

VST in the era of the large sky surveys



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ESO Public Surveys: status and forward look

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The ESO Public Surveys serve the science goals of the survey teams while increasing the legacy value of ESO programmes, thanks to their homogeneity and the breadth of their sky coverage in multiple bands. These projects address a variety of research areas: from the detection of planets via microlensing, to stars, the Milky Way and Local Group galaxies, to extragalactic astronomy, galaxy evolution, the high-redshift Universe and cosmology. Last but not least, the era of multi-messenger astronomy builds on the legacy value, the availability and time coverage of the survey data. I will present the current status of the ESO surveys, and illustrate the availability of science data products that are becoming browsable via the new ESO archive web interface. The forward look includes the construction of two wide-field spectrographs the Multi Object Optical and Near Infrared Spectrograph (MOONS) and the 4-metre Multi Object Spectroscopic Telescope (4MOST), on the VLT and VISTA respectively, and the calls for new community surveys on these facilities.

Presenter: ARNABOLDI, M.