



NOAO Transformed: **Drivers**A Mission Unchanged → Enable Discovery

Advancing Astronomy in the Coming Decade:
Opportunities and Challenges

Report of the National Science Foundation
Division of Astronomical Sciences
Portfolio Review Committee

August 14, 2012

- You, the Community
 - NSF AST Portfolio Review (2012)
 - Evolving research topic priorities
 - Evolving research support needs (especially related to Big Data)
- Countdown to LSST era
- NSF programmatic & financial guidance



NOAO Transformed: **Outcomes**A Mission Unchanged → Enable Discovery

- Base funding reduced → NOAO more lean
- New, deeper partnerships with DOE and NASA
- Open access, PI-class research retained (albeit reduced)
- Increased emphasis on public data from wide-field surveys
- Increased emphasis on data science services
- Path to LSST operations era
- Resultant program is exciting and world-class



NOAO Now



Open access to telescopes New instruments on all platforms

- Gemini North 8.2-m
- Gemini South 8.2-m
- SOAR 4,2-m
- Blanco 4-m
- Mayall 4-m (until Aug 2017)
- WIYN 3.5-m
- SMARTS 1.5-m, 1.3-m, 0.9-m
- WIYN 0.9-m







Gemini 8.2-m telescopes Under-used opportunity for USA

USA | 65% of time, over-subscription ~ 2

Excellent image quality

Queue and classical observing

As Mayall access declines, consider Gem-N

Available capabilities

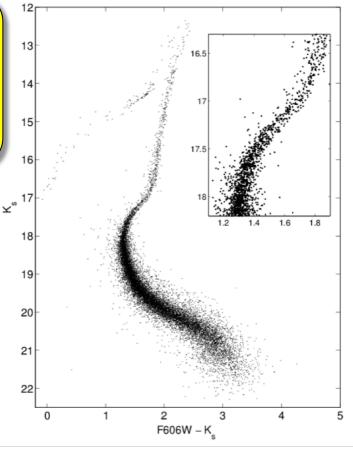
MCAO NIR imager (world-best) (S) ExAO NIR coronographic (world-best) (S)

→ Imaging and spectroscopy

Optical, multi-mode instruments (N/S)

→ Imaging, long-slit, MOS

NIR spectroscopy (medium & echelle) (N/S) NIR imager (N) NIR IFU spectroscopy (N)

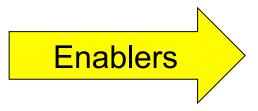


NGC 1851, Turri et al. 2016 Arxiv 1509.01764 0.09" PSF K-band



NOAO 4-m Class Telescopes World-class scientific leadership continues

- Wide-field surveys (small, medium, large)
 - DECam @ Blanco, Mosaic-3 @ Mayall, pODI @ WIYN
 - DESI @ Mayall (coming...)
- Exoplanet mass determination
 - Extreme Precision Doppler Spectrometer (EPDS) (coming...)
- Exoplanet host stellar system characterization
 - General purpose spectrographs @ all 4-m telescopes
 - GLAO imaging @ SOAR
- Time-domain exploration and survey follow up
 - General purpose imagers & spectrographs @ all 4-m telescopes









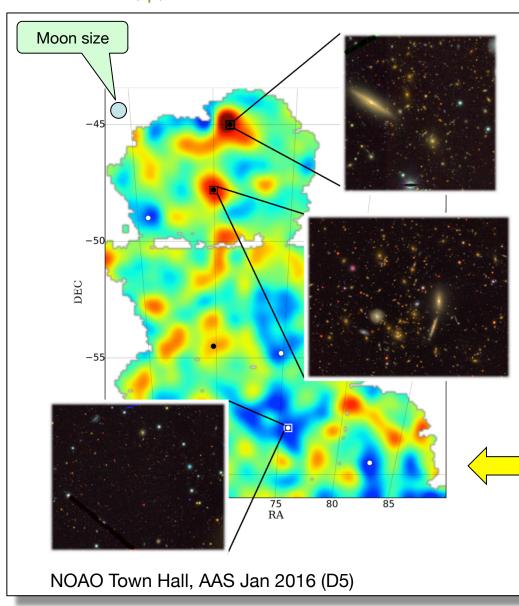


DECam @ CTIO Blanco 4-m Dark Energy Camera





Wide-Field Lensing Mass Maps from DES Science Verification Data



Projected mass distribution
Weak lensing ("shear")
Mass peaks → red
Mass voids → blue
Circles = observed clusters

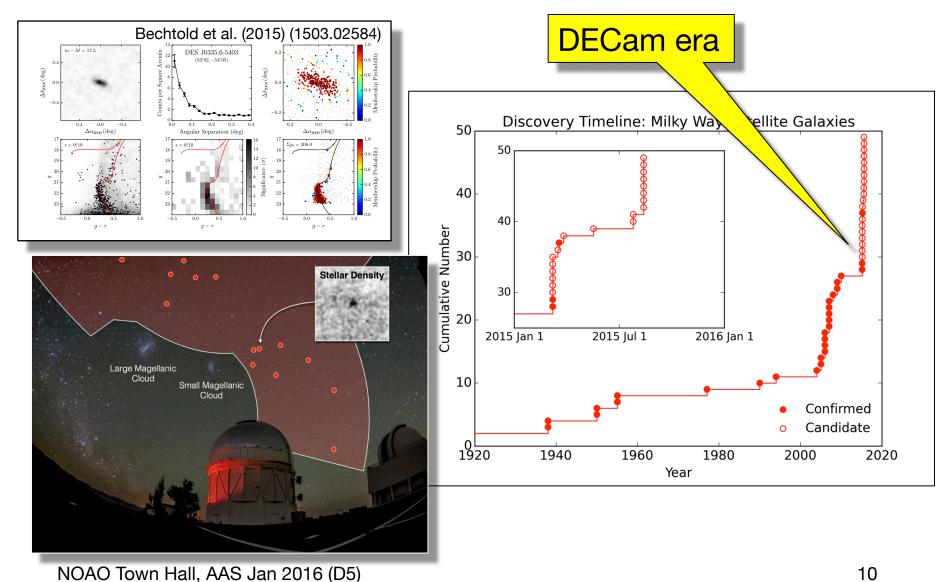
Only 3% of total DES area

Vikram et al. 2015 arXiv:1504.03002

Major technical triumph: Image size and stability



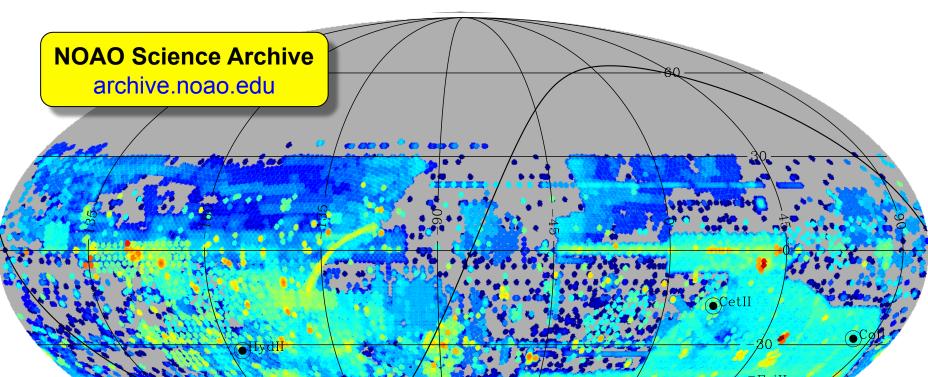
New dwarf galaxies near Milky Way





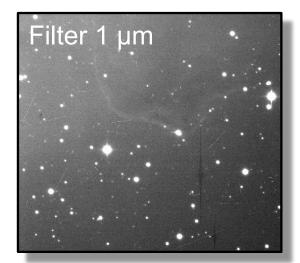
DECam images, 2015 June Available to you!

■ 5.8 log₁₀ sec





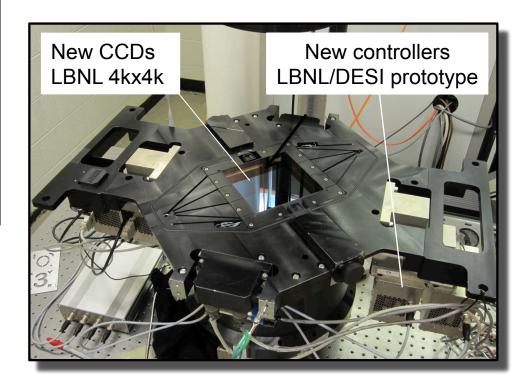
80 e2v LBNL500 60 g-band z-band 20 4000 6000 8000 10000 Wavelength (Angstroms)



NOAO Town Hall, AAS Jan 2016 (D5)

Mosaic-3 @ KPNO Mayall 4-m DESI, Yale, NOAO collaboration

8K x 8K (64 Mpix) \rightarrow 36 x 36 arcmin 500 µm thick LBNL deep-depletion CCDs





ARCoIRIS @ Blanco 4-m AKA TripleSpec-4

Long-slit NIR spectrometer
Cross-dispersed (0.8 – 2.5 µm)
Fixed slit format, R ~ 3500
Built by Cornell, funded by NSF





ODI @ WIYN 3.5-m

Upgraded → 48 x 40 arcmin

Available filters: *u',g',r',i',z'*

Median image quality: r' ~ 0.7 arcsec

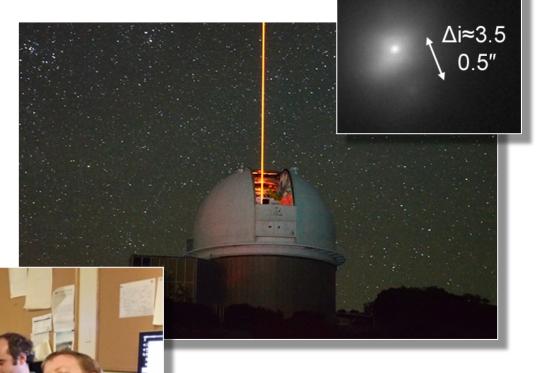
On-line pipeline available





Robo-AO @ KPNO 2.1-m

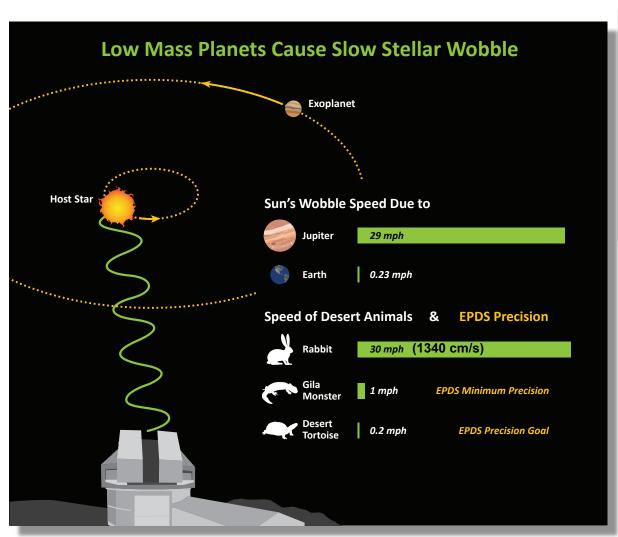
Robotic laser SCAO system
Many objects per night!
FHWM, r ~ 0.1 arcsec
NIR camera coming...
Caltech/Hawaii team
Public access





EPDS @ KPNO WIYN 3.5-m

Extreme Precision Doppler Spectrometer



Mission

Determine masses of Earth-like planets found with (e.g.), K2 and TESS

Requirement: < 50 cm/s

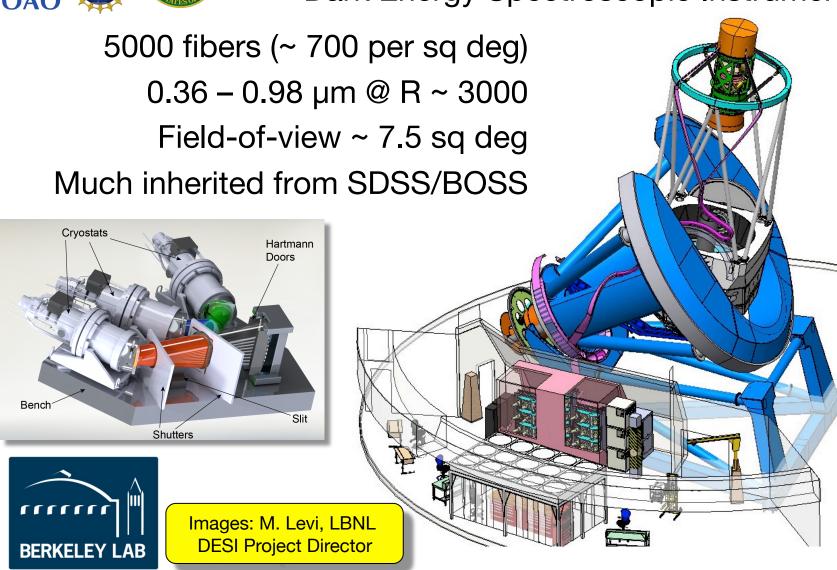
Goal: ~ 10 cm/s

NN-EXPLORE Program

NASA NSF Exoplanet
Observational Research



DESI @ Mayall 4-m Dark Energy Spectroscopic Instrument





DESI Key Experiment Dark Energy Characterization

Five target classes spanning redshifts z=0 → 3.5. ~34 million redshifts over 14,000 sq. degrees (baseline survey).

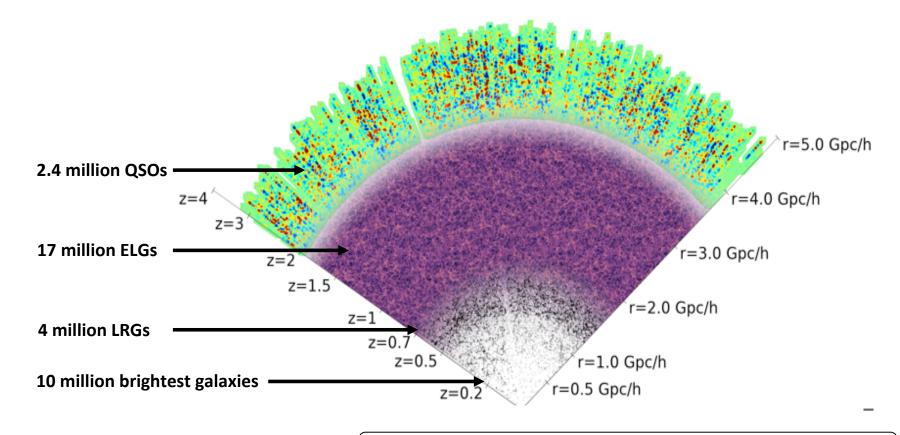


Image credit: A. Slosar & D. Schlegel, via R. Wechsler

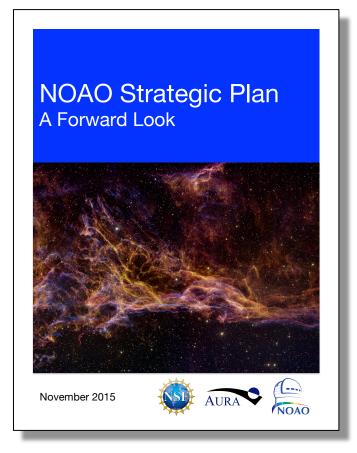




DESI, beyond cosmology

- All data products will be public
 - Targeting survey: images and catalogs
 - Spectra: 33M galaxies + 10M stars
- Public bright time program (2019 2023)
 - 500 bright-time hours available for community access
 - Program details under development
 - Watch for Announcement of Opportunity
- Community spectroscopic surveys (2024++)
 - DESI @ Mayall availability not yet guaranteed
 - May require significant non-Federal funding support
 - Decision deferred for several years





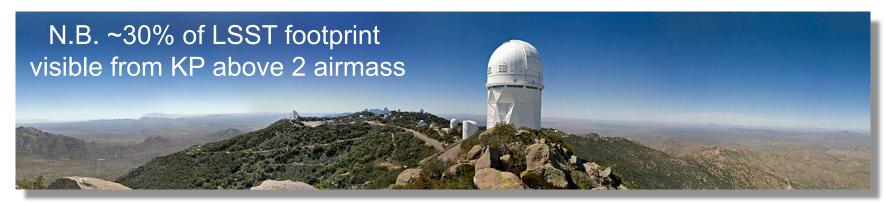
Strategic Initiatives
Towards 2020 and beyond

Coming soon...



Observational research infrastructure: To 2030 and beyond

- Cerro Tololo, Cerro Pachón, Kitt Peak
- Viable for decades into the future for Federal & non-Federal facilities
- Objectives
 - Continuous maintenance & modernization
 - Continuous adaptation to new scientific missions (e.g., LSST research support & follow up)

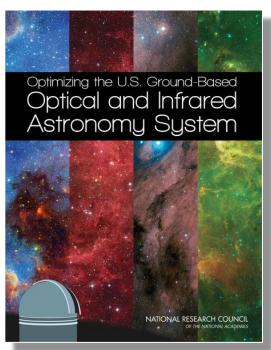






OIR System Optimization

- 2015 NRC Report recommendations for NOAO
 - Develop / administer new processes for telescope time exchanges
 - Enable community-wide System capability planning
 - Other recommendations also impact NOAO directly and indirectly (e.g., LSST research support services)
- First concrete step
 - Community study on maximizing LSST science return (next slide)
- Next steps
 - Depends on NSF funding, directives





Maximizing Science in the Era of LSST A Community-based Study

http://www.noao.edu/meetings/lsst-oir-study

Goal

Quantify & prioritize supporting capabilities needed by <u>you</u> for <u>your</u> LSST research (instruments, modes, data tools, etc.)

Why

- Influence funding prioritization (public & private)
- Influence observatory planning (federal and non-federal)
- How You Can Participate (Deadline: 15 Jan 2016)
 - 1. Describe your LSST-enabled science goals and supporting capabilities you require to achieve those goals
 - 2. If interested in deeper involvement, volunteer for study group
- Co-sponsored by LSSTPO and NOAO
- · Endorsed by NSF, funded by the Kavli Foundation



NOAO Science Archive archive.noao.edu

Premier survey data products Current projects

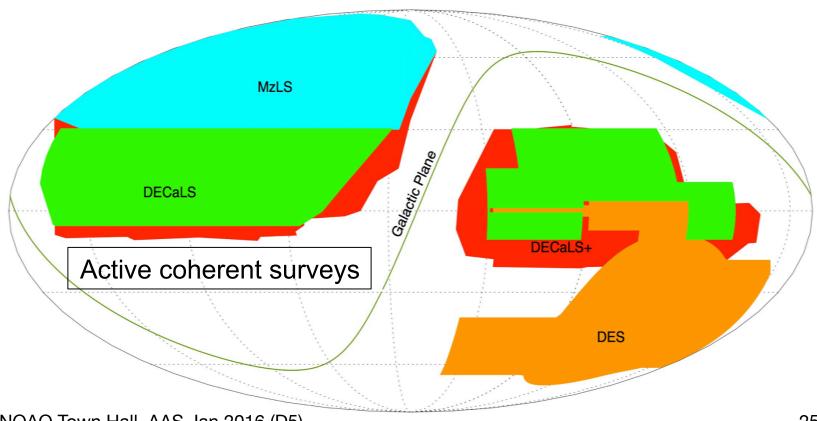


- Dark Energy Survey (DES)
 - DECam @ Blanco, 2012 2017
 - 5000 sq deg, grizY, r ~ 26
 - Deep fields, *r* ~ 28
 - Overlaps many VISTA NIR surveys
- DECam Legacy Survey (DECaLS)
 - DECam @ Blanco, 2014 2018
 - 9000 sq deg, grz, r ~ 24
 - SDSS/Pan-STARRS overlap, much deeper
- Mayall z-band Legacy Survey (MzLS)
 - Mosaic-3 @ Mayall, 2016 2017
 - 5000 sq deg, z, z ~ 23
 - SDSS/Pan-STARRS overlap, much deeper



Data science tools and services Challenge: mega-object catalogs

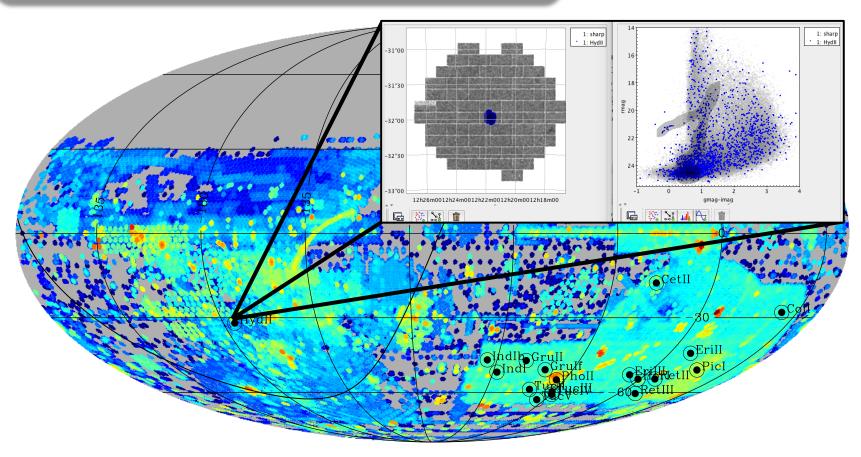
- 100s of millions of astronomical objects
- 10s of billions of measurements
- Needed: catalog research support services





Data science tools and services Solution: NOAO Data Lab

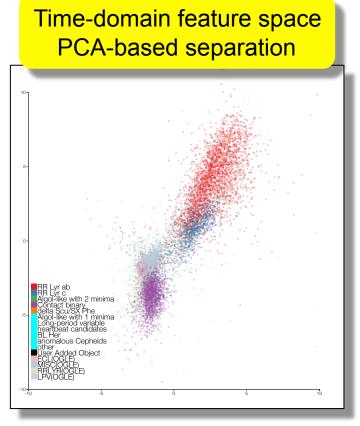
Enable exploration, visualization and analysis Enable processing at image cutout level Provide collaborative workspaces Under development 2016 Jun: AAS demo 2017 Aug: Public release





Data science tools and services Challenge: time-domain alert flood

- Examples
 - ZTF (2018) \rightarrow 10⁵ events per night
 - LSST (2023) \rightarrow 10⁷ events per night
- Solution → ANTARES
 - Arizona-NOAO Temporal Analysis and Response to Event System
 - National service with user plugins in era of LSST
 - Parse events into increasingly narrow bins, concluding with "rarest of rare"
 - Broadcast classifications ("add value")
 - First public release: 2018







LSST operations and community research support



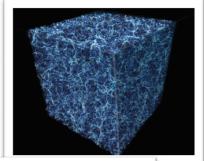
Strategic objectives

- Major partner within end-to-end LSST system operations
- Center for community research support
 - SLAC = dark energy, NOAO = other
 - Follow up observations → NOAO facilities (North and South)
 - Data science services (Data Lab, ANTARES, etc.)
 - Gateway to Gemini, US federal & non-federal observatories



GSMT operations and community research support





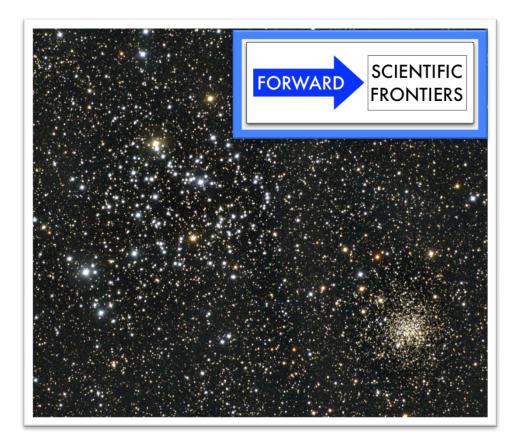
Strategic objectives

- Federal interface = NOAO
- Data operations support
- Community research support
- Instrument consortia participant
- Engage public





Beyond LSST and GSMT Community discussion facilitator



NOAO incubated Gemini, LSST, and GSMT (and played major roles in DES/DECam and DESI).

So...

What are the Next Big Questions? What are the Next Big Projects? Is there a Next Big Machine?

NOAO looks toward facilitating a community-based discussion

