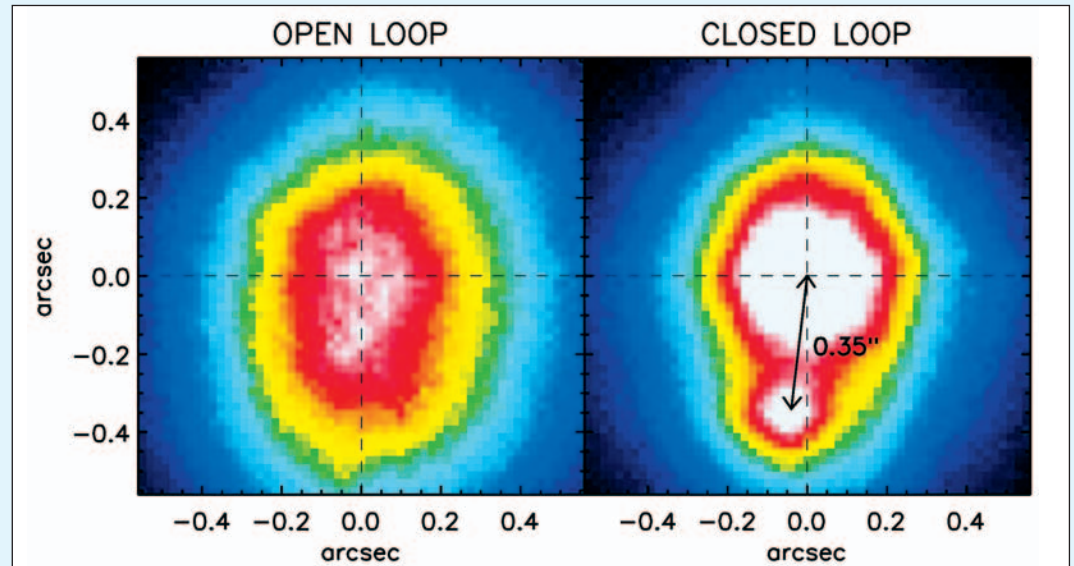


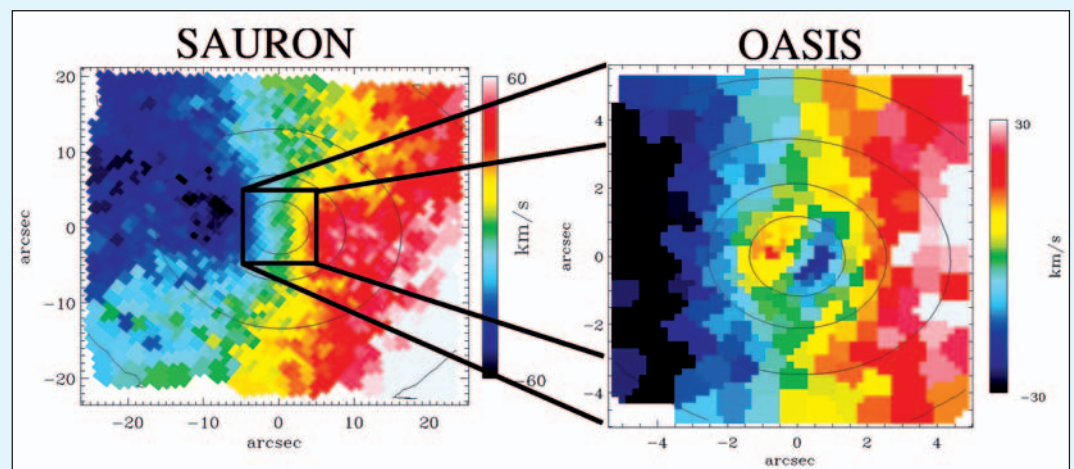


THE ISAAC NEWTON GROUP OF TELESCOPES

Science Prospects with OASIS



OASIS R-band images of a close binary ($V_{\text{mag}} \sim 9+10$) in $0.5''$ natural seeing ("open loop") and with NAOMI correcting the PSF ("closed loop") to $0.2''$ FWHM.



Spatially binned SAURON (left map) velocity field of NGC 4382 (Emsellem, E., et al., 2004, MNRAS, 352, 721) showing the outline of the OASIS field (right map) as obtained at CHFT (see article by Richard McDermid et al. on page 3).

Message from the Director

Dear Reader,

In some aspects the last several months at the observatory, since the previous issue of this Newsletter, have been similar to previous years, and in other aspects there has been major change. To start with the latter, I refer to the very welcome news that the long-sought development of a laser beacon for adaptive optics at the William Herschel Telescope has been approved. Coincidentally, receiving 'green-light'

for the project will take on a literal meaning when some two years from now the projection of green laser light will become a regular feature above the telescope. The scientific potential of having the full sky available to adaptive optics exploitation rather than only about 1% as in the case of 'classical' adaptive optics, is excellent. Now it is our task to build a working system, and then to scientifically exploit it. An introductory