

The How & Why of Electronically Assisted Astronomy

By Jim Thompson

What if...



Simulated eyepiece
view of M42

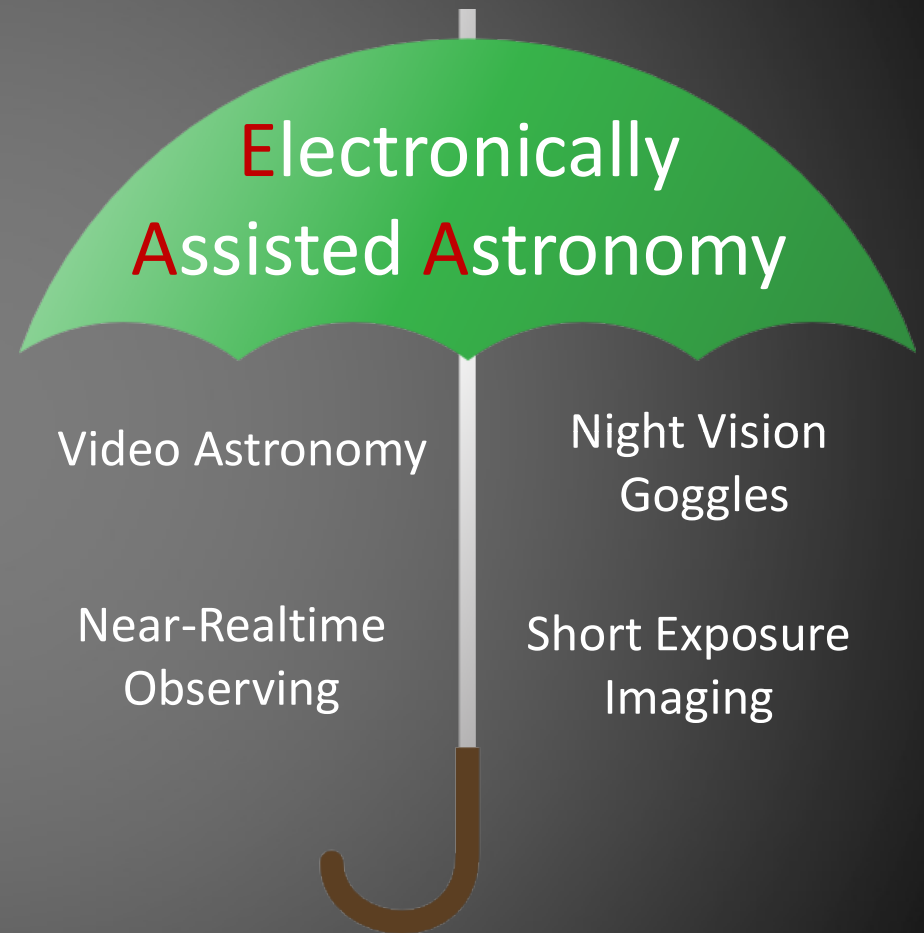
(dark sky, O-III filter)
Made possible using

EAA

Screen capture of live
video astronomy view
(urban sky, O-III/H α
filter)

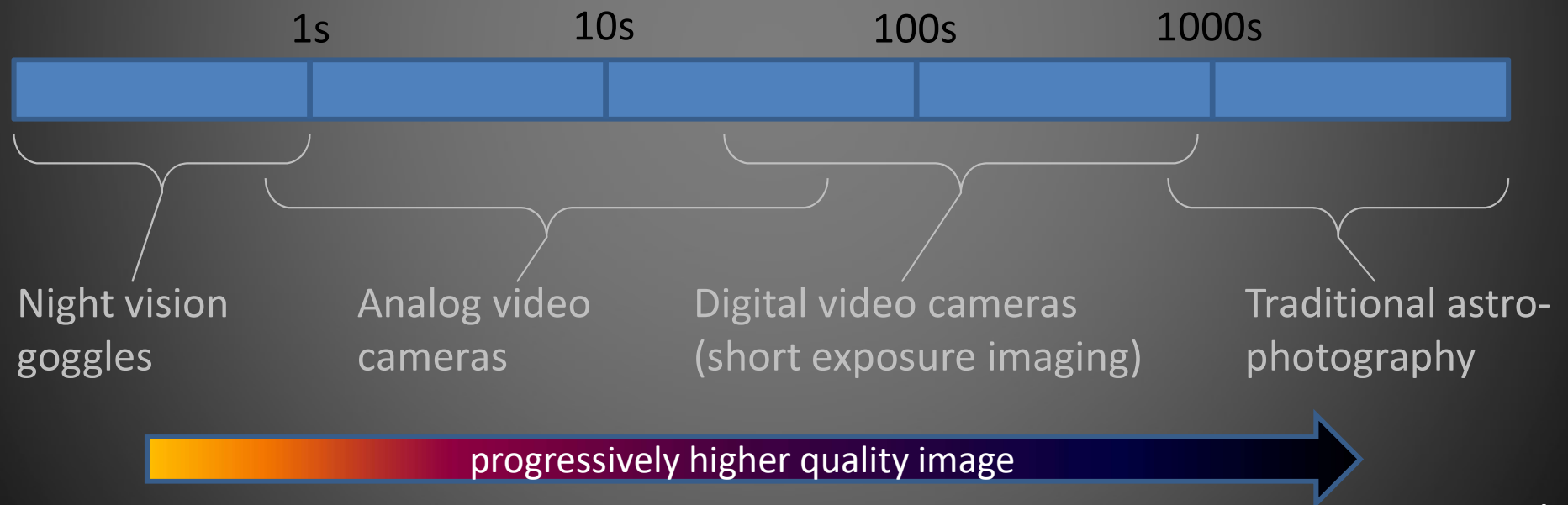
What is EAA?

- Opto-electronic device replaces eye as light gathering device
- Primary objective = observing
- Several technologies available

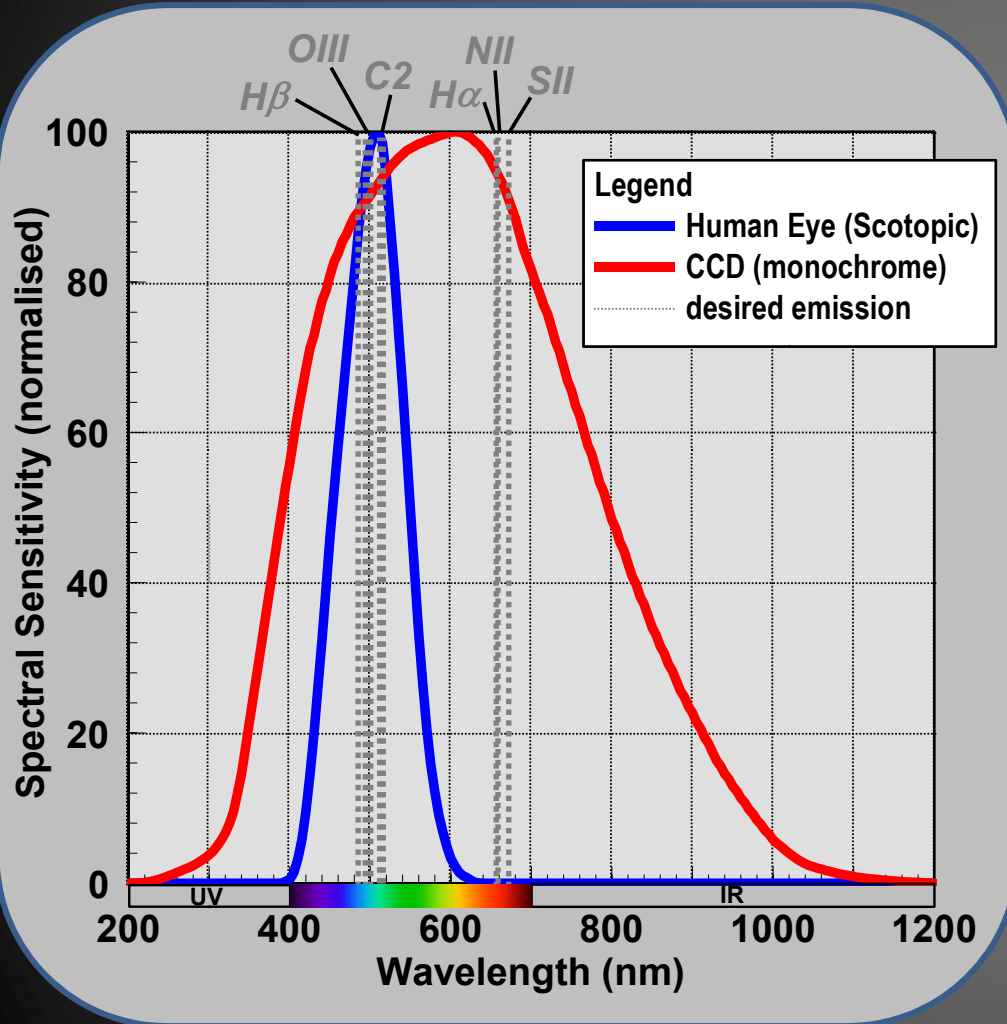


I want it...now

- Technology you use depends on how quickly you want to “see” your object



Benefits of EAA



- Wider spectral response
- More sensitive
- Observe in colour
- Filters much more effective
- Many tools available to process and enhance view
- Remote viewing
- Overcome vision problems
- Outreach

Typical EAA Setup



monitor
(analog
video only)



scope



tracking
mount

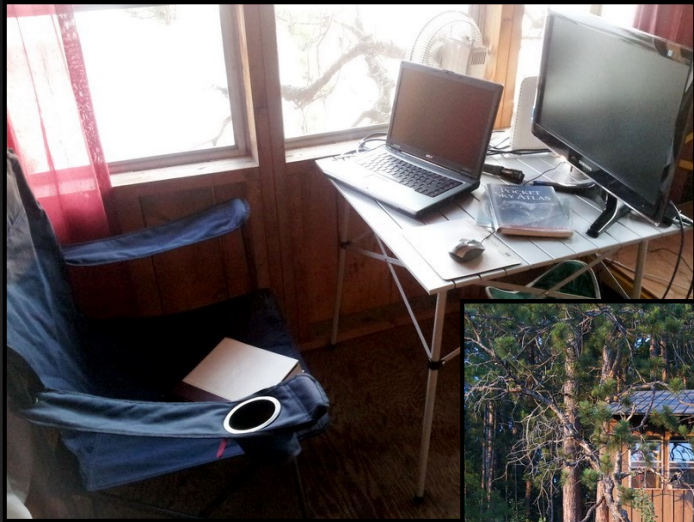
camera
(1.25" or 2"
just like eyepiece)



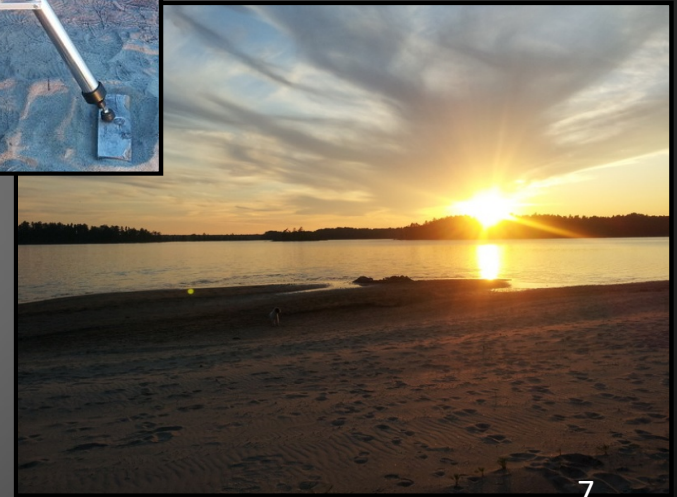
computer

- view/control video
- control mount
- control camera
- mandatory for digital video cameras

Example Setup



July 11th, 2012



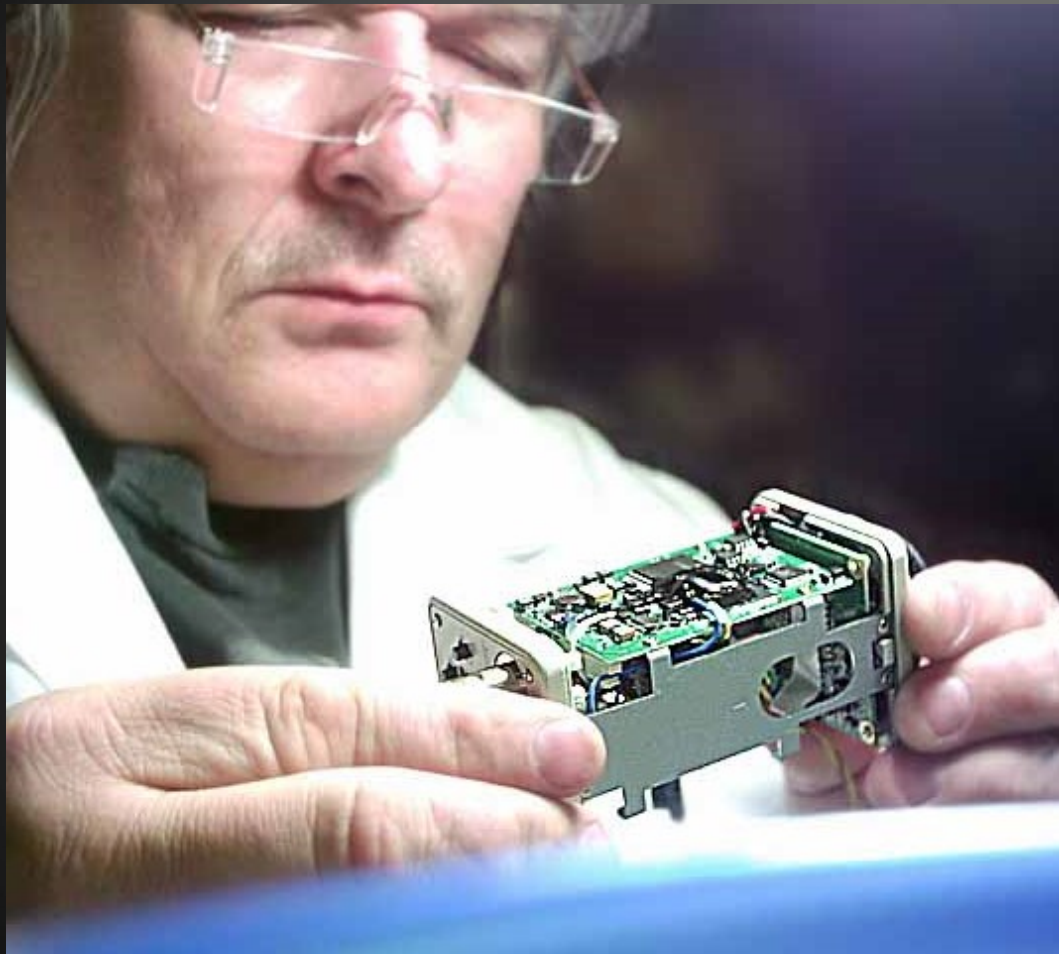
What you need to get started

- Scope
 - Your existing scope is probably OK
- Tracking mount
 - Equatorial best but Alt-AZ is OK too
 - GOTO is handy for remote viewing
- Camera
- Monitor or Computer



\$130 to \$1900

Home Grown Pioneer



- Local amateur astronomer Rock Mallin
 - One of the first to experiment with video astronomy
 - Promoting video astronomy & developing technology since 1995
 - Wide assortment of cameras available under Mallincam brand
- More information available at: www.mallincam.net
- or pay Rock a visit at: Unit 56, 5450 Canotek Road, Ottawa



International Astronomy Day

Saturday, May 11th, 2019

Public Stargazing @ CASM

Public Stargazing @ Chapters Silver City

Call For Volunteers

Come share your love of astronomy with the public!