

MMTPOL

A High Precision Imaging Polarimeter for Use With the MMT AO Secondary. A collaborative project between the University of Florida and the University of Minnesota.

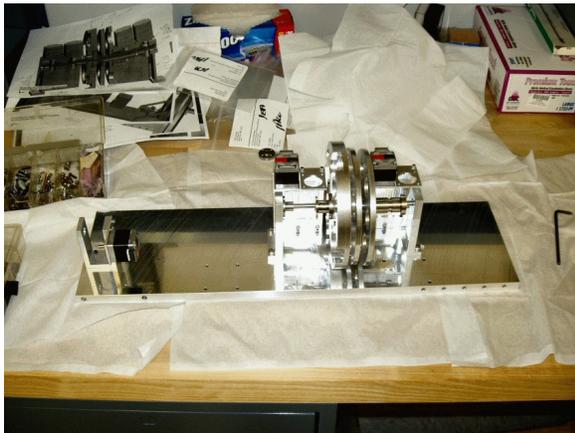


The Minnesota team - Left to right:

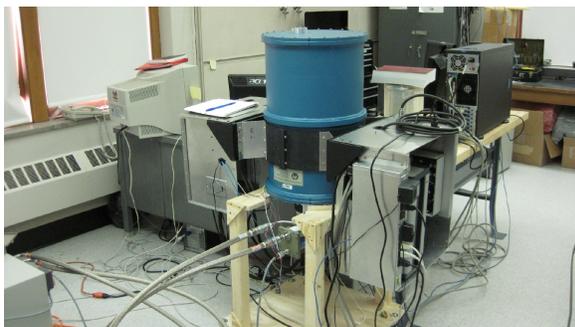
Megan Krejny - Post Doc, now at BAE
Ashley Nord - Astrophysics Major and Rhodes Scholar!
Michael Planer - Astrophysics Major
Kathleen DeWahl - M.S. 2011

University of Florida team -

Christopher Packham - CoI
Craig Warner - Software Engineer
Enrique Lopez Rodriquez - Grad Student



Optics bench with a few of the mechanical components mounted. Entrance aperture wheel mount is at left. Half waveplate, Wollaston and Filter wheels and the common shaft they ride on are shown. The optics mounts are not shown.



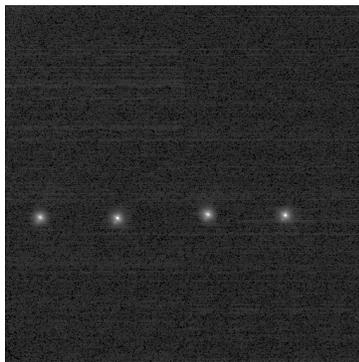
Assembled MMTPol, with the electronic boxes mounted on the side.

November 2011 Commissioning Run

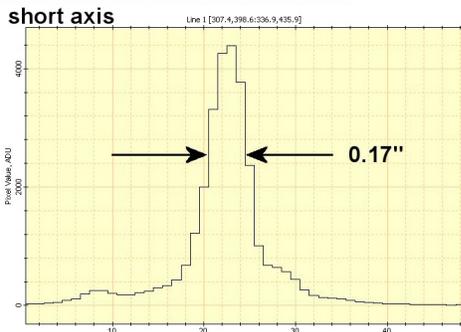
Left to right: Tom Vonderharr (UM grad student), Terry Jones, Chris Packham (CoI, UFla), and Dinesh Shenoy (UM grad student).



MMTPol mounted on the telescope. Note the hexapod mount and the He compressor lines. The dichroic lies above the dewar inside the mounting plate. You can just see the three micrometers that adjust its tilt hanging down from the plate.



MMTPol
with AO



The weather was really bad, but here are the first images (through thick cirrus with the wind blowing) with the AO secondary locked in. There are two dithered images in the focal plane and the focal plane is split by the Wollaston into two images, hence four images of the star.