

**INSTRUMENTATION AND RESEARCH PROGRAMMES  
FOR SMALL TELESCOPES**

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In dealing with the capabilities of small telescopes – defined here as ground-based instruments with apertures less than 1.5 m – this volume discusses several new types. Diverse instrumentation is also explored, as are the various research programmes which can be undertaken with small telescopes.

These types of instruments, often used by small institutions or astronomical societies, are ideally suited to regular observation of a variety of interesting objects.

The volume has been divided into three broad sections: telescopes and instrumentation; photometric research programmes; and spectroscopic research programmes. Most of this material illustrates the potential of small telescopes to perform fundamental research on astrophysically significant programmes. The objects covered range from those within the solar system (e.g. asteroids and comets) through stars to distant galaxies. In addition, vital calibration of large and space-based telescope observations is undertaken with small telescopes, the advent of high quantum efficiency detectors making work possible on small telescopes, which previously could only be done on their larger counterparts.

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