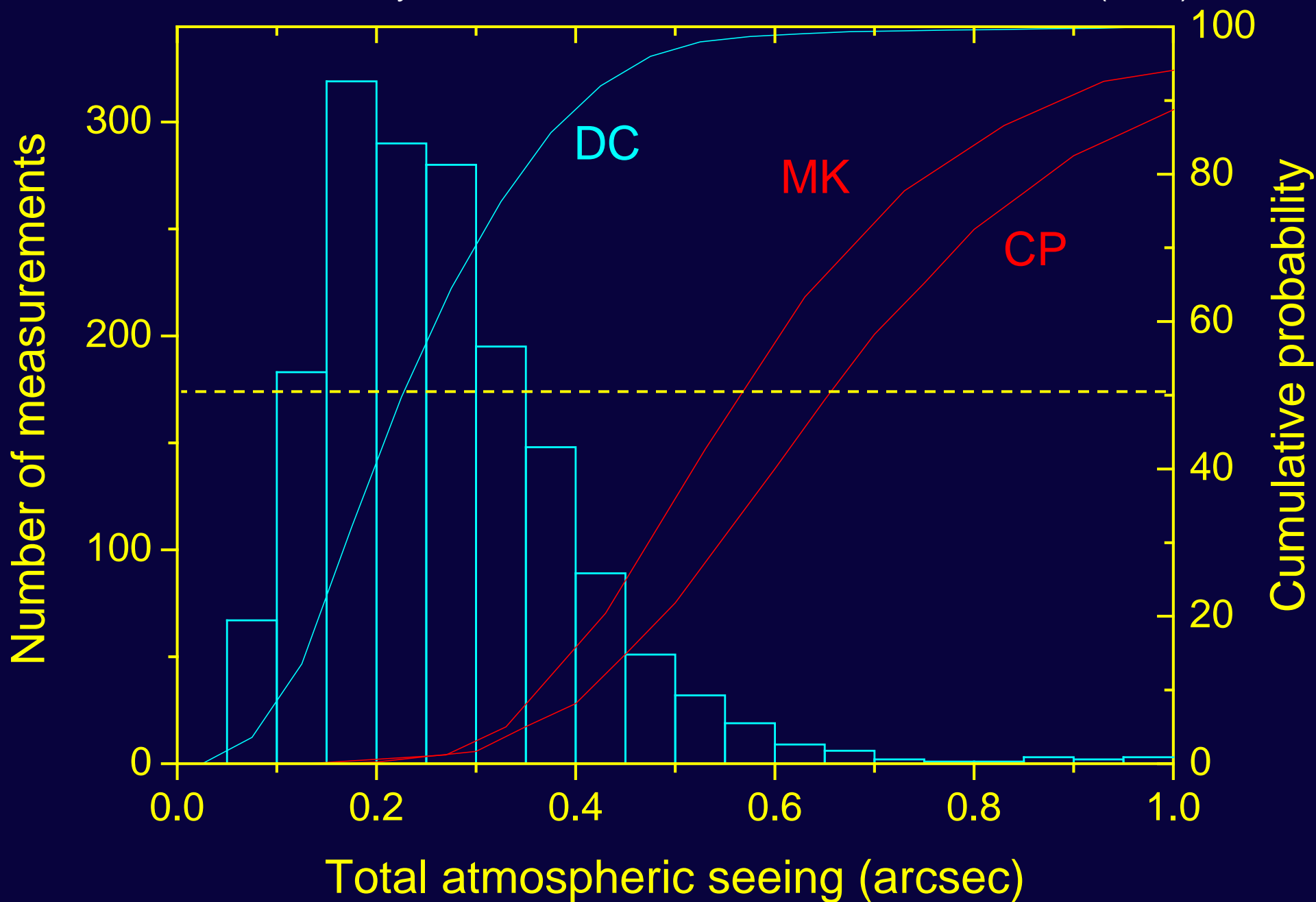
Low seismic activity

Accessible

Continuous observing  
possible

Stable climate

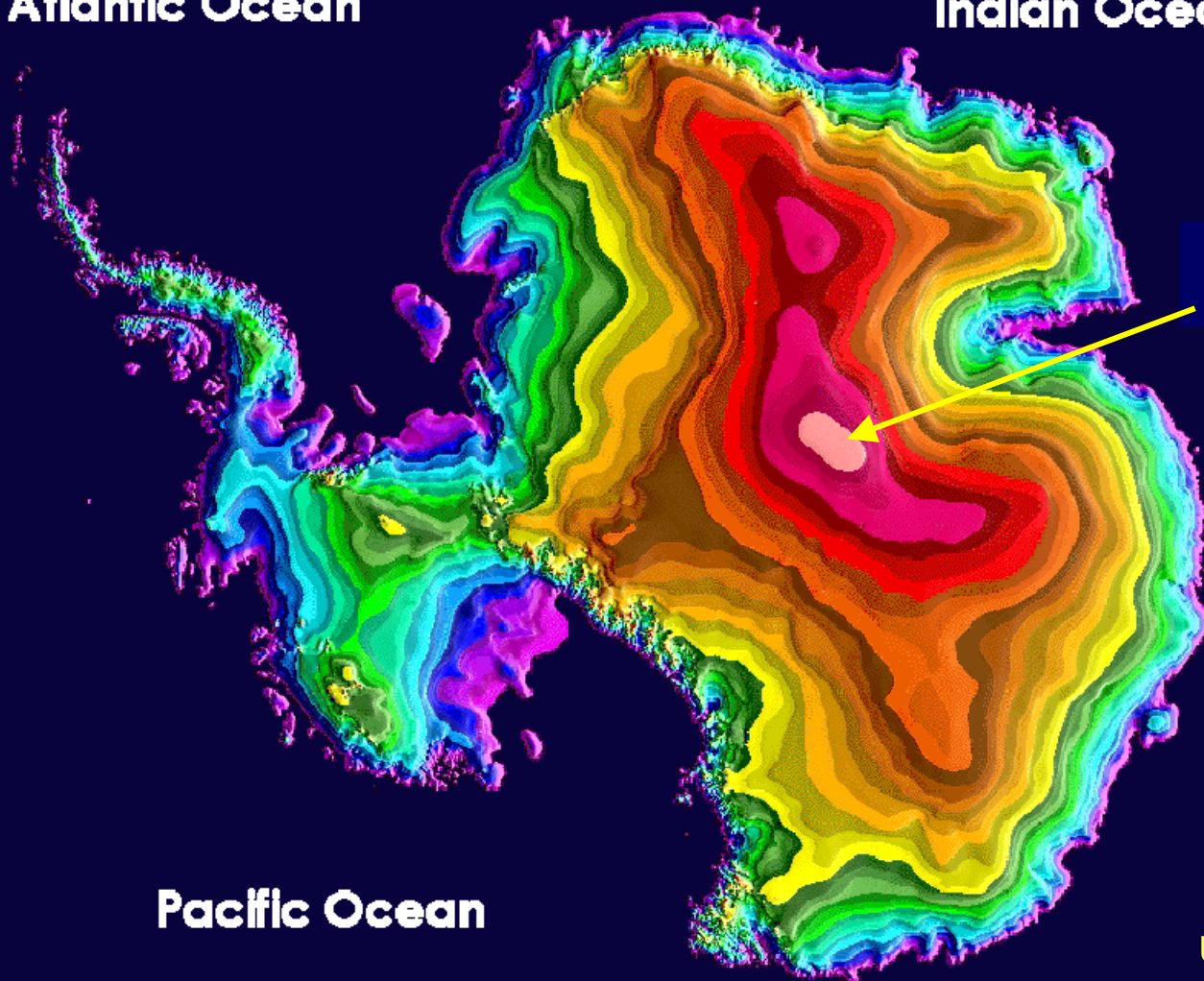




# Contour map of Antarctica

Atlantic Ocean

Indian Ocean



Dome A

Pacific Ocean

USGS image

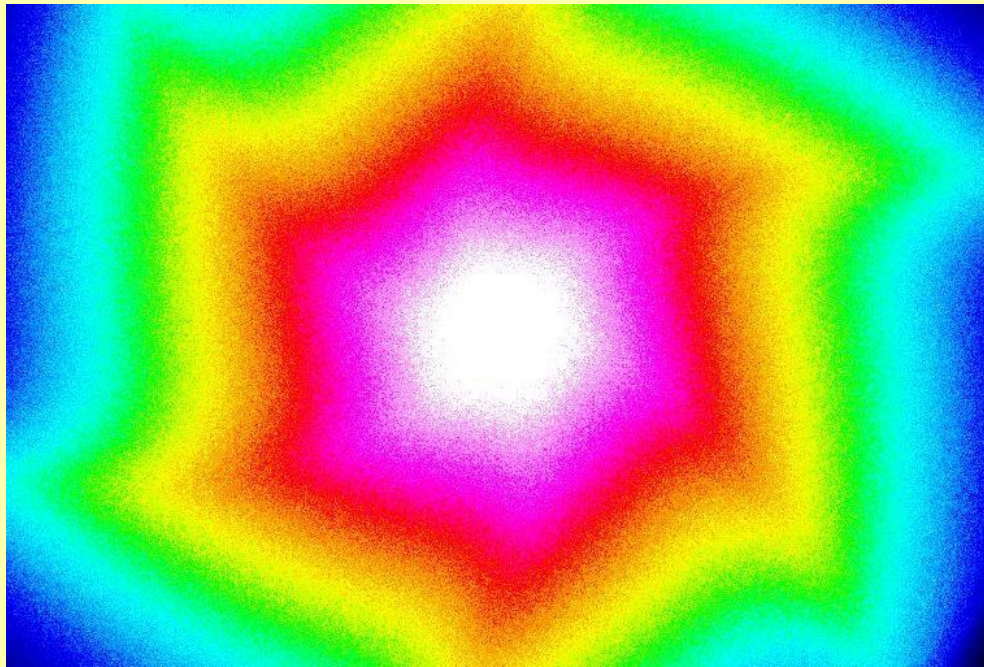
0

Elevation in meters

4000

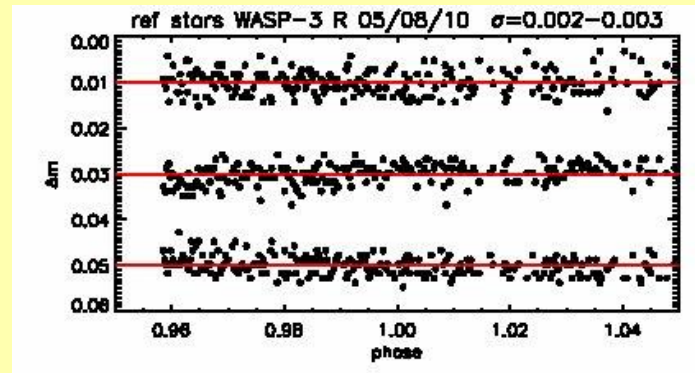
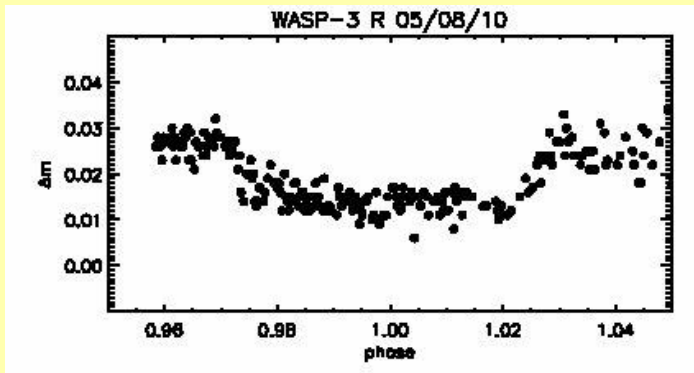


# Shutter correction map



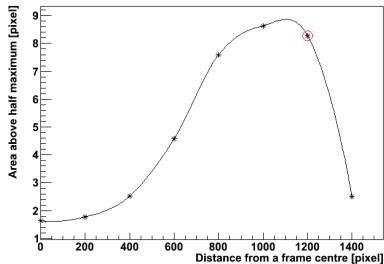
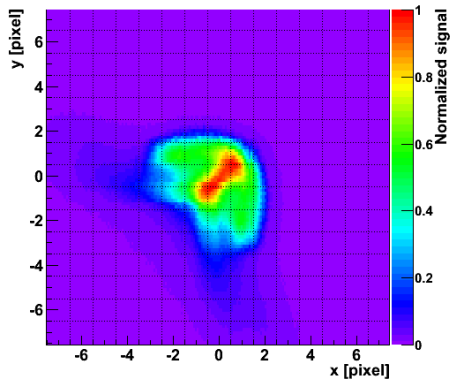
The road to high precision photometry, Maria Teresa Eibe

# Best results so far



# PSF reconstruction

High resolution PSF profile – superposition of the images placed on the net of  $20 \times 20$  positions on the pixel.



Area above 50% of the maximal signal.

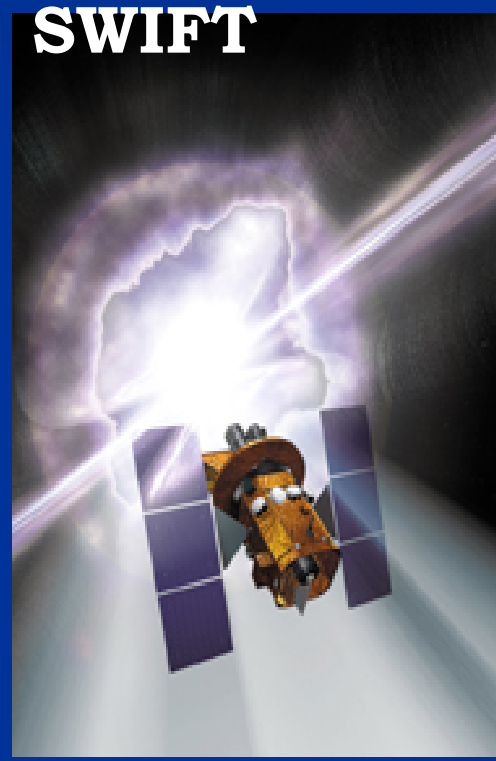
# The BOOTES Network Philosophy (II)

Ground-support to space based missions

Very fast slewing speed ( $> 100$  deg/s), easy rescheduling, fast readout ( $< 1$ s)



2002-



2004-



2012-

# Follow up vs. synchronous

Table taken from poster by S. Meehan

Telescope	GRB	T <sub>90</sub> (s)	Δ Opt (s)	Peak mag.	Δ Peak (s)	Ref.
ROTSE-I	990123	63	22	8.95	29	GCN 205
ROTSE-IIIb	041219A	520	74	14.9	2880	GCN 2868
Watcher	060526	275.2	36	15.5	112	GCN 5165
PROMPT	060607A	100	40	14.5	140	GCN 5236
Watcher	060904B	172	62	17.1	507	GCN 5510
TORTORA	080319B	50	0	5.3	23	GCN 7502
Watcher	080905B	128	43	15.8	75	GCN 8207

$$T_{90} < \Delta \text{ Opt}$$

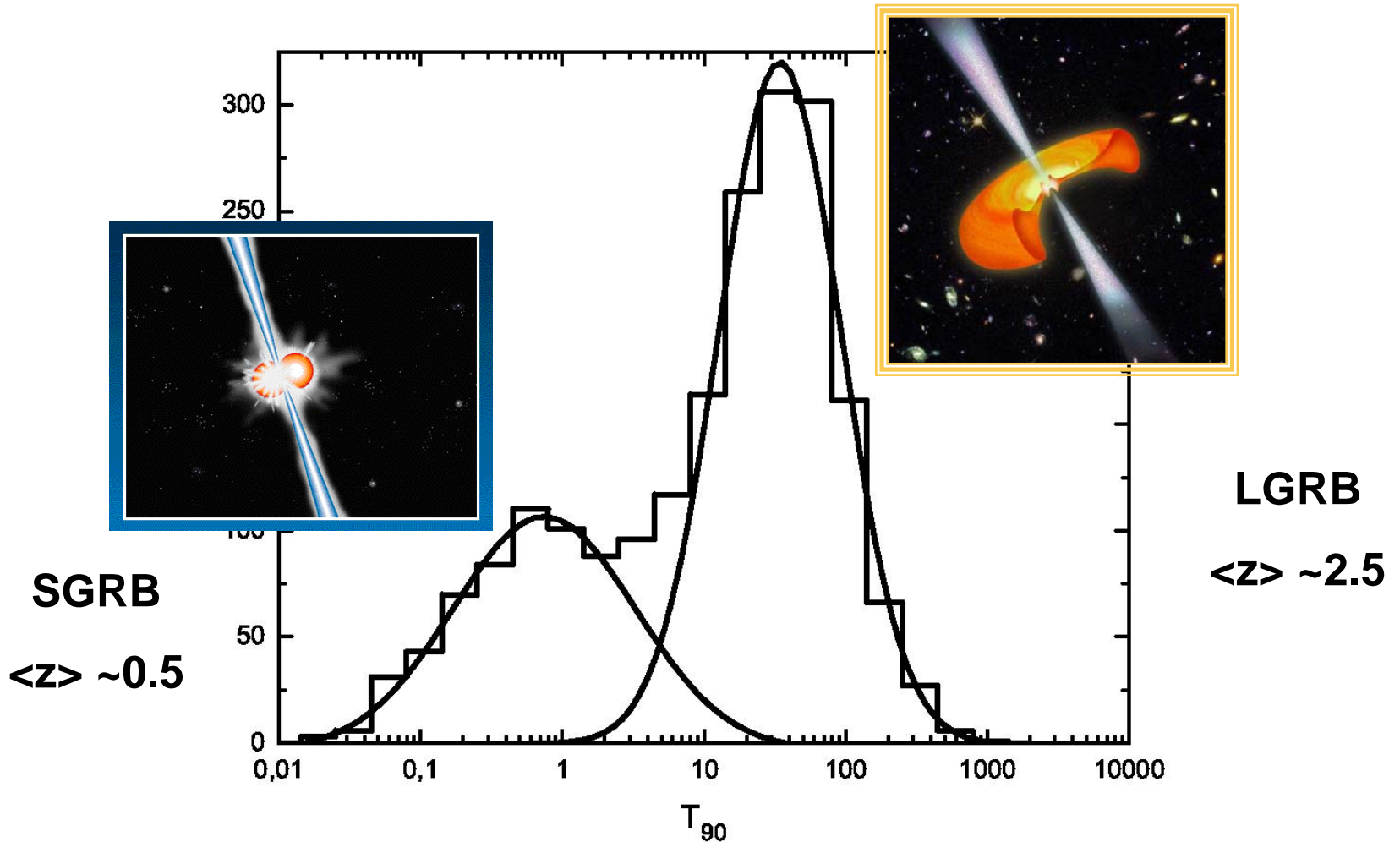
We observe the active phase in  
optic!

# Follow up vs. synchronous

- When you hungry you do not ask the whole elephant, you may want take a part (of elephant), e.g. leg or a flap
- If you need to identify some person you need now only some trace and following DNA-analysis
- So, why we need observation of the whole Gamma-Ray Burst?
- We need *simultaneous observation of only part* of prompt emission in gamma-ray and optic.



# BATSE: bi-modal duration distribution, short and long GRB



# Recent developments

New instruments focus on:

- sensitivity and precision
- fast response
- high temporal resolution
- multi-wavelength measurements
- polarization

# MITSuME

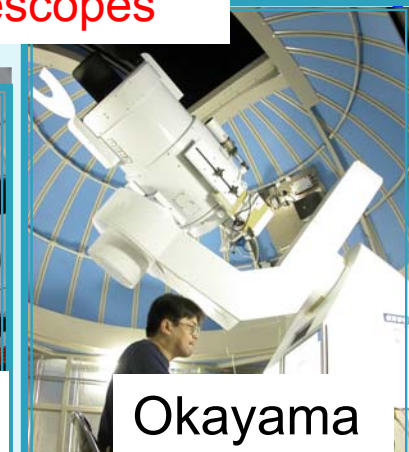
Multi-color Imaging Telescopes for Surveys and Monstrous Explosions

50cm Optical Telescopes



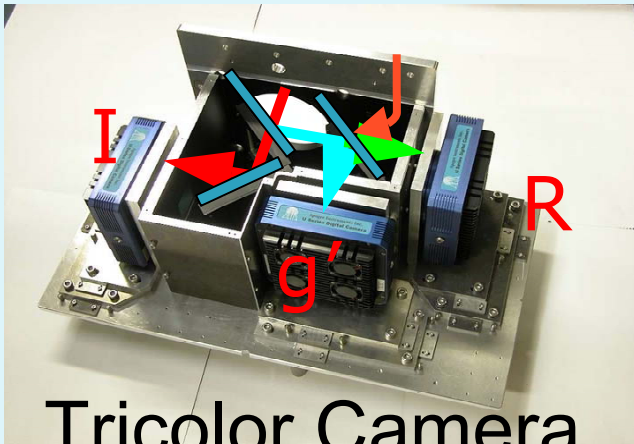
Akeno

Akeno Observatory, ICRR

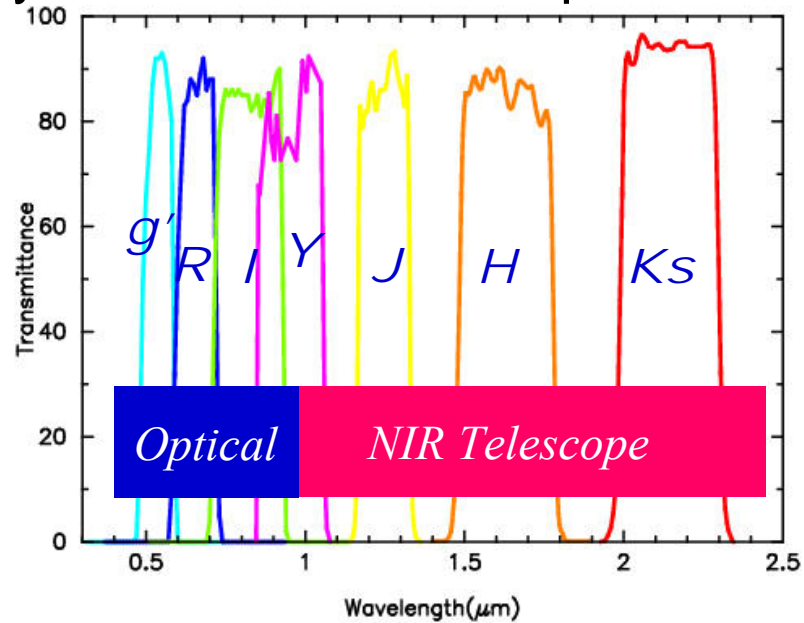


Okayama

Okayama Astrophysical Observatory, NAOJ



Tricolor Camera



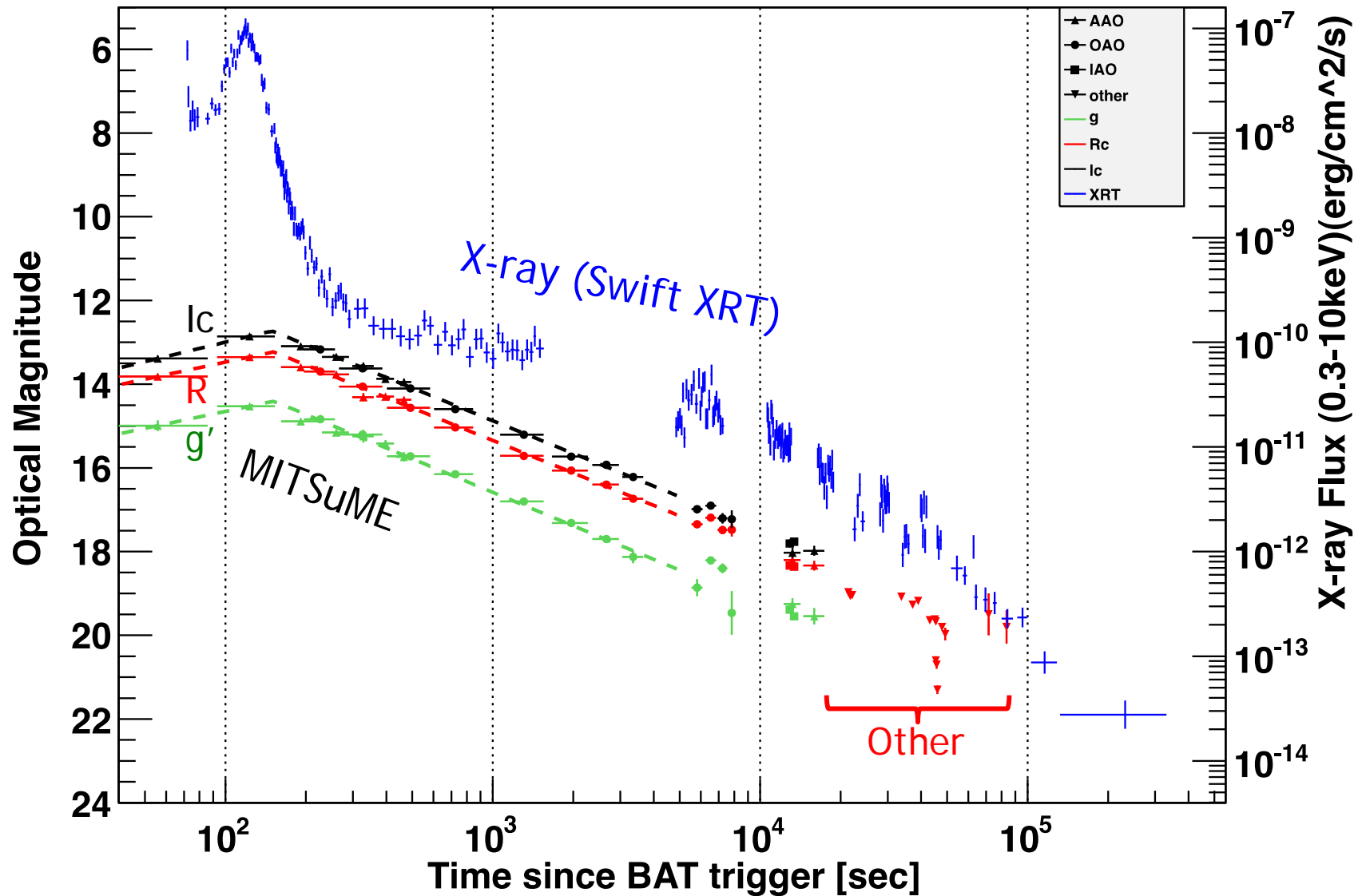
91 cm NIR Telescope

Okayama Astrophysical Observatory, NAOJ

Okayama



# GRB100906A: afterglow light curves

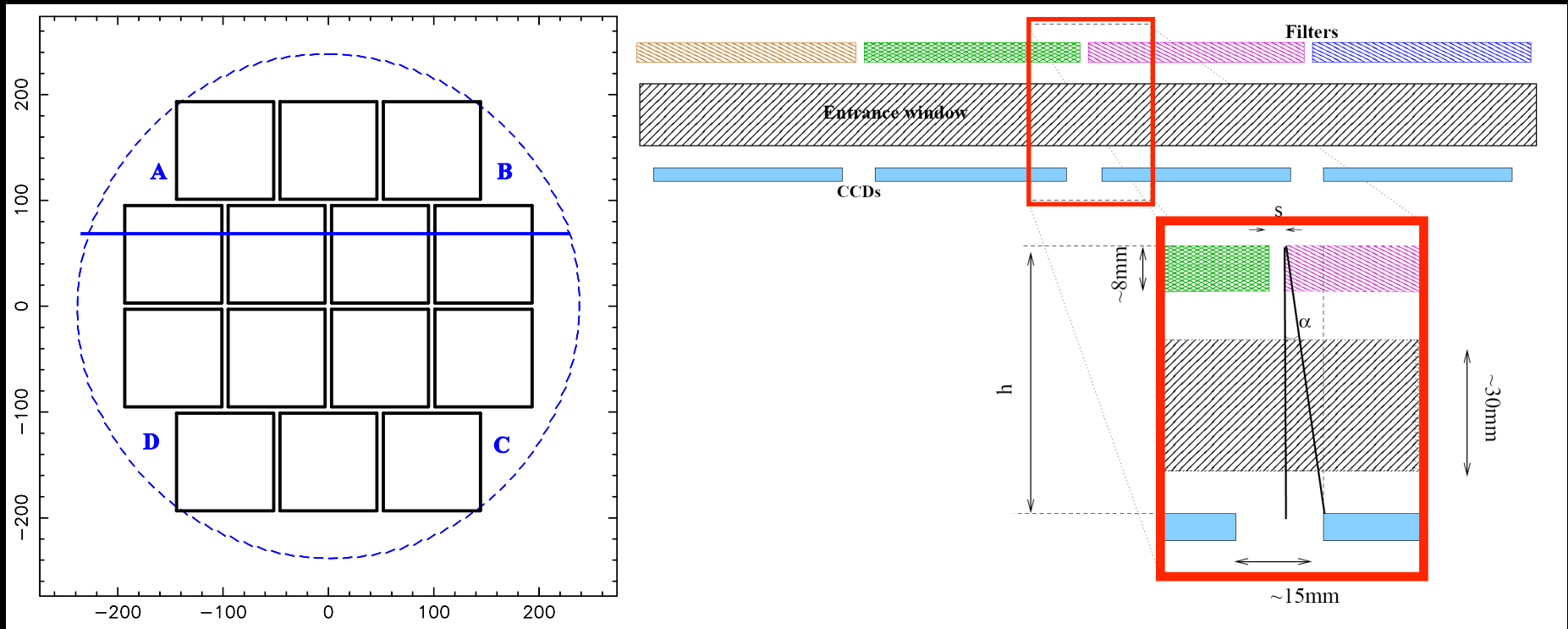


# Robotic Telescopes at Javalambre



## J-PCAM: A PANORAMIC CAMERA @ T250 FOR J-PAS

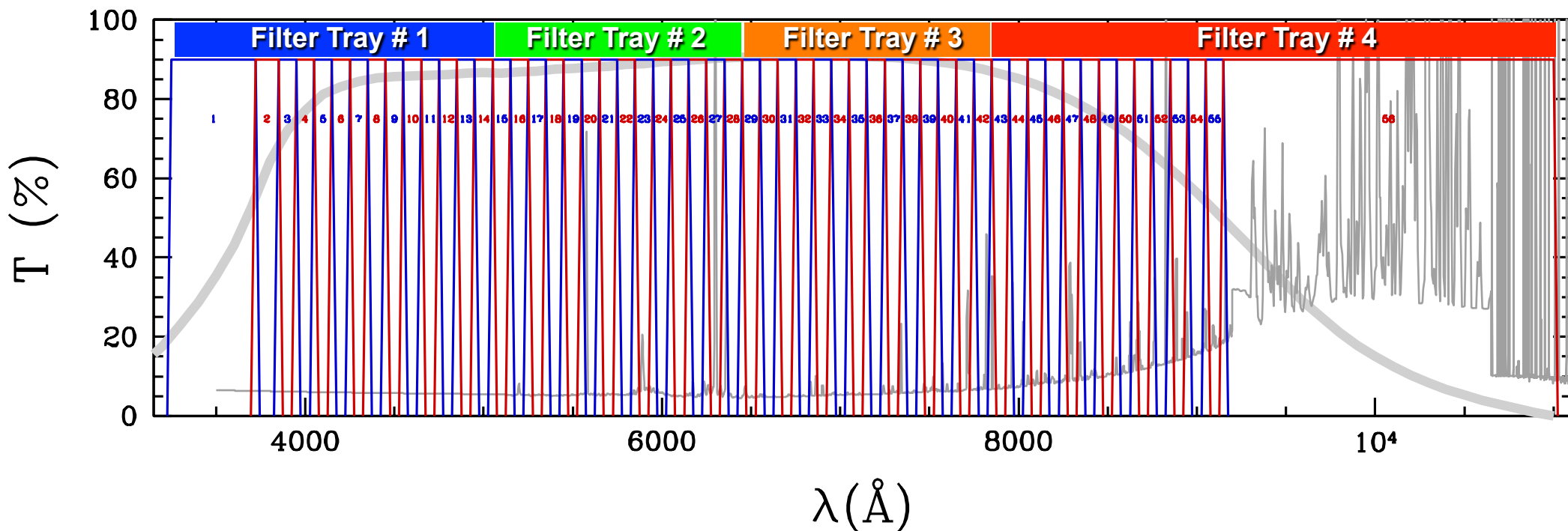
Using new generation, **Large-format CCDs** (9.2k × 9.2k) by e2v  
Mosaic of 14 CCDs (FoV  $\varnothing$  476 mm)  $\rightarrow$  **~ 1.2 Gpix**



Working in convergent beam

# Robotic Telescopes at Javalambre

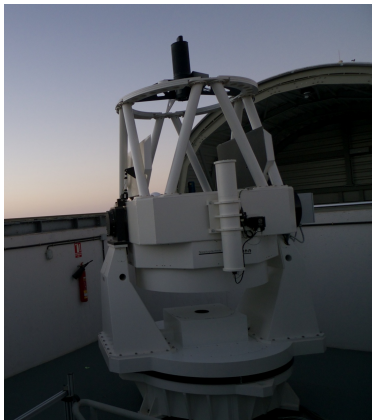
## J-PAS FILTERS



The all 56 J-PAS filters can be **simultaneously** located at J-PCam.

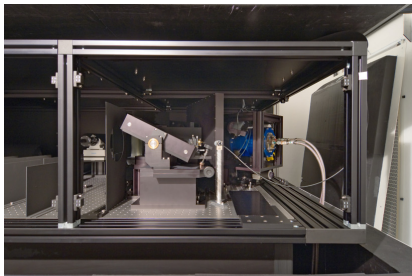
J-PAS Strategy to driven by moon phase, seeing, weather conditions, etc.

## The STELLA/SES telescope



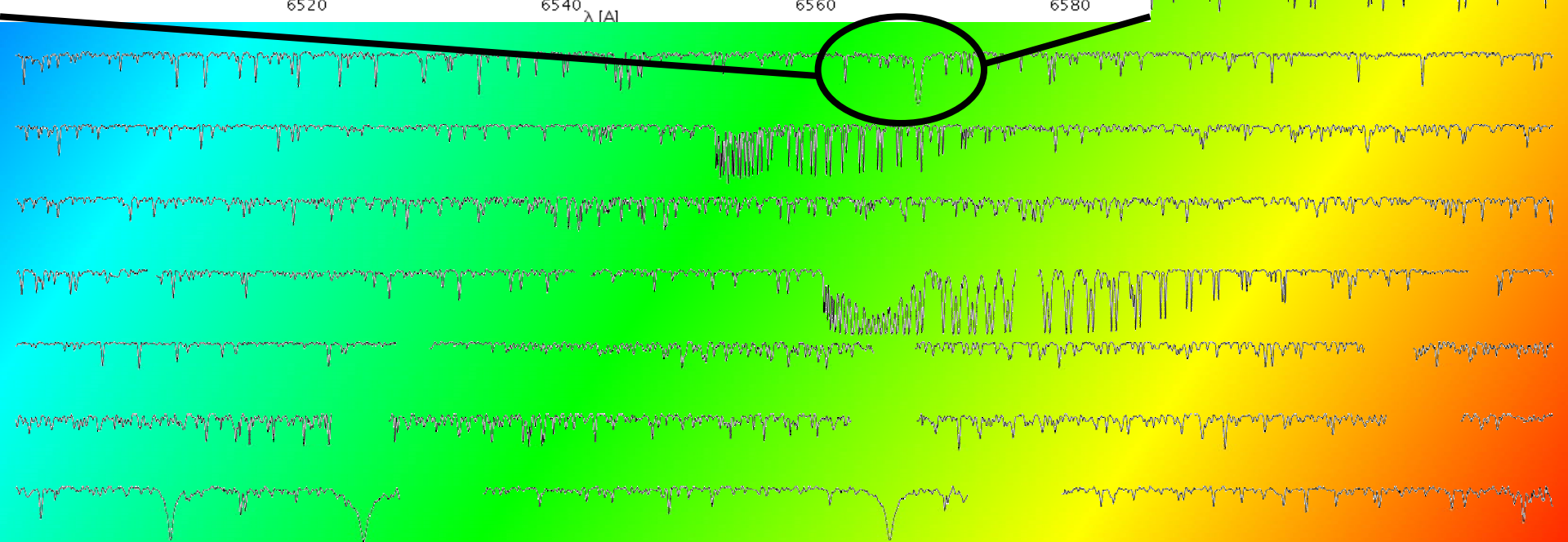
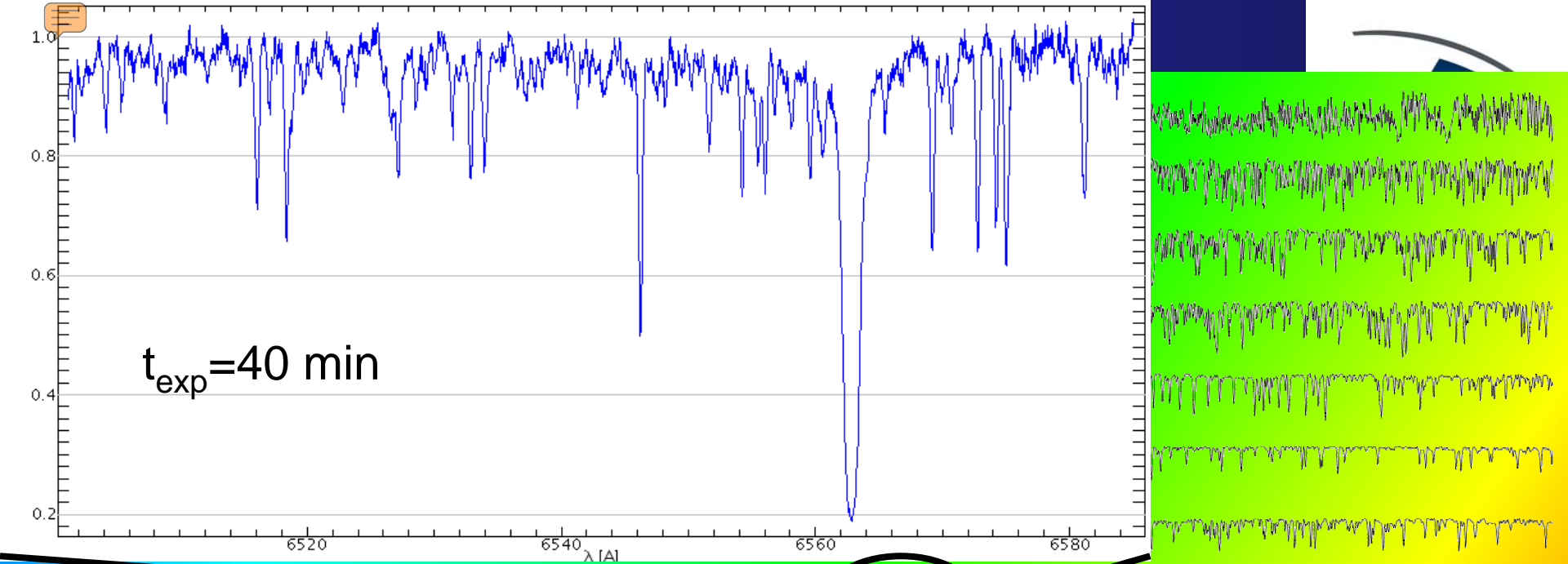
- Second telescope on site, aka STELLA-II
- 1.2m aperture, spherical mirror
- Prime-focus corrector for 1' field
- Alt/Az mount
- Fiber feed for spectrograph since mid 2010

# The échelle spectrograph SES



- Fiber fed, bench mounted
- $\lambda/\Delta\lambda = 50,000$
- Currently 2kx2k detector (order gaps above 700 nm), later 4kx4k pixels
- Closed cycle cooling
- Fixed format: 390 to 900 nm
- Thermally stabilized





HD 1,  $V=7^m43$ , combined spectrum

# Наблюдение 4-х гамма-всплесков сеть телескопов МАСТЕР

## GRB100906A

(gcn11214)

23 s after notice time  
38 s after trigger time  
gcn 11228



### First prompt optical polarization observations

kislovodsk

Sky: -4.3 Sun: +51  
Sen: +17.4  
Amb: +12.5

Head ON Robot ON  
Planner ON

Direct 18s Reserve 18s  
taskParked

A control panel for the Kislovodsk observatory. It displays weather information (sky, sun, sensor, ambient temperature) and operational status (Head, Robot, Planner ON). It also shows a 'Direct' task with an 18s reserve and a 'taskParked' status. Two small camera feeds show the observatory structure.

Workshop on Robotic Auto  
Observatories, Málaga, Spain,  
2011

tunka

Sky: 23.6 Sun: +19  
Sen: +13.2  
Amb: +29.8

Direct 10s Reserve 50s  
taskParked

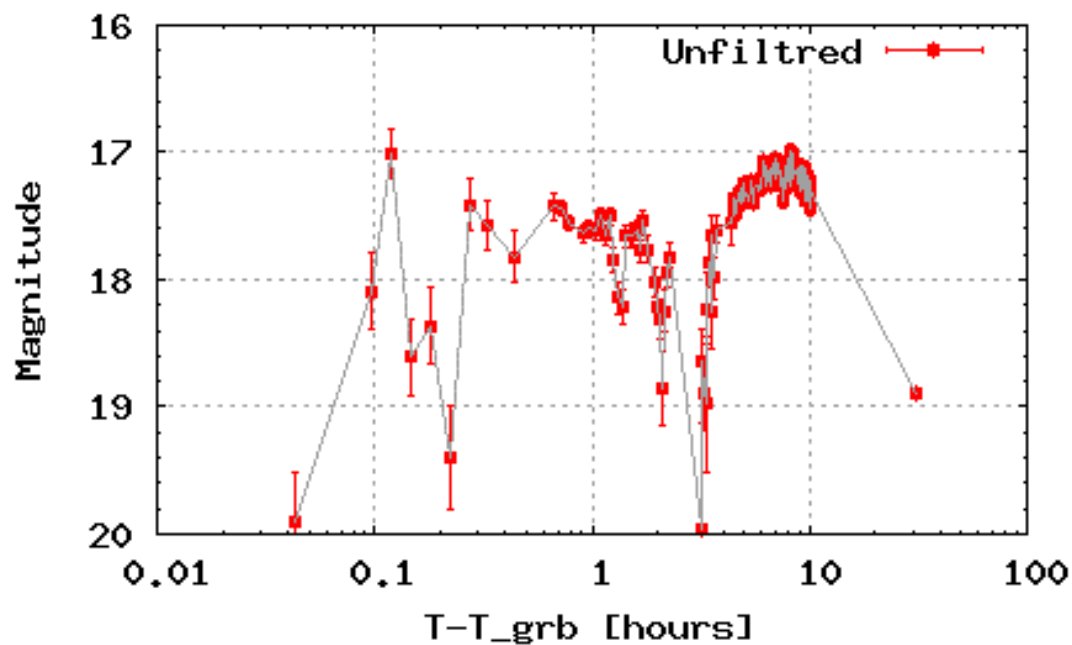
A control panel for the Tunka observatory. It displays weather information (sky, sun, sensor, ambient temperature) and operational status (Direct, Reserve, taskParked). Two small camera feeds show the observatory structure.

Sky: -31.7 Sun: +4  
Sen: +12.4  
Amb: +21.4

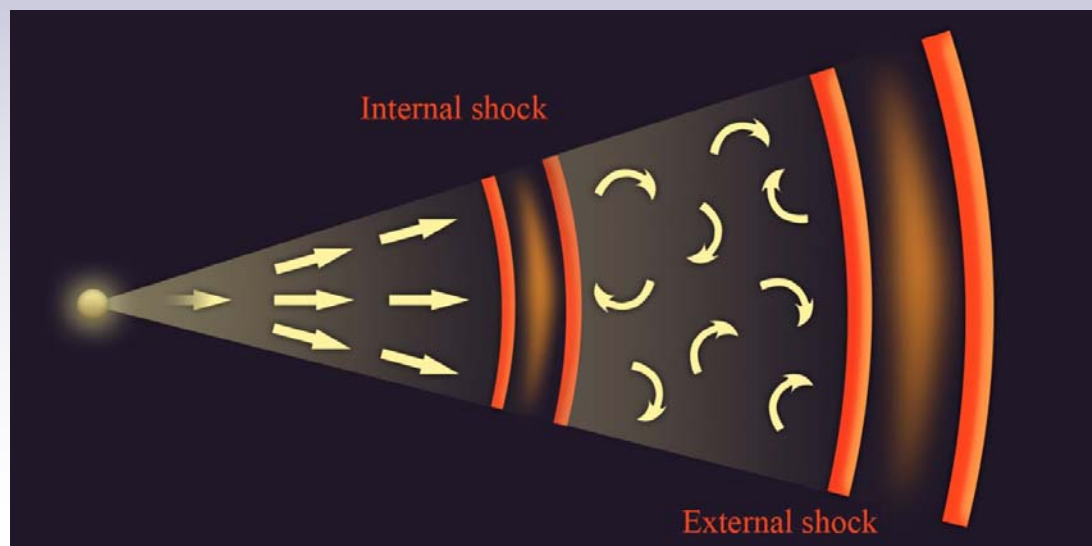
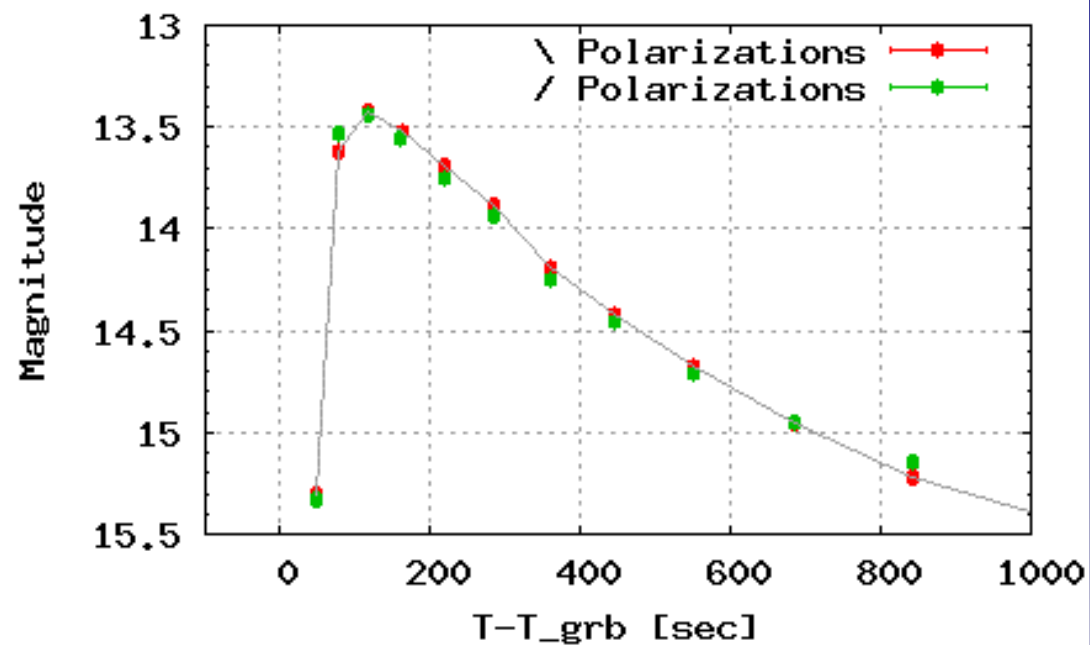
Direct 16s Reserve 16s  
taskParked

A control panel for an observatory. It displays weather information (sky, sun, sensor, ambient temperature) and operational status (Direct, Reserve, taskParked). Two small camera feeds show the observatory structure.

GRB100901A Light curve



GRB100906A Light curve

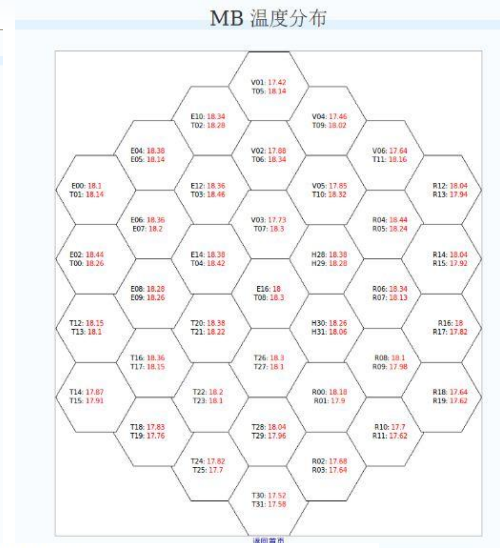
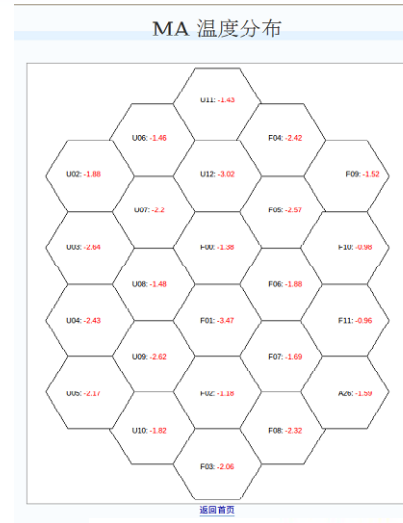
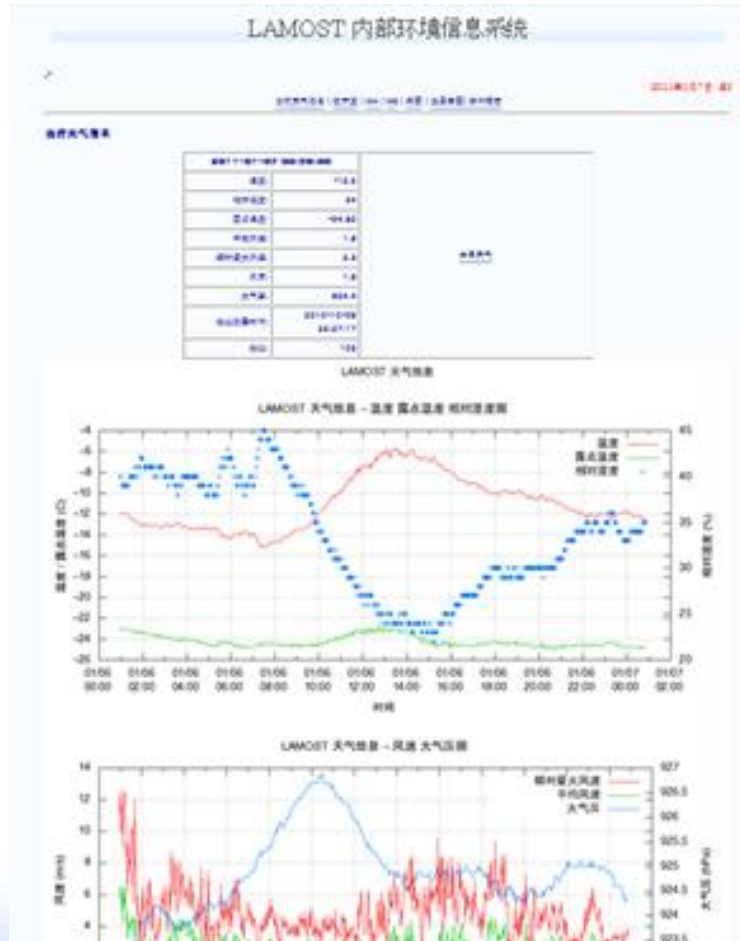


# Recent developments

Web access:

- telescope status
- infrastructure monitoring

# The environment data access



## LAMOST All Sky Camera

Current Image (当前图像)

Full Size

Last 24 hours

Last 48 hours

Windows Media Player 9.0.0.5477

http://172.20.10.112/allSky/Data/AllSkyCurrentImage.JPG

000001947

Downloads into a...



# The environment data access

**View Information View (Main Window)**

mjd	timestamp	num	OBS_ID	OBS_TYPE	Center_RA	Center_DEC	HA_Begin
1	2837 11-5-31 AM4:39	0	skyflat_half	skyflat	0	57.5	
2	2836 11-5-31 AM3:37	0	IF10M	object	285.914	39.9109	0:23:24
3	2835 11-5-31 AM3:15	0	IF10M	object	285.914	39.9109	0:23:24
4	2834 11-5-31 AM3:15	0	TM70	object			

**Viewer Control**

Subsystems: TCS, FIBER, SPEC, CCD, DMS, WIS, OSS

Instruments: Ma S-H I, Ma S-H II, Ma S-H, Ma Disp, Mb Disp, Focal, Mount

Universal Time: 2011 04 05 13 30 34 Sidereal Time: 10 14 53

Sunrise: 05 41 30 Moonrise: 06 33 45 Dawn: 04 12 21

Sunset: 18 42 47 Moonset: 20 33 17 Dusk: 20 12 01

Seeing: Avg(m/s) 0, Max(m/s) 3.8, 6.7

Temp(°C) 7.3, Dewpoint(°C) -8.68, Humidity(%) 31

**实时天气信息**

温度 露点温度 相对湿度图

温度 (C) 露点温度 (C) 相对湿度 (%)

时间

**风速大气压图**

瞬时最大风速 平均风速 大气压

风速 (m/s) 大气压 (hPa)

运行计划 (2010年)

运行计划 (2011年)

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聚合

# Наблюдение 4-х гамма-всплесков сеть телескопов МАСТЕР

The image displays four control panels for gamma-ray telescope stations, arranged in a 2x2 grid. Each panel includes a title, status indicators, weather data, and two video feeds.

- Top-Left Panel (kels):**
  - Head **ON** Robot **ON** Planner **ON**
  - Direct Last socket update 18s Reserve 18s
  - task:Parked
  - Weather: Sky: -4.3 Sun: +51 Sen: +17.4 Amb: +12.5
  - Video feeds: External view of the telescope structure and internal view of the telescope's mechanical components.
- Top-Right Panel (ural):**
  - Head **ON** Robot **ON** Planner **ON**
  - Direct Last socket update 15s Reserve 15s
  - task:Parked
  - Weather: Sky: -26.7 Sun: +35 Sen: +1.2 Amb: +13.1
  - Video feeds: External view of the telescope structure and internal view of the telescope's mechanical components.
- Bottom-Left Panel (tunka):**
  - Head **ON** Robot **ON** Planner **ON**
  - Direct Last socket update 17s Reserve 17s
  - task:Parked
  - Weather: Sky: -43.6 Sun: +19 Sen: +13.2 Amb: +29.8
  - Video feeds: External view of the telescope structure and internal view of the telescope's mechanical components.
- Bottom-Right Panel (amur):**
  - Head **ON** Robot **ON** Planner **ON**
  - Direct Last socket update 16s Reserve 16s
  - task:Parked
  - Weather: Sky: -31.7 Sun: +4 Sen: +12.4 Amb: +21.4
  - Video feeds: External view of the telescope structure and internal view of the telescope's mechanical components.

# Recent developments

## Web access:


- telescope status
- infrastructure monitoring
  
- alert response
- on-line image processing results



# Response to GCN

GCN Web Page

http://sncwall.hp.phys.titech.ac.jp:2388/



### MITSuME GCN web page

Latest Gamma-Ray Bursts	RA [deg]	DEC [deg]	ERROR [arcmin]	NOTICE TYPE	TRIG NUM
<a href="#">GRB 110530-155259</a>	282.0692	61.9286	0.036	XRT_pos	454473
<a href="#">GRB 110530-154459</a>	282.0671	61.9286	0.060	XRT_pos	454473
<a href="#">GRB 110530-153200</a>	282.0449	61.9318	3.000	BAT_pos	454473
<a href="#">GRB 110521-160355</a>	120.1347	45.8263	0.036	XRT_pos	453788
<a href="#">GRB 110521-155349</a>	120.1347	45.8273	0.096	XRT_pos	453788
<a href="#">GRB 110521-155226</a>	120.1442		3.000	BAT_pos	453788
<a href="#">GRB 110520-205436</a>	134.3403	56.4267	0.036	XRT_pos	453747
<a href="#">GRB 110520-204645</a>	134.3420	56.4267		XRT_pos	453747
<a href="#">GRB 110520-202918</a>	134.3751				
<a href="#">GRB 110503-180452</a>	132.7747				
<a href="#">GRB 110503-173753</a>	132.7778				
<a href="#">GRB 110503-173605</a>	132.7998				
<a href="#">GRB 110422-163441</a>	112.0514				
<a href="#">GRB 110422-155559</a>	112.0580				
<a href="#">GRB 110422-154212</a>	111.9949				
<a href="#">GRB 110420-224225</a>	320.0492				
<a href="#">GRB 110420-112624</a>	2.1633				
<a href="#">GRB 110420-110430</a>	2.1609				
<a href="#">GRB 110420-110241</a>	2.1651	-37.8550	3.000	BAT_pos	451757
<a href="#">GRB 110305-065110</a>	260.8806	-15.8023	0.036	XRT_pos	448229
<a href="#">GRB 110305-064339</a>	260.8794	-15.8028	0.060	XRT_pos	448229
<a href="#">GRB 110305-063844</a>	260.8773	-15.7900	3.000	BAT_pos	448229
<a href="#">GRB 110223-213715</a>	150.2341	-68.3018	0.036	XRT_pos	446677
<a href="#">GRB 110223-213405</a>	150.2301	-68.3004	0.060	XRT_pos	446677

**Response to GRB**  
An entry is automatically generated to each Swift GCN notice with coordinates

# Response to GCN

110530-154459

http://sncwall.hp.phys.titech.ac.jp:2388/gcn11/05/110530-154459/

## GRB 110530-154459

elevation map [AKENO](#) [OAO](#) [ISHIGAKI](#) [SUBARU](#) (Hawaii Mauna Kea)

<b>NOTICE_DATE</b>	1306770299
<b>UT</b>	11/05/30 15:44:59
<b>JST</b>	11/05/31 00:44:59
<b>NOTICE_TYPE</b>	67
<b>SWIFT XRT POSITION</b>	
<b>SN</b>	1
<b>TRIG_NUM</b>	454473
<b>GRB_RA</b>	282.0671 [deg] 18h48m16s
<b>GRB_DEC</b>	61.9286 [deg] +61.55'42"
<b>GRB_ERR</b>	0.060 [arcmin]
<b>DATA_TJD</b>	15711 [TJD] 11/05/30
<b>DATA_SOD</b>	56314.00 [sec] 15:38:34
<b>All_Info</b>	<a href="#">allInfo.dat</a>

[MOA](#) (New Zealand Mt. John)  
[SALT](#) (South Africa)  
[GTC](#) (the Canary Islands)  
[HET](#) (America Mt. Fowlker)  
[VLT](#) (Amerika Mt. Graham)

proas data	AKENO	<a href="#">proas-AKENO.pdf</a>
	OKAYAMA	<a href="#">proas-OAO.pdf</a>
	ISHIGAKI	<a href="#">proas-ISHIGAKI.pdf</a>
	SUBARU	<a href="#">proas-SUBARU.pdf</a>
	ASCII MODE DATA	<a href="#">ASCII-NOMAD.dat</a>

**GRB visibility**  
Elevation of the target and the Moon is calculated for various sites

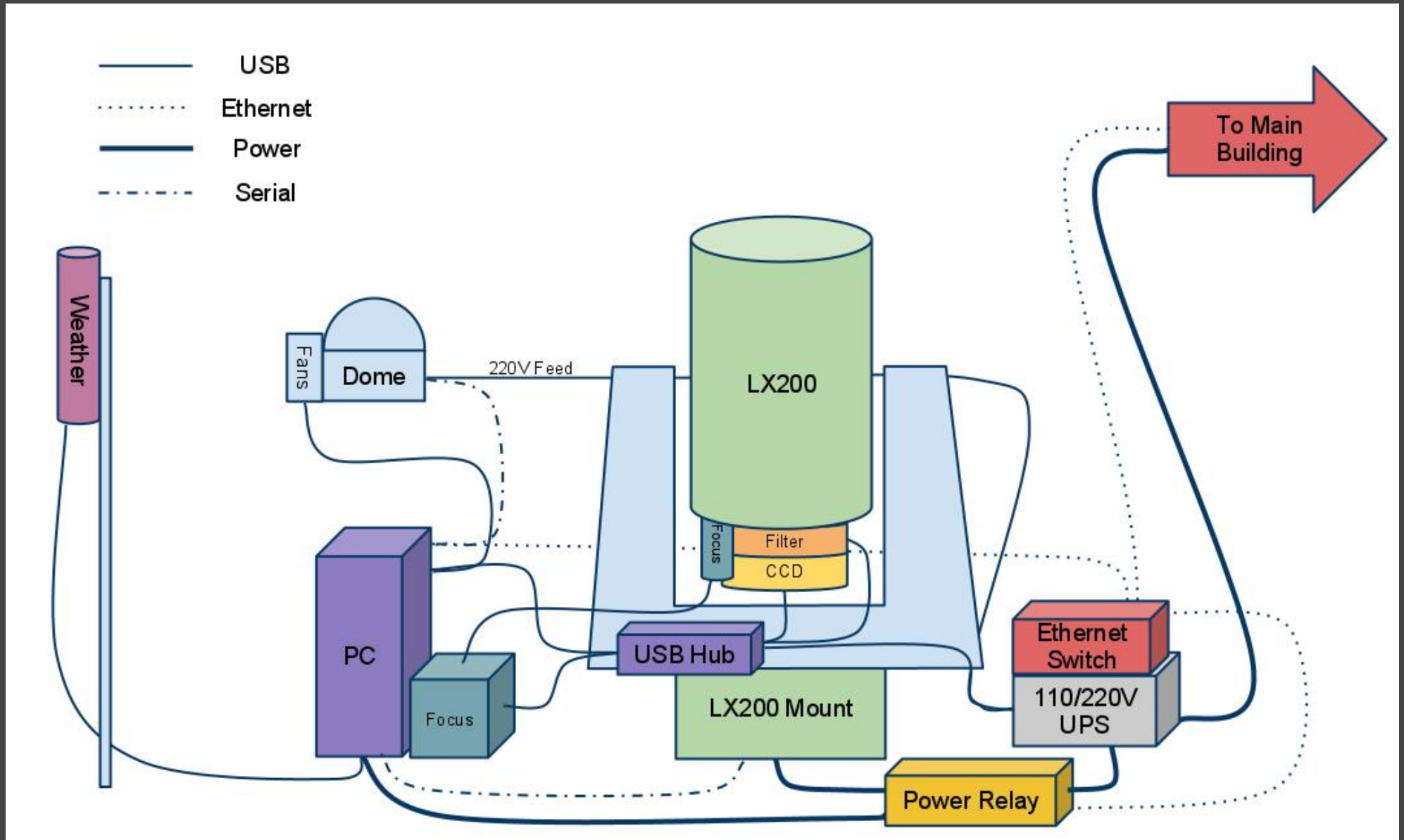
**GRB information**  
Contents of the GCN notice

# Recent developments

## Web access:

- telescope status
- infrastructure monitoring
  
- alert response
- on-line image processing results
  
- cost-effective projects

# Crowd-sourcing - What are we missing? (Total Cost So Far \$57K without first light)



# Where do we aim?

Remotely operated telescopes

Robotic autonomous observatories

Robotic intelligent observatories

# Where do we aim?

Remotely operated telescopes

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Robotic intelligent observatories

Robotic Telescope Networks

# MASTER-NET

TOTAL FOV 38 square degrees up to 20-21 mag +4200 sq.degeres, up to 14 mag



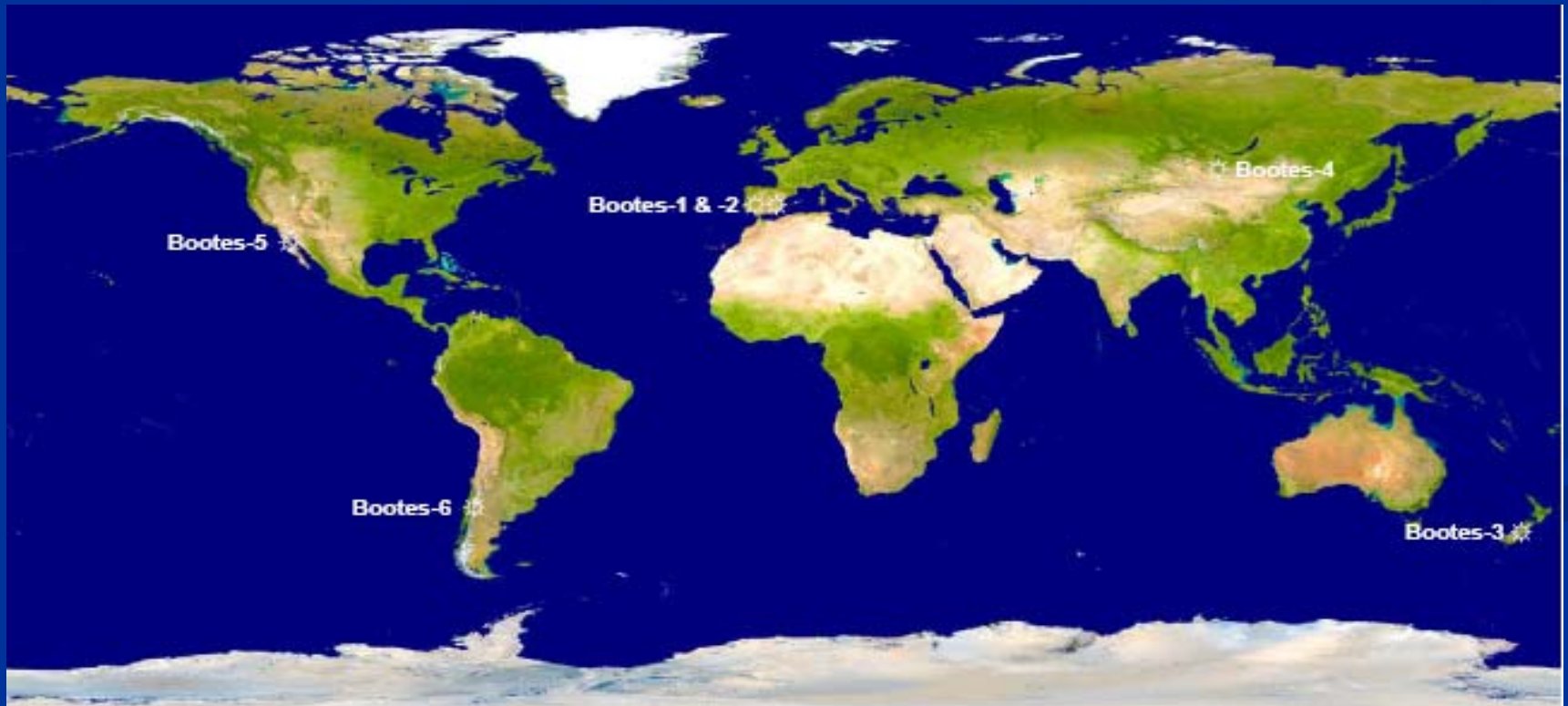
# The BOOTES Network Philosophy (I)

Identical telescopes spaced around the Earth

Identical filter sets: g'r'i'ZY

Identical CCD cameras

Impact on several scientific fields and public outreach





# Where do we aim?

Remotely operated telescopes

Robotic autonomous observatories

Robotic intelligent observatories

Robotic Telescope Networks

Intelligent **R**obotic **O**bservatory **N**etworks



GLORIA - <http://robtel.eu>



**FP7-INFRASTRUCTURES-2011-2 (Call 9)**  
*INFRA-2011-1.2.1: e-Science environments*

## ***Global Robotic Telescopes Intelligent Array For Citizen Science***



P.C.: Francisco M. SÁNCHEZ-MORENO [fsanchez@fi.upm.es](mailto:fsanchez@fi.upm.es)

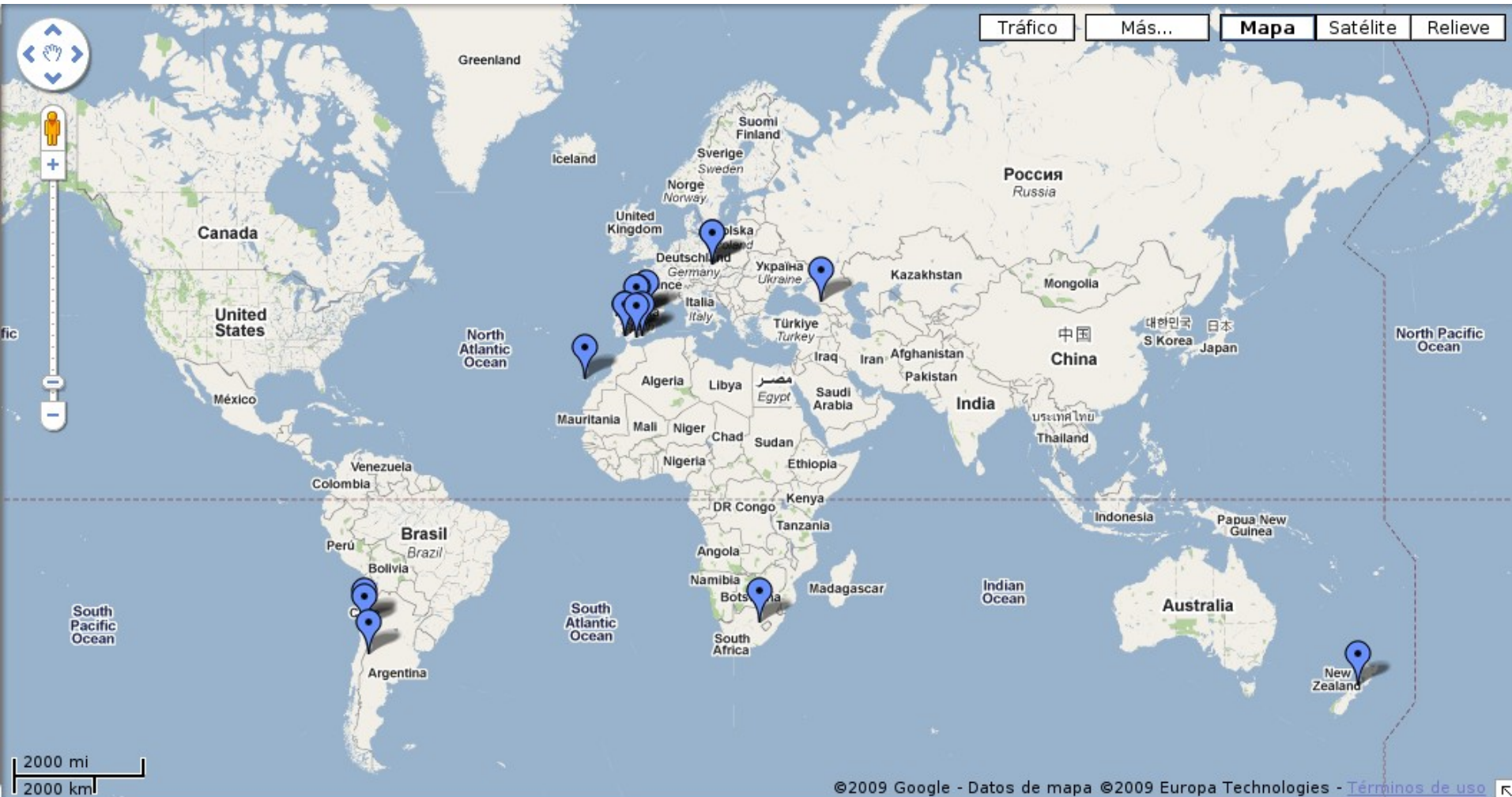
Universidad Politécnica de Madrid

P.S.: Alberto J. CASTRO-TIRADO [ajct@iaa.es](mailto:ajct@iaa.es)

Consejo Superior Investigaciones Científicas



## Obj. 1: Create a social network for researching astronomy



# Observatory Managers

## Four widely spread

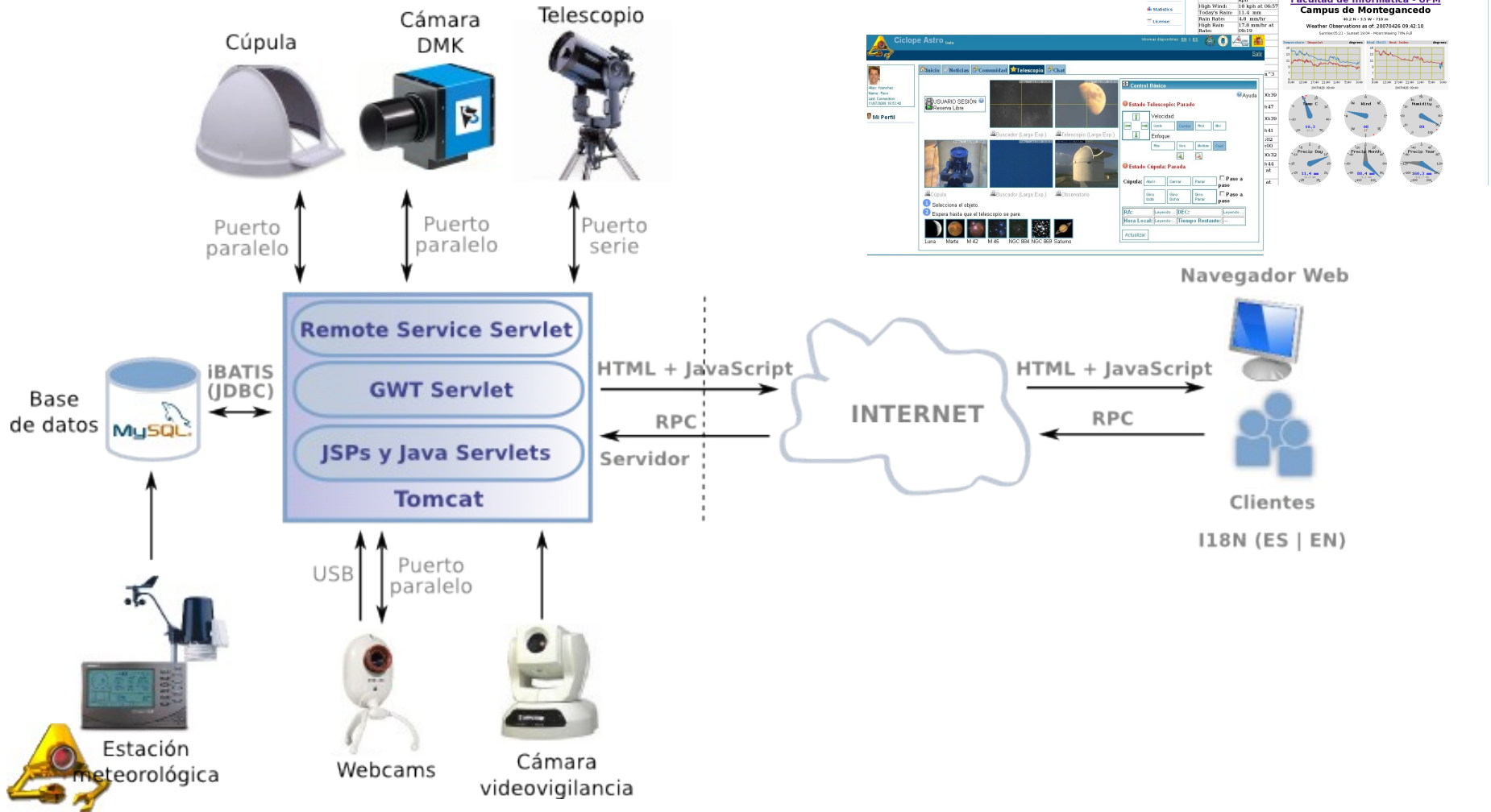
**AUDELA:** Developed by A. Klotz et al. (Toulouse), starting in 1995. Open source code. Linux/Windows.

**ASCOM:** Designed in 1998, by B. Denny (USA), as an interface standard for astronomical equipment, based on MS's Component Object Model, which he called the Astronomy Common Object Model. Mostly used by amateur astronomers, has been also used by professionals. Windows. Widely used in SN, MP searches.

**RTS2:** The Robotic Telescope System version 2, is being developed by P. Kubánek, (Ondrejov/Granada) starting in 2000. Open source code. Linux/Windows (command line and graphical interface foreseen). Widely used in GRB searches.

**INDI:** The Instrument Neutral Distributed Interface (INDI) was started in 2003. In comparison to the Microsoft Windows centric ASCOM standard, INDI is a platform independent protocol developed by E. C. Downey (USA). Open source code. Not so widely spread as the upper layer interface was not done.

## Objetive 2: Increase the number of telescopes



# Thank you

