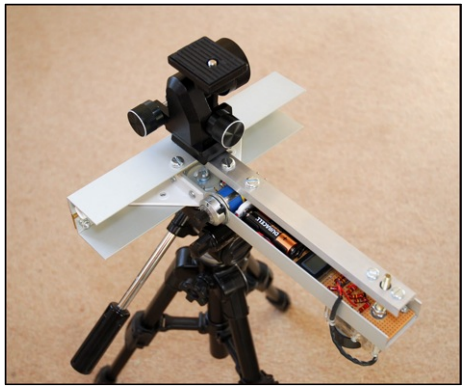
# iOptron SkyTracker™

Dr Steve Barrett

BASoc 15 Apr 2019

## From K2 to iOptron



K2 is a star tracker that I designed and built with simplicity and cheapness in mind.

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## K2 – Off and On

With K2 switched off the stars trail after just a few seconds.

With K2 switched on the stars are imaged as pinpoints.

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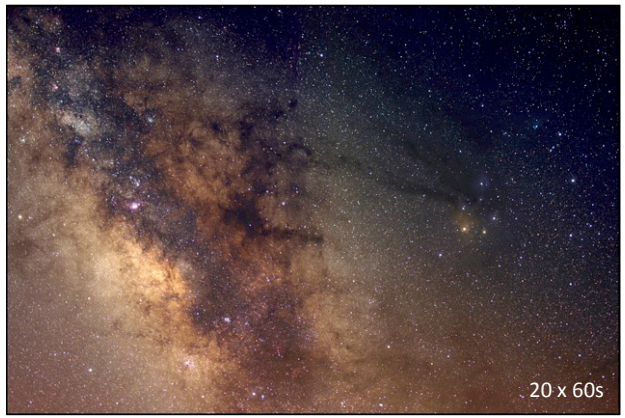
## Milky Way with 35 mm lens

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# iOptron SkyTracker™

## iOptron SkyTracker

An alternative is a commercial product like the iOptron SkyTracker™.


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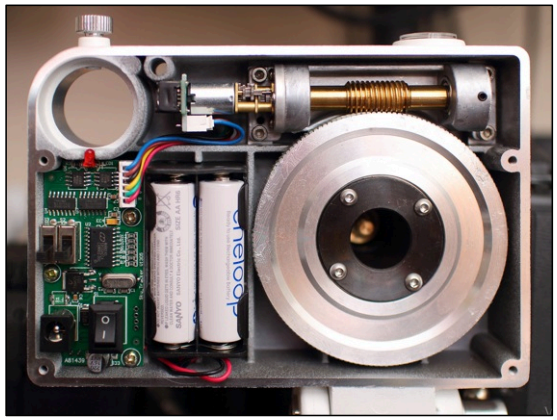
## Inside the SkyTracker



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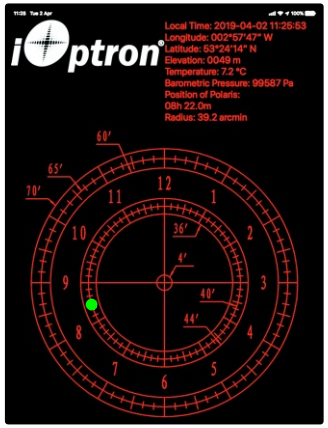
## Polar Alignment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## Attaching a Camera

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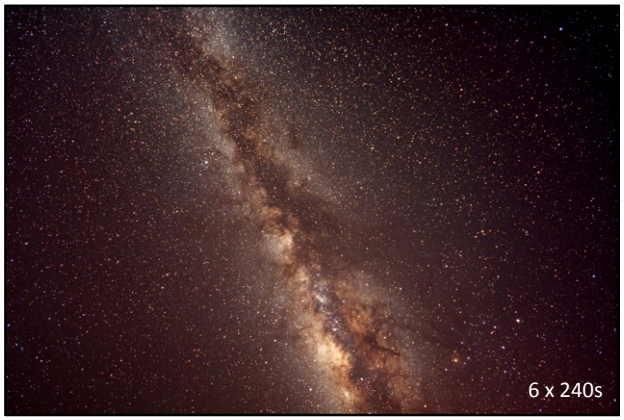
## Milky Way with 10 mm lens

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## Milky Way with 85 mm lens


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## Antares and Rho Ophiuchi


Antares and the Rho Ophiuchi Molecular Cloud Complex

Taken from Teide Observatory in Tenerife
60 x 120s exposures taken with a Nikon D750D and 135mm f/2 lens
© Steve Barrett 2018

With a 135 mm telephoto lens more detail can be captured in the region north of Antares, including the nebulosity around Rho Ophiuchi.

Longer focal length lenses may show some trailing unless the polar alignment of the tracker is set carefully.

Shorter exposures usually gets around that problem.

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# iOptron SkyTracker™

www.liverpool.ac.uk/~sdb/Talks

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