

Sloan Digital Sky Survey

A 2.5-meter special purpose, wide field (3°) optical telescope located on Apache Point, New Mexico near the ARC 3.5-meter telescope

Instrumentation

- very large CCD camera (30 2048×2048 CCDs) to provide digital images of 10,000 deg² of sky (6×10^{13} bits)
- two fiber-optic spectrographs to obtain 640 spectra simultaneously
- a separate, smaller telescope (0.5m) for absolute calibration

Schedule

- construction of the buildings is complete
- telescope, optics, camera, and spectrographs delivered
- survey test year: 1998-99
- survey data obtained: 2000–2005

Participants

- Astrophysical Research Consortium
- “Japanese Participation Group”
- Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory (Fermilab)
- U. S. Naval Observatory
- Max-Planck-Institut für Astronomie, Heidelberg
- individual participants
- eventually the entire digital data bank will be a public resource