Observing Proposal WHISP 12 March 1995

Herewith we wish to re-activate our WHISP proposal of 10 September 1994, in which we requested 100 times 12 hours observing time for the year 1995: 50 times 12 hours in the first semester and 50 times 12 hours in the second semester. Recent progress of the WHISP observations has been disappointing: while we were awarded 30 $\times$ 12 hours in first priority and 10 $\times$ 12 hours in second priority during the last PC meeting, only 11 $\times$ 12 hours of this assignment have actually been done.

It is important to note that suitable candidates for WHISP in the RA ranges 18 - 24 and 0 - 6 hours have now nearly all been observed. Thus, it is no longer possible to plan the observations sequentially, and only a single full synthesis observation can be done per 24 hours, leaving a hole in the schedule of about 10 hours.

Survey progress:

Our primary sample of galaxies that we wish to observe with the WSRT consists of 409 galaxies. All of these have flux densities in excess of 100 mJy and they can be done with the present front ends. No attempt has been made yet to define a sample for observation with the new MFFE's, but such a sample would be similar in size.

WHISP observations started in 1992, so far 174 $\times$ 12 hours have been done. As some galaxies required multiple baselines, and a few were observed twice (for reasons that are not entirely clear) the total number of galaxies observed is somewhat smaller: we now have data for some 150 galaxies.

Data reduction:

During the last 6 months the procedures for the GIPSY phase of the data reduction have been reviewed and somewhat modified. Both the NEWSTAR phase and the GIPSY phase are now progressing well: 2 to 3 galaxies are being reduced per week.

WHISP Database:

Work on the design of the WHISP database is continuing. The Kapteyn Institute has bought a CD jukebox and a write unit. We intend to store results on CD's but presently we are still using DAT tapes.

PhD Students:

Two PdD students are now working with WHISP data: R. Swaters (AIO at Kapteyn Institute) concentrates on dwarf galaxies and R.H.M. Schoenmakers (also AIO) is involved in the modelling of HI datacubes with the purpose of determining shapes of dark halos.

CCD Photometry

M. Balcells, EC postdoc at the Kapteyn Institute has obtained R-band CCD frames for about 150 WHISP galaxies at La Palma.

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