

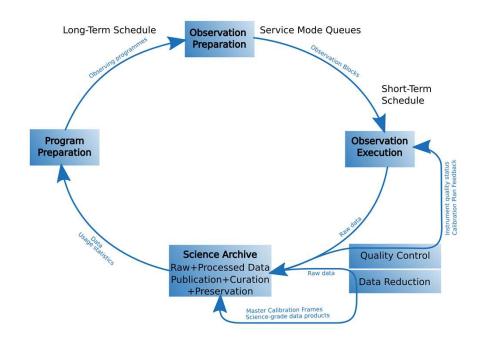
Guarding performance and data quality of OmegaCAM/VST at ESO

Danuta Dobrzycka, Mark Neeser and ESO QC Group



Operations at ESO

- Quality Control loop:
 - data acquired at Paranal
 - transferred to Garching, processed, checked
 - > results fed back to **Paranal**
 - certified calibrations saved in the Archive
- OmegaCAM supported by the QC group since the beginning of operations in Oct.2011





QC Group at ESO

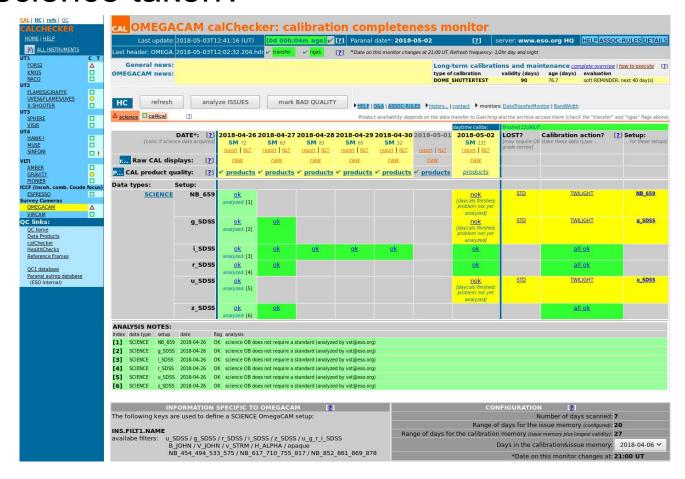
- Focus on calibrations good data necessary to remove instrumental effects from the science data
- Main goals:
 - Check completeness of calibrations (calibration plan)
 - Verify quality of calibrations (valid measurement of instrumental effects)
 - Check instrument status





Completeness of calibrations

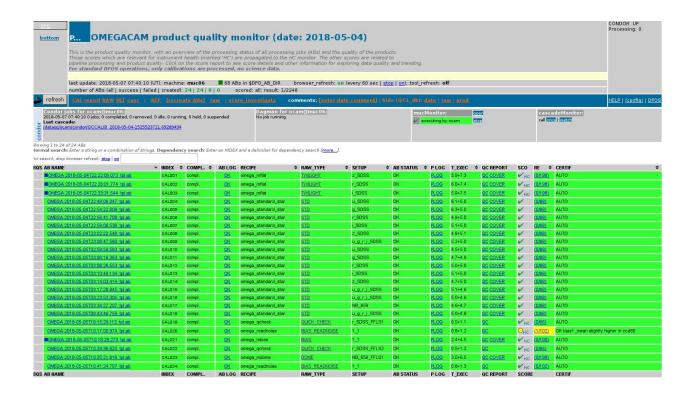
calChecker – were all the required calibrations for the science taken?





Quality of calibrations

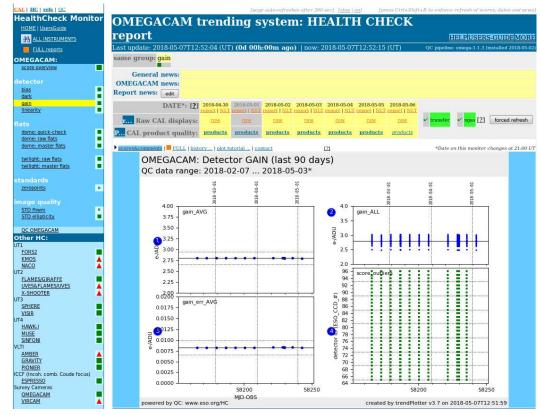
- Classification, organization, automatic processing and certification of daily calibration frames
- QC parameters from the master calibrations saved





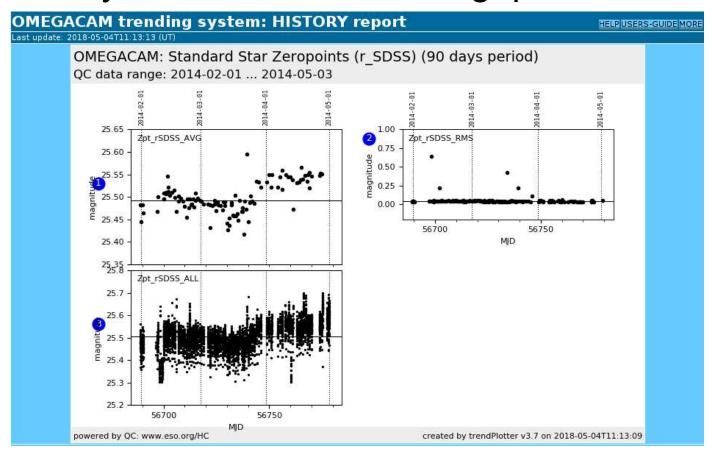
Instrument status

- Health Check plots
 - Various QC parameters monitored
 - They reflect status of the elements of the instrument





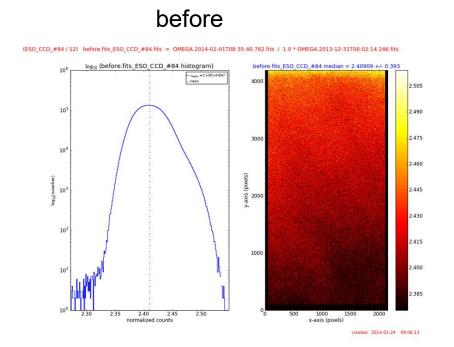
2014-03-27: washing of M1; improved mirror reflectivity, i.e. instrument throughput

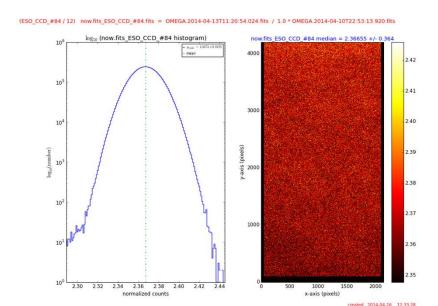




2014-04-06: baffle installation to reduce reflections and scattered light

Corrected illumination on example of CCD_84

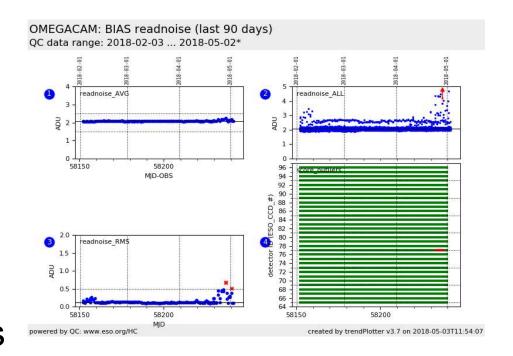




after



- Episodes of increased bias level and read-out noise, especially in CCD_69 and CCD_77
- Known fix by power cycling FIERA 1,2 and reconnecting the cables









Summary

- We ensure that complete set of good quality calibrations is available to calibrate science data
- We monitor performance of the instrument
- Continuous feedback is provided to the Observatory about status of the data and of the instrument
- Provide information to the community: http://www.eso.org/qc/

