

Large Filter Collaboration Agreement

The following groups agree to collaborate toward the development of optical filters for use in large astronomical imaging cameras:

- WIYN (George Jacoby, WIYN)
- LSST (Kirk Gilmore, Standford)
- PanSTARRS (Ken Chambers, IFA)
- DEC (Brenna Flaugher, FNAL)
- OPTIONAL: DCT (Ted Dunham, Lowell)

The merits of a collaboration include the following:

1. Risk reduction in procurement of acceptable filters in a timely fashion.
2. Cost reduction as a consequence of amortizing the NRE over multiple similar filters.
3. Reduction in level of effort to procure filters.
4. Sharing of test information, test facilities, standard star fields, calibrations procedures.

The above projects agree to the following principles —

1. Each group agrees to lead a development effort with 1 or more vendors and share the results with the others. One possible approach is to lead a demonstration procurement to deliver demo filter(s) of full or smaller size. Development costs may be borne entirely within the leading project, or shared across projects if there is additional interest. WIYN, for example, wishes to lead a development effort with Infinite Optics (formerly QSP) to deliver a g,r,i,z set in a 150-mm size defined entirely by multi-layer coatings.
2. Each group agrees to share all information that it obtains on filter developments from vendors. We may wish to publish our information on a collaborative, passworded, web site.
3. Additional groups may join the consortium, provided that they agree to the above principles.

This collaboration will be considered informal in that no group will be legally bound to commitments, either monetary or informational disclosure, that some vendor information may be proprietary and we accept that.
