Astrophysics in Burkina Faso



Prof Claude Carignan^{1,2} & Zacharie Kam Sié^{2,3}

¹Department of Astronomy, University of Cape Town, RSA ²Observatoire d'Astrophysique, Université de Ouagadougou, BF ³Département de physique, Université de Montréal, Canada

Astrophysics in Burkina Faso



aRCHITECH 857, As de la frahaminé - 01 8P 9892 OUAQA THE: (*228) 50-45 22 11 e-mail: b-dimini@ywhoo.ft B. Desire THIOMBIANO ARCHITECTE				PROJET DE CONSTRUCTION DE L'OBSERVATOIRE D'ASTROPHYSIQUE DE L'UNIVERSITE DE OUAGADOUGOU MATIEU COUMAGE UNIVERSITE DE OUAGADOUGOU		MODI
DESSINA	TEURKLAUB	2009-OMP-092K	MP-092K REV.N		COUPOLE METALLIQUE /	1
DATE:	20/11/09	ECH.: 1/100	N° PLAN 23	(APD)	VUE AXONOMETRIQUE	

- · History of the ASTRO project in Burkina Faso
- Move of the Marly telescope from Chile to Burkina Faso (research telescope)
- What about the Asteroid Grand Challenge

History of the project

- Summer 2006: Demand from the Minister of Higher Education and Research to come in Burkina Faso to start an Astrophysics department
- Summer 2007: An Astrophysics program is created within the Physics department (LPCE) at the Université de Ouagadougou
- The teaching Observatory (ODAUO) is inaugurated on 26 November 2007

Support of the Authorities

BURKINA FASO
UNITE-PROGRES-JUSTICE

Quagadougou, le 1 4 DEC. 2007

PRESIDENCE DU FASO

PRESIDENCE DU FASO

No 0279 /P.F.

Le Brisident du Faso Brisident du Conseil des Ministres

...

d'Astrophysique de l'Université de Montréal - MONTREAL -

Professeur,

Vous vous êtes, avec une grande conviction et beaucoup d'amitiés, admirablement investi dans des activités en faveur du Burkina Faso, et précisément de son enseignement supérieur.

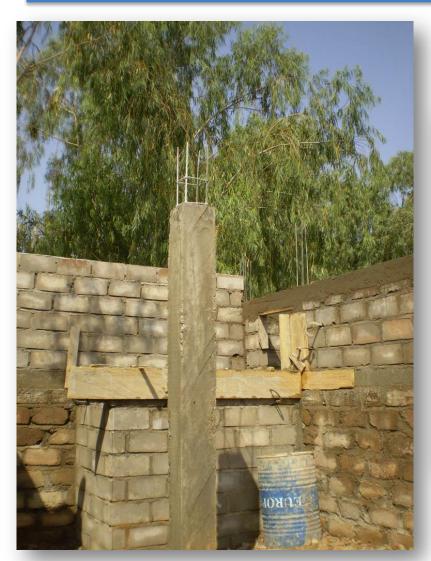
Au moment où vos efforts ont abouti à la création au sein de l'Université de Ouagadougou, d'une filière de formation en Astrophysique, ainsi qu'à l'installation d'un Observatoire quasiment inédit en Afrique au sud du Sahara, doté entre autres, d'un télescope performant, il me plaît de vous adresser mes vives félicitations, ainsi que ma gratitude pour tout ce que vous avez entrepris.

Pour parvenir à ce magnifique résultat, vous avez pu bénéficier du concours particulièrement remarquable de partenaires au Canada auxquels j'adresse mes remerciements.

Connaissant votre aptitude à fédérer les énergies, j'apprécierai particulièrement que vous puissiez mobiliser encore plus de partenaires, notamment les amis du Burkina, pour consolider ce qui est entrepris.

En vous assurant de mon soutien, ainsi que de celui du Gouvernement burkinabè pour toute suite que vous voudriez donner à vos actions, je vous réitère mes encouragements et vous prie d'agréer, **Professeur**, l'expression de ma parfaite considération.

Blaise COMPAORE







Built in 5 weeks







Inauguration 26 November 2007





http://www.astro.univ-ouaga.org/



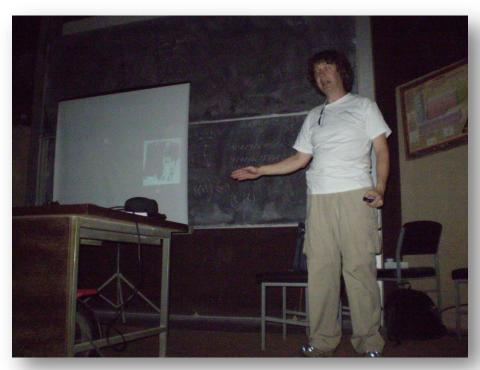


- Two courses at the undergraduate level:
 - Introduction to solar system Astrophysics and to stellar Astrophysics
 - Introduction to Galactic and Extragalactic Astrophysics and to Cosmology
 - -2007: > 100 students
 - 2009: > 110 students
 - -2010: > 120 students
 - 2011: ~100 students





Fall 2007





Fall 2007

- The formation in Astronomy/Astrophysics is really given at the Msc level (20-40 students):
 - Galactic Astronomy* (end 2011)
 - Extragalactic Astronomy* (jan-mar 2009)
 - Cosmology* (jan 2011)
 - Interstellar Matter
 - Stellar Evolution* (mar-apr 2010)
 - Stellar Atmospheres* (mar-apr 2010)
 - Instrumentation



History of the Marly telescope

- Installed in 1975 on mont Chiran, in France, site testing for the future CFHT
- Moved at the OHP in 1987
- Put in crates in 1995 and sent to Chile for the EROS2 project (wide corrected field: 3°)

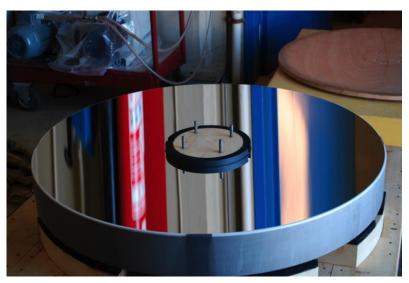


Marly telescope in Chile with the EROS II instrumentation

Relocation of the Marly telescope







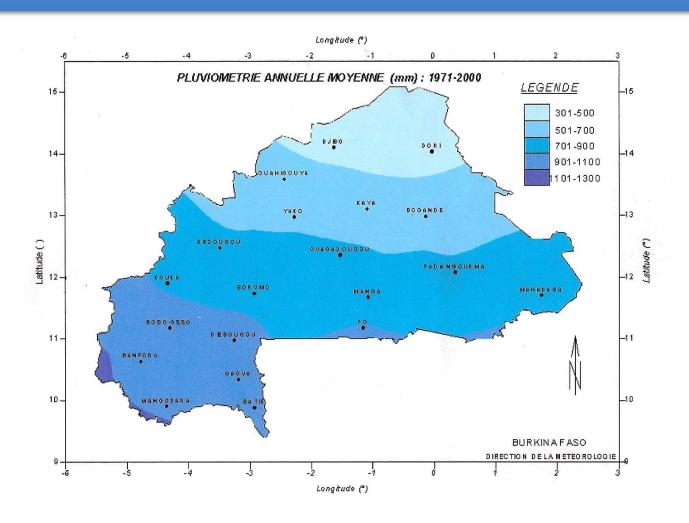


Marly Project

- Decision taken by the Science Council of the OAMP: 2008/12/02
- Move of the telescope October 2009: 30K\$ (UdeM)
- Arrival in Ouagadougou: January 2010
- Instrumentation (LAE & LAM: FP + WF camera)
- Electrification: solar energy provided by Taiwan (November 2013) note: 1st telescope powered by a star!



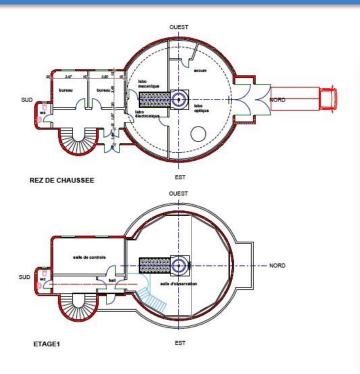




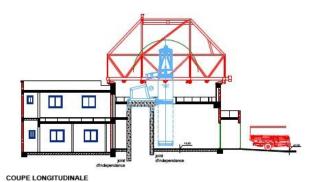


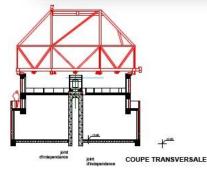
Mount Djaogari (459 m) (coordinates: 13° 46' 16.98" N / 0° 08' 00" W) ~25 km south of Dori & ~250 km north-east of Ouagadougou (~2h30)

Drawings of the Observatory









WIYN Observatory KPNO, Az, USA



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Start of the construction



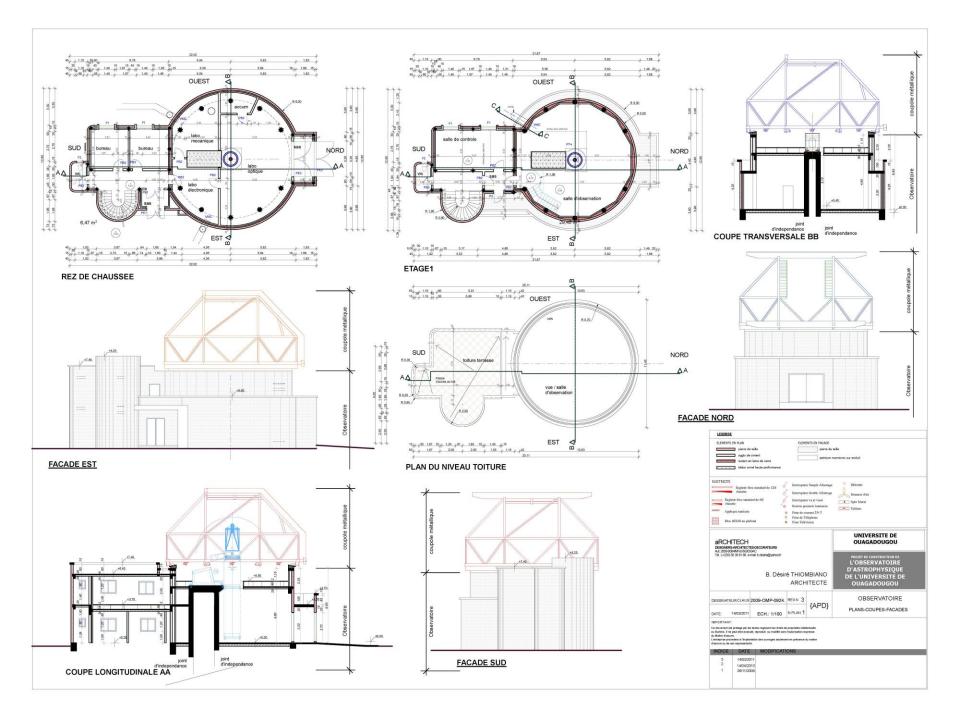
Road to the summit of mount Djaogari

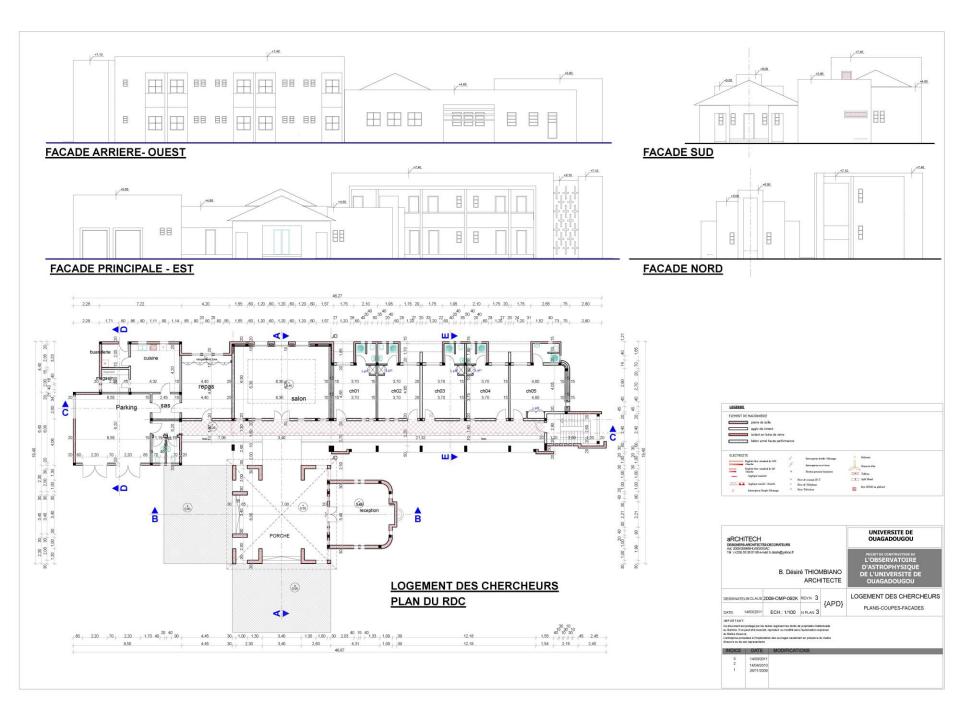


Summit ready for the construction – Nov 2013



Start of the construction – Feb 2014



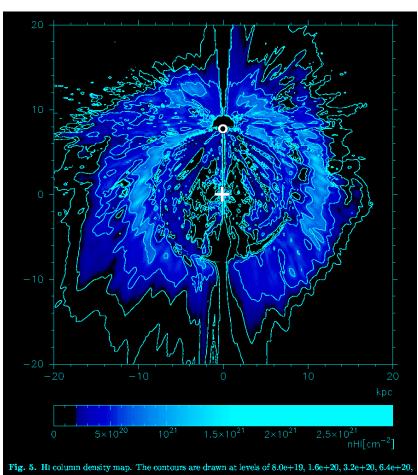


Formation of HQP

- ➤ 1 student (Zacharie Kam Sié) will be finishing his thesis in Astronomy end of this month (Université de Montréal) and was already recruited by the Université de Ouagadougou last November
- I engineer (Issa Ouattara) is doing his PhD in Astronomical Instrumentation in Marseille to support the instrumentation on the new telescope and should be finishing by the end of this year
- > 1 student (Issouf Kafando) did a Msc at the Université de Moncton and is now doing his PhD at Université Laval, in Québec (end in 2015)

Formation of HQP

- ≥ 2 students (Amidou Sorgho & Blaise Tapsoba) came in SA through the NASSP program at the Honours level. They are now doing their Msc and should start their PhD at the end of 2014
- > 1 student (Marie Korsaga) is starting her PhD in cosupervision between UCT and Marseille (LAM)
- ➤ In ~3 years time, there will be 5 PhD in Astronomy and 1 PhD in Engineering that will form the core of the Astronomy group at the Université de Ouagadougou



1.3e+21 atoms cm⁻²

Fabry-Perot based project

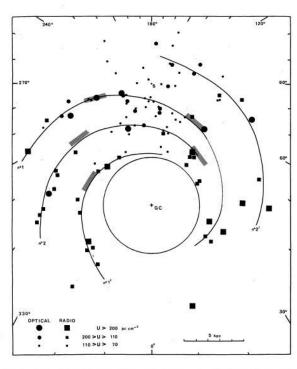
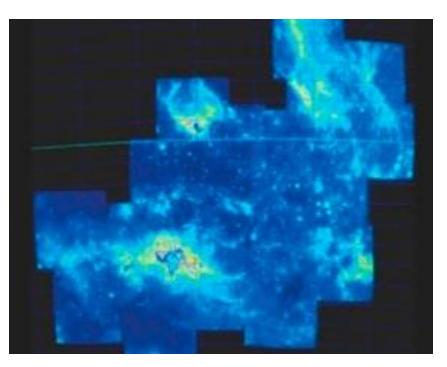
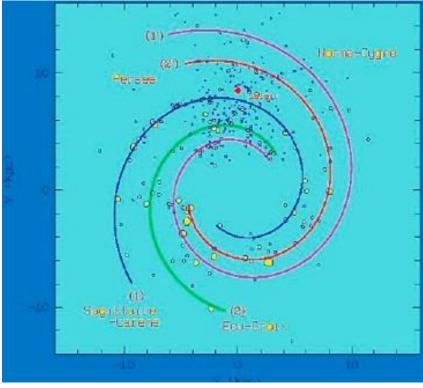


Fig. 11. Spiral model of our Galaxy obtained from high-excitation-parameter H II regions (U>70 pc cm-2); the resulting spiral pattern has two symmetrical pairs of arms (i.e. four altogether). No. 1. Major arm: Sagittarius-Carina arm; No. 2. Intermediate arm: Scutum-Crux arm; No. 1'. Internal arm: Norma arm; No. 2'. External arm: Perseus arm. Hatched areas correspond to intensity maxima in the radio continuum and in neutral hydrogen

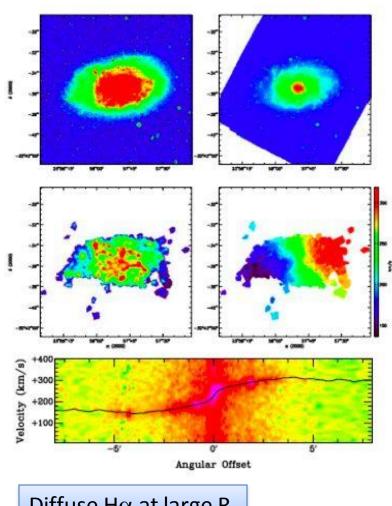
Spiral structure of the Milky Way from the distribution of HII regions

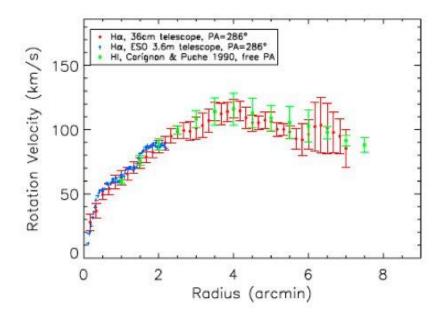
 $H\alpha$ Survey of the Milky Way from the Southern Hemisphere-La Silla, Chili





Project in BF: $H\alpha$ Survey of the Milky Way from the Northern Hemisphere + 13°





Mscs: I. Dicaire & J. Hlavacek-Larrondo

Diffuse $H\alpha$ at large R

 Surely room for more research projects on the 1m telescope, such as those discussed during this workshop.

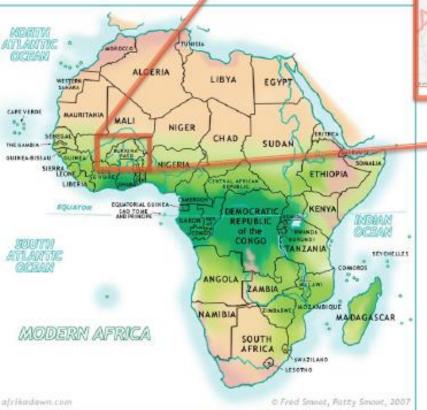
Equipment

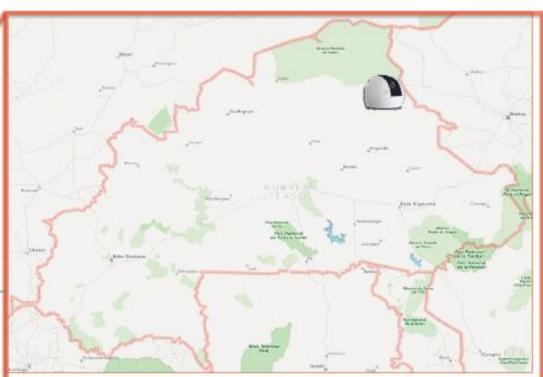
 Most NEO survey work is done by 1-m to 2-m class wide-field telescopes

Christensen's talk, yesterday

Le Burkina Faso; l'observatoire au *Mont Djaougari*

Coordonnées du site: oo° 08' 22.61 " W 13° 46' 32.51 " N









THIS IS A WORLD-WIDE EFFORT

- Target Asteroids! has attracted over 201 participants from 33 countries covering every continent except Antarctica
- But biases are obvious

May be a nice project for the OAD Small telescopes – Citizen science

