

for each comparison star and each QSO in every image. This database represents the starting point for the broadband imaging analysis (chapters 7 and 8).

#### **6.4 : Software Development on the $\mu$ Vax and Sun Computers**

Specialized graphical (imaging) software was developed for reducing the photometry on both the  $\mu$ Vax and Sun computer systems. These routines included automatic determination of the comparison star positions on each image, detection and “masking” of galaxies and stars falling within the background annuli, and centroiding and summing of the stellar sources.

As well as increasing the speed of the reduction process, these routines provided a consistency throughout the data reductions, and helped reduce or eliminate changes in personal biases in the few years during which the data were reduced.