Observing with SOAR

Time in La Serena; [1]

OBSERVING MODES AT THE SOAR TELESCOPE
SOAR offers both classical (on-site) observing [2] (SOAR Control Room, right), and remote observing [3] (MSU Remote Observing Room, far right) for experienced users.

In this section you will find the tools you need for preparing your science proposal and then carrying out your program.

**Tracking at Non-Sidereal Rates with SOAR**

The SOAR telescope has the ability to track at non-sidereal rates, ideal for observing fast-moving Solar System targets. The maximum non-sidereal rates at which the telescope can track are determined by low-level software. **The maximum rate in declination is ±2700 arcsec/hour and the maximum rate in right ascension is ±180 seconds of RA/hour.** This specification for the RA rate limit means that the maximum RA rate in seconds of arc/hour on the sky is \(2700\cos(\text{declination})\). **Note** - at present, the guiders do not support non-sidereal targets, so observations must rely on the telescope tracking.

For information on how to create target lists for Solar System objects go to this page. [4]

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**Tools for SOAR proposers**

- [Summary of Instrumentation Capabilities at SOAR](#)
- [Overheads, and Tips for observing efficiently with SOAR](#)
- [Optical instrumentation currently available at SOAR](#)
- [Near Infrared instrumentation currently available at SOAR](#)
- [Proposing for time on SOAR](#)
- [Access to Visitor Instruments](#)

**Acknowledgement of SOAR data in publications**

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**Tools for SOAR Observers**

- [SOAR Observing Calendar (NEW)](#)
- [SOAR Visiting Astronomer’s Guide](#)
- [SOAR Remote Observer’s Guide](#)
- [Creating Targets lists for SOAR](#)
- [Instrument Setup forms and Night/End-of-Run Reports](#)
- [Observing Log Forms](#)
- [Weather, Sky conditions & monitoring tools](#)
Source URL: http://www.ctio.noao.edu/soar/content/observing-soar

Links
[1] https://time.is/La_Serena
[8] http://www.ctio.noao.edu/soar/content/infrared-instrumentation-soar-0
[10] http://www.ctio.noao.edu/soar/content/access-visitor-instruments