

Summit Preprocessing

The installation of a summit Sun workstation running IRAF will allow observers to get started with the preprocessing task. As this is a new installation and is being done in tandem with the new data acquisition computers it is not generally available. This workstation is *not yet a fully supported preprocessing site*. We make these suggestions for the use of this facility:

- Let your support astronomer and the DRF know 1-2 months in advance of your anticipated use.
- New visitors to CFHT or new users of IRAF should not attempt to preprocess data at the summit (plan a day in Waimea).
- Observers of the current run have priority on the workstation. You may have to complete the preprocessing in Waimea.

Software Ports

The DRF has been busy porting selected software from the Vax system to the Unix systems at CFHT.

- The stellar photometry program CFHphot has been ported to the SUN/IRAF systems.
- We are currently working on porting the entire FTS preprocessing system to the SUN/UNIX environment.
- The DRF has continued the work done by NOAO on porting IRAF to the HP9000 series 800. We now have a preliminary version of HP/IRAF running on the system 300 HP9000. CFHT will remain the site responsible for maintaining HP/IRAF in cooperation with NOAO.

R. McGonegal

The F/8 Secondary Mirror Aluminizing

The f/8 secondary mirror was successfully aluminized and returned to service over a four week period in April. This was the first re-aluminizing since the mirror cell was modified in the fall of 1983 to accommodate a mirror bending support system and a new vacuum seal. As might well be expected after such long service, the old coating was in a sad state.

Tom Gregory and his team did a most commendable job aluminizing the mirror. The coat produced was beautiful and flawless.

Tom Gregory, John Fellenstein and Peter Sydserff removed the first of four retaining rings prior to removal of the mirror from its cell. Reinstallation of the mirror in its cell however, as had long been feared, was a frustratingly slow procedure, accented by several disappointing setbacks, before final success. The bulk of the problems were centered on the mirror cell vacuum seal and earlier seal-related modifications to the mirror retaining rings. Although once operational the cell supports the mirror well, its mechanics are still very much in an experimental state, not terribly conducive to easy maintenance.

Not all was black for the re-assembly however. After a few trials a new, much improved seal installation procedure was developed. A detailed list of modification for the cell was arrived at, as was a renewed resolve to remedy current assembly headaches. Clearly at a minimum the mirror cell retaining rings, if not the basic cell structure, must be replaced with more serviceable mechanics.

In the end, all the hard work by a very dedicated team paid off. The mirror and cell were mounted back on the telescope and were returned to service without a hitch.

Derrick Salmon



Figure 3.