

SAAO & SALT - Status

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Observing Facilities

SALT

Imaging camera (currently Bcam, SALTICAM in March)

Prime focus spectrograph

Long slit, multi slit, Fabry-Perot

Polarimetry not currently available

High resolution spectrograph coming in May

Near infrared arm of prime focus spectrograph (1-2 years)

Proposals due Feb 1. (May - Nov 2013)

Smaller Telescopes

1.9 m telescope

Grating spectrograph, echelle spectrograph, polarimeter, SHOC, imaging CCD

1.4 m IRSF

JHK imager

1.0 m telescope

Imaging CCD, SHOC

0.75 m telescope

SHOC, IR photometer

0.5 m telescope

photometer

Special Purpose Facilities

ACT: photometry

Bison: Solar oscillations

KELT-South: Planet search

Solaris: Circumbinary planet search

SuperWASP: planet search

(MONET) 1.2 m imaging, mostly teaching

(Los Cumbres) 3 1-m telescopes, imaging

Future

1.9 m

- wide-field corrector

- spectrograph upgrades

- possible imaging Fabry-Perot

Upgrade smaller telescopes with a modern 1-m ?

- efficiency gains

4-m class telescope ?

- support for Meerkat/SKA

- needs community motivation

SALT II ??

- wide-field and/or larger

Summary

SAAO provides observing facilities for the entire South African community

SAAO will do what the community wants

Input through STUC

SAAO and SALT are an integrated facility