



# Advances and Synergies in (Ultra) Wide-field Optical Tracking of LEO Objects

**Alberto Buzzoni**

INAF – OAS

Astrophysics & Space Science Observatory  
Bologna, Italy

**T**elescope  
**A**rray  
**eN**abling  
**D**ebris  
**M**onitoring



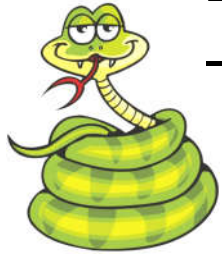
**A**ll  
**S**ky  
**T**Tracking  
**A**rray

**WG1**  
**Debris measurements**



**European Space Surveillance & Tracking Network**

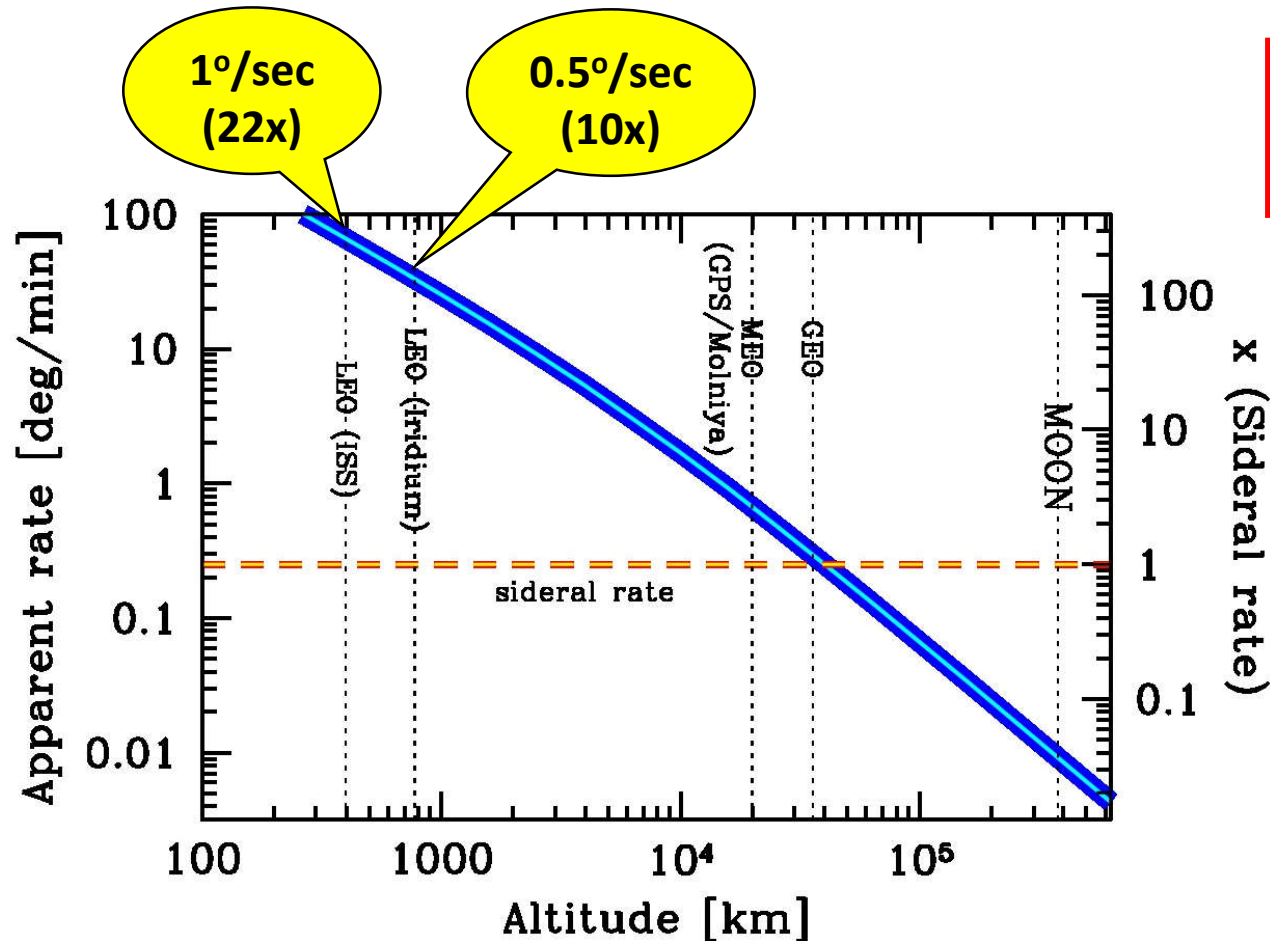
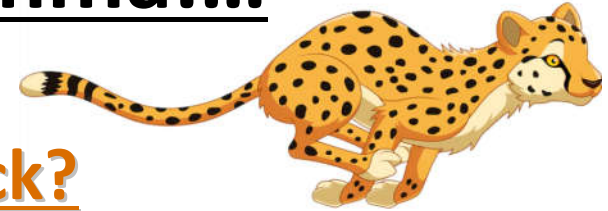




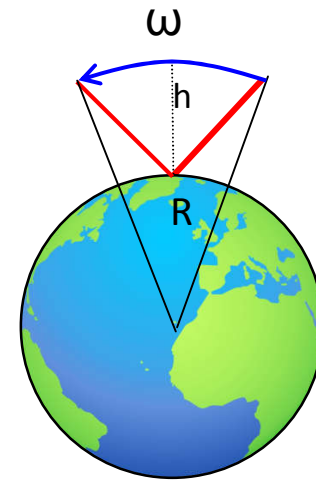
# The “snake-cheetah” dilemma:...

better to stare and wait...

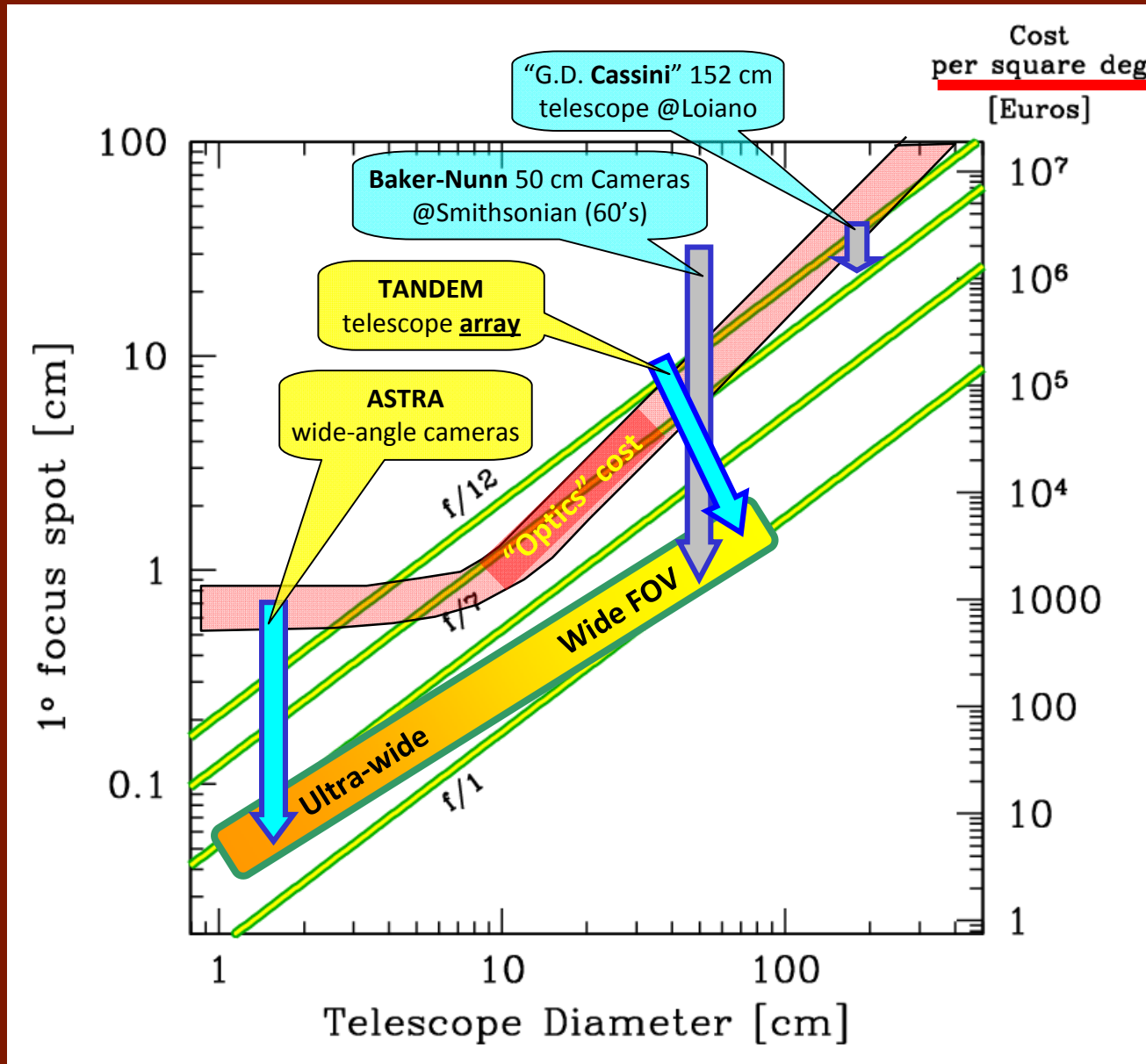
...or to move and track?



$$Zoom(\omega) = \left( \frac{h + R}{h} \right)$$



# Pay per view...



Assume to be mosaicing w/ 4k<sup>2</sup>CCD @30K€

Standard cost of the "telescope" according to Meinel (1982)

# The TANDEM

project @ I N A F

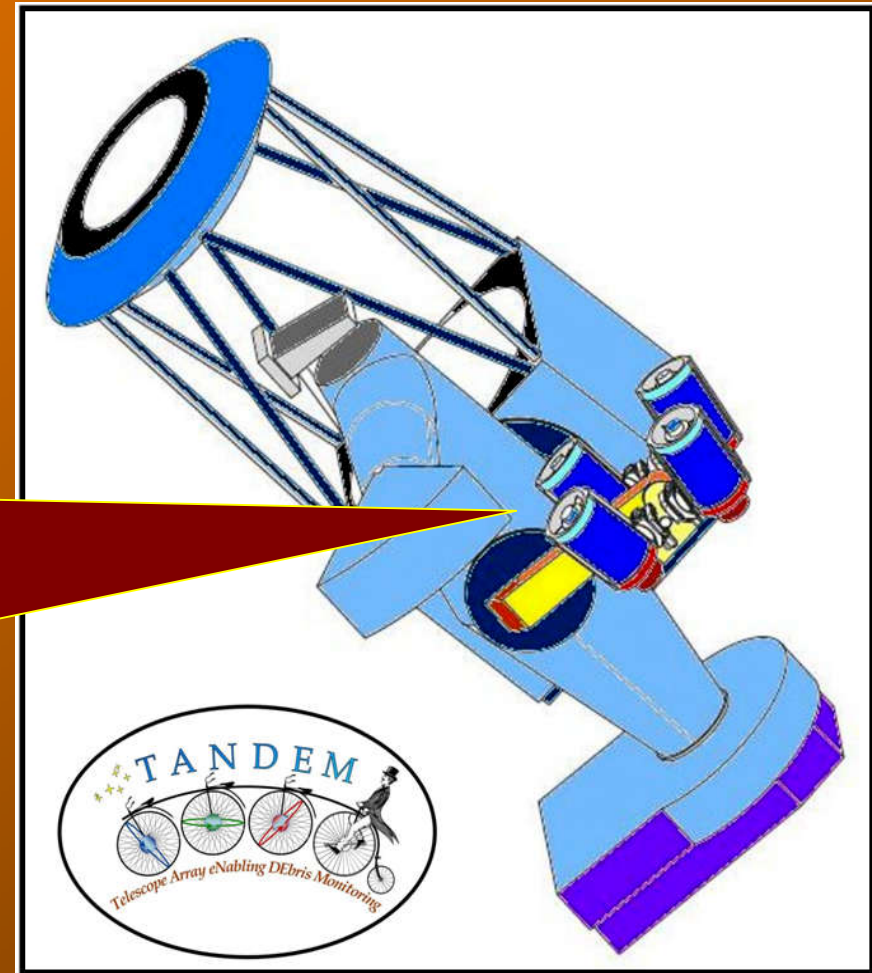
4x telescopes  $\varnothing$  35 cm f/2.2

FOV =  $20 \square^2$   $V_{\text{lim}} \sim 18$

$\approx$

1 monolithic tel.  $\varnothing$  70 cm f/1.1

FOV =  $2.5^\circ \times 2.5^\circ$   $V_{\text{lim}} \sim 20$

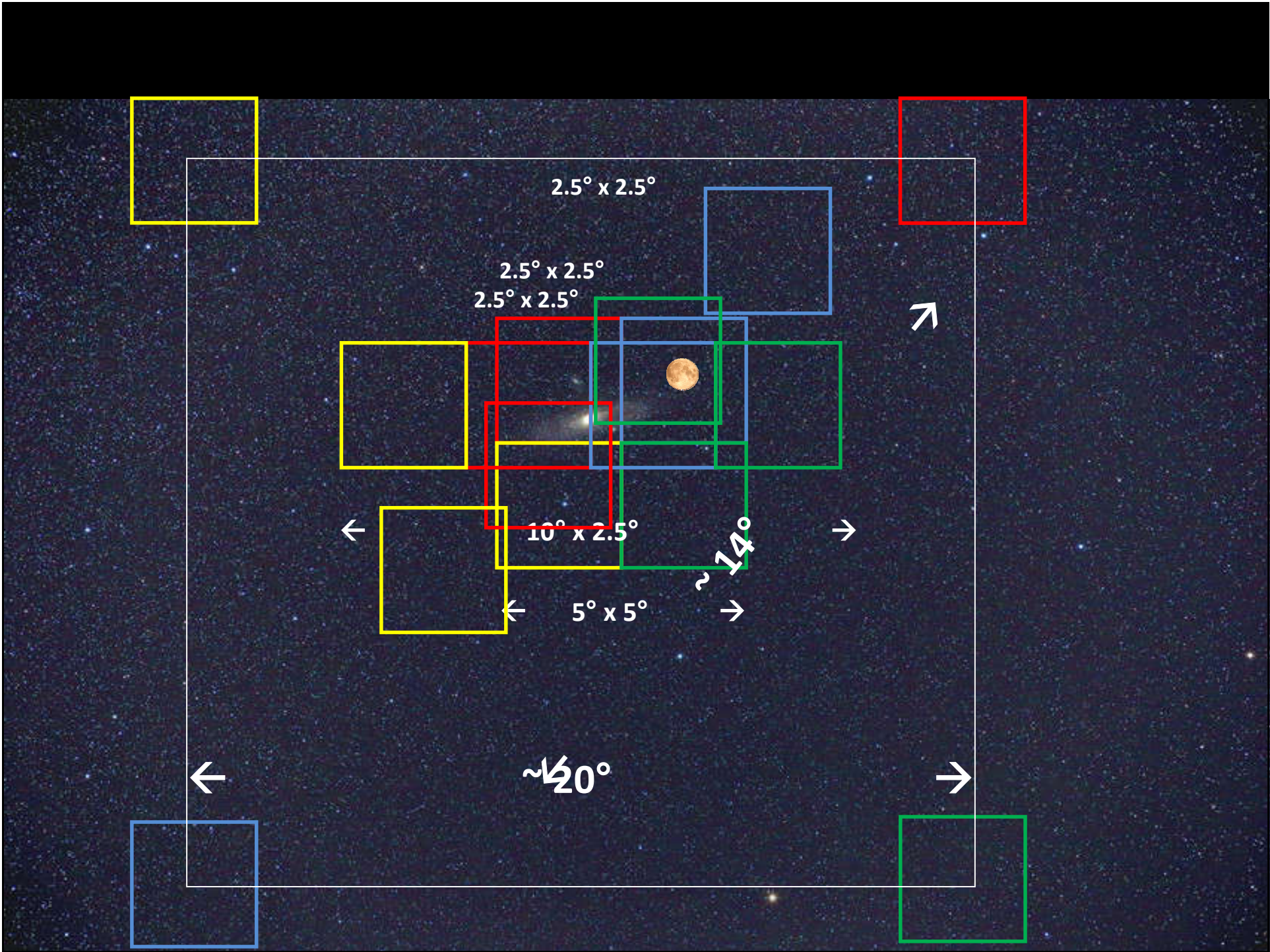


Expected operational by  
Summer 2023

Max Collecting area (4x35cm =  $\varnothing$  70 cm)



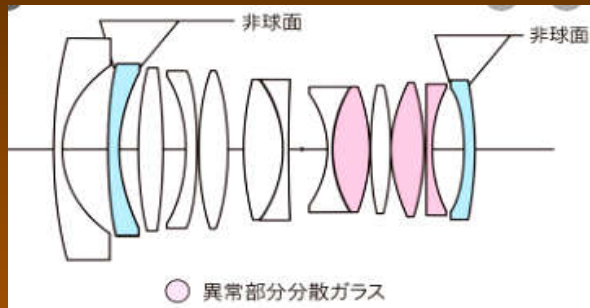
2.5° x 2.5°





# The ASTRA project

**Voigtlander E 21mm f/1.4  
Nokton**



**Sony  $\alpha$  7 III Full Frame 24.2 MP  
CMOS back-illuminated**



**FOV:  $82^\circ \times 59^\circ$  ( $100^\circ$  diag)**

**Full Frame format:**

**6000 x 4000 px back-illuminated CMOS**

**Platescale: 50 arcsec/px**

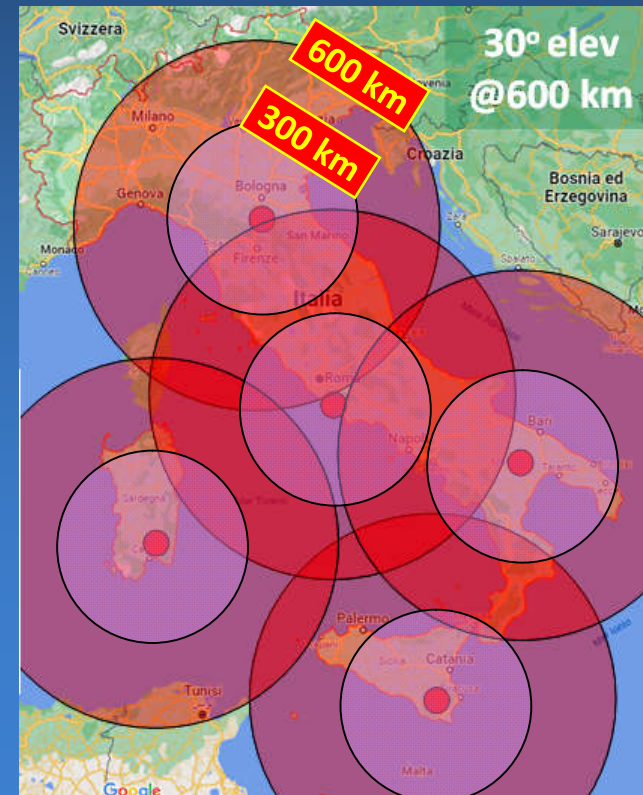
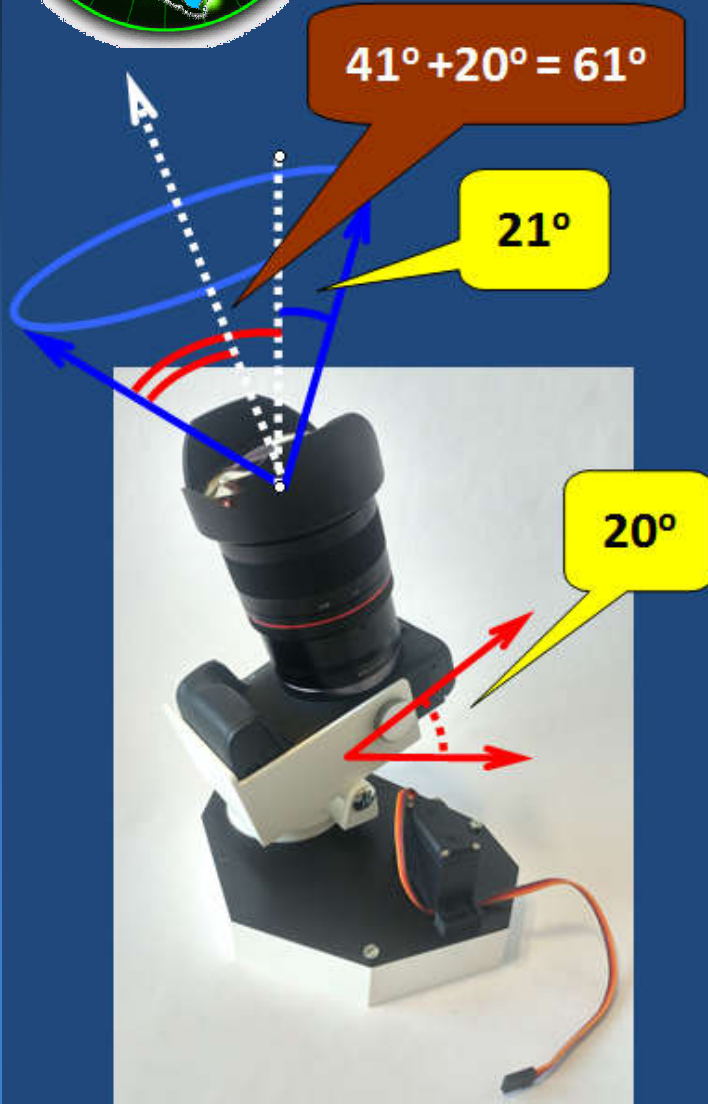
**Latency: 0.01 sec (LEO)**



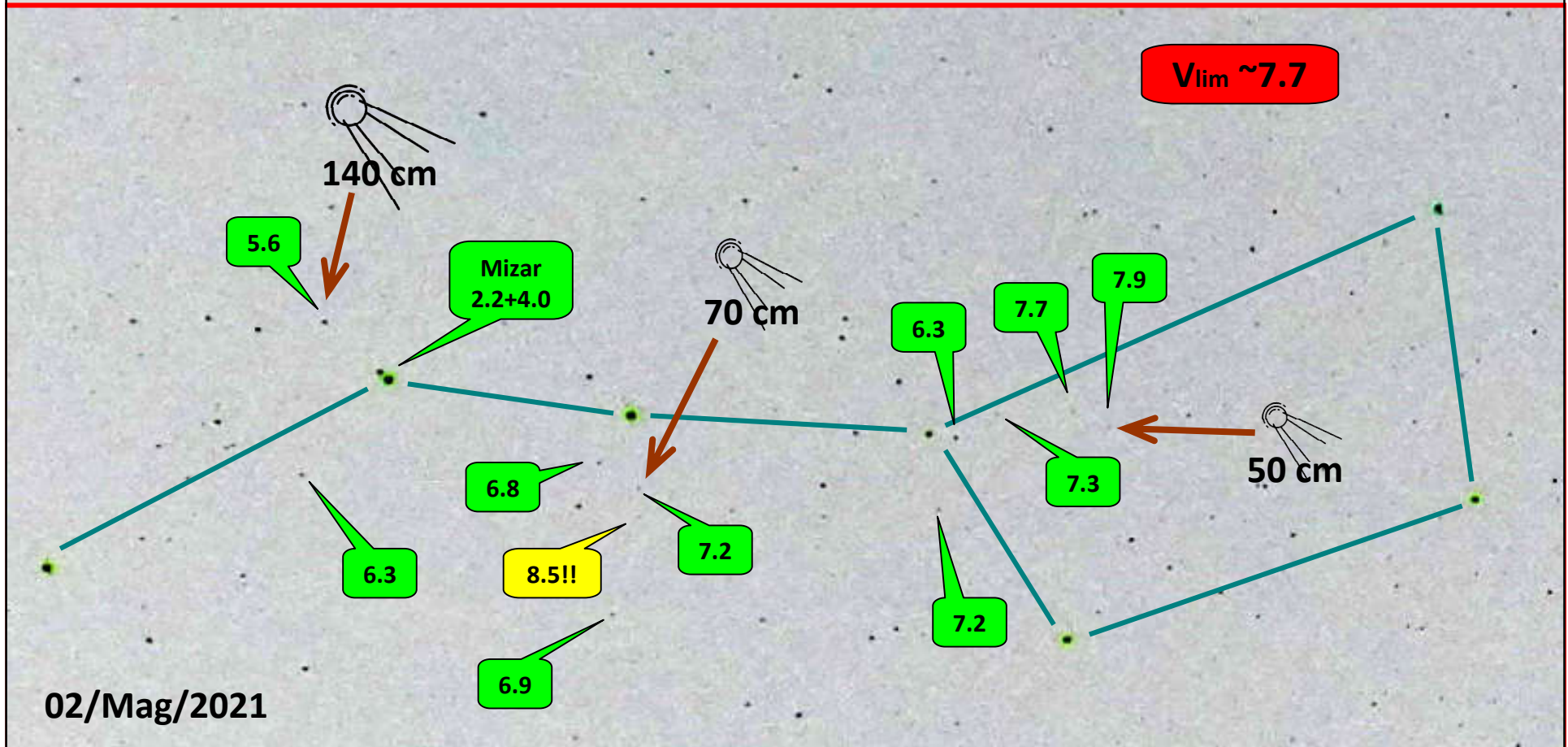


# The ASTRA project

- **Italian Network: 5 stations** remotely operated from Loiano
- **FOV:  $82^\circ \times 59^\circ$  ( $100^\circ$  diag)** steerable in azimuth
- **Mag limit @latency exp: 6.5**
- **Expected operational by Spring 2023**



# Voigtlander E 21mm f/1.4 Nokton



$t_{exp} = 0.1 \text{ sec (ISO 25000)}$

$\frac{1}{2} \times t_{exp} \rightarrow = +0.4 \text{ mag}$

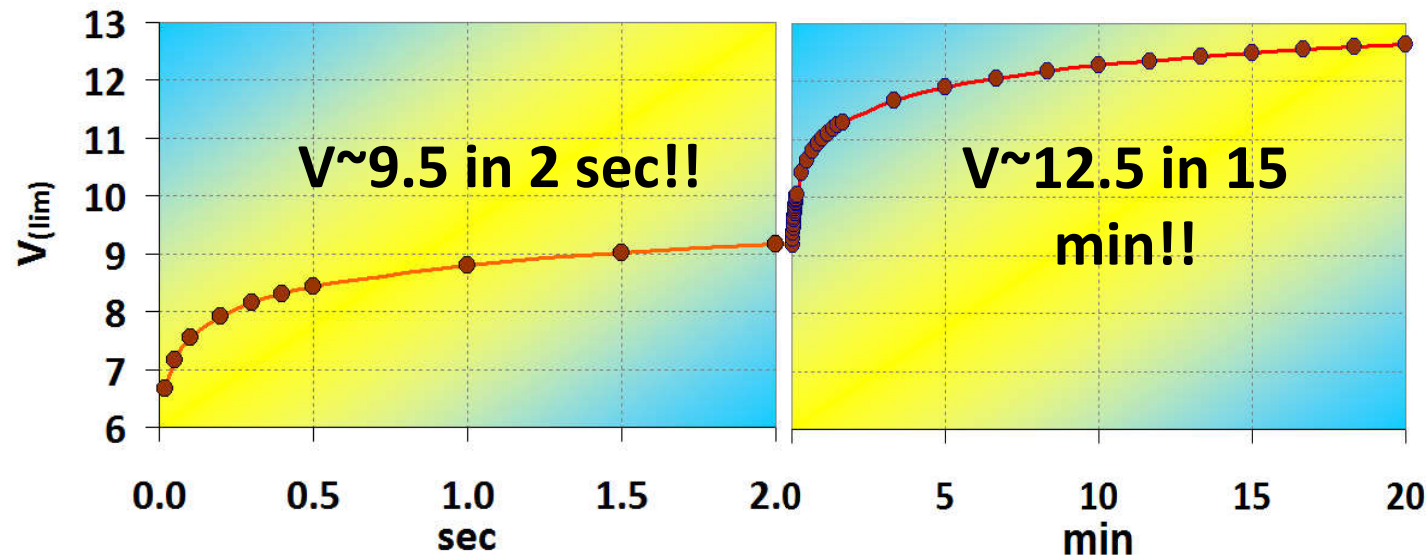
$2 \times t_{exp} \rightarrow = -0.4 \text{ mag}$

# Accuracy figures

$$V_{\text{lim}} \approx 1.25 \log(t''_{\text{exp}}) + 8.8$$

aka ~70-80 cm in L-LEO

- Debris size limit  $\rightarrow$  Magnitude limit ( $V_{\text{lim}}$ )



- Inclination (i)  $\rightarrow$  Heading angle (H)  $\rightarrow$

$$d i \leq \frac{dH}{\sin i} \approx \frac{5 \text{ arcsec}}{\sin i \left( \frac{30 \text{ deg}}{30 \text{ deg}} \right)} \approx 0.005 \text{ deg}$$

- Semi-major axis (a)  $\rightarrow$

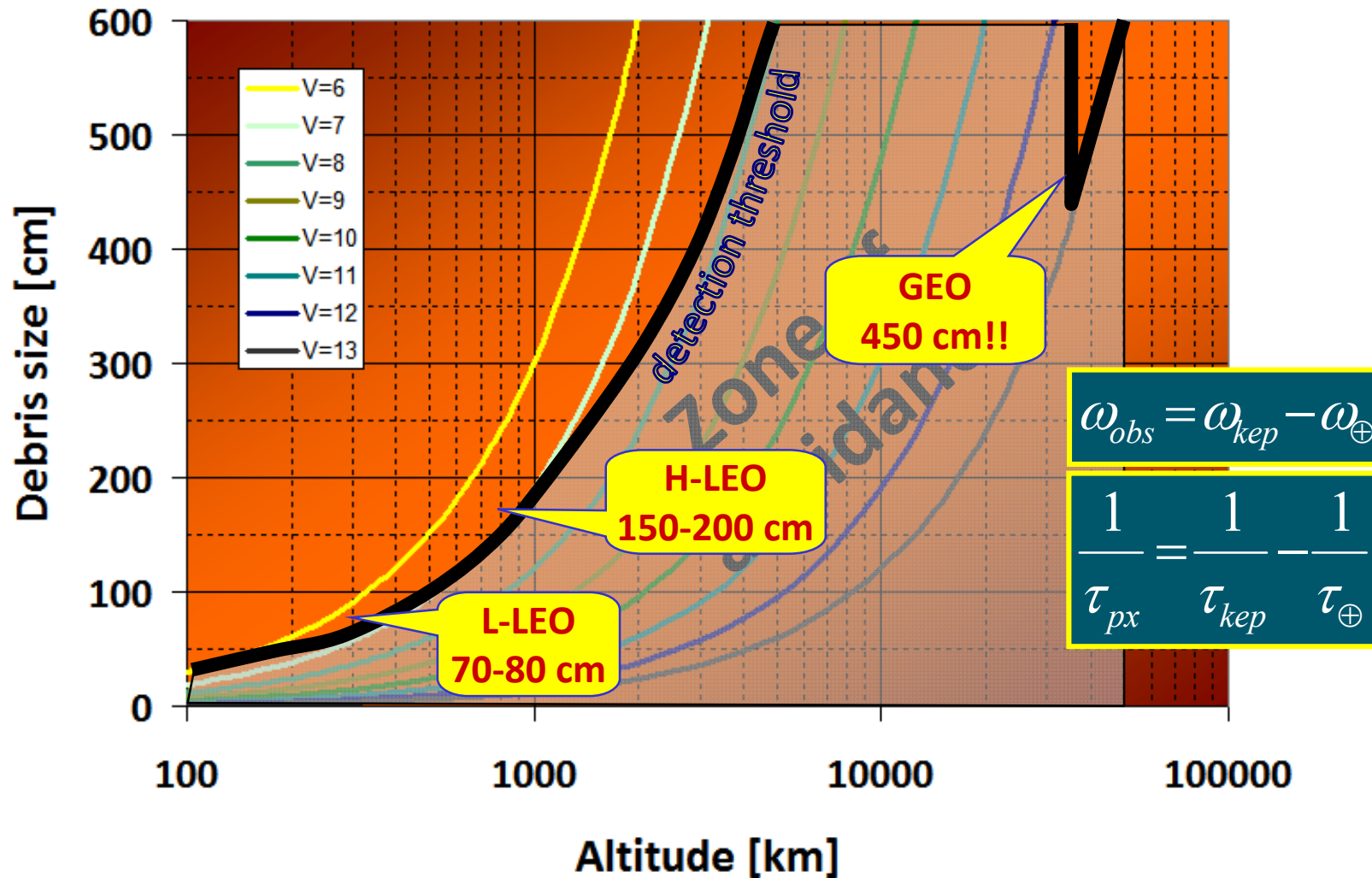
$$\frac{d a}{a} \equiv \left( \frac{2}{3} \right) \frac{d P}{P} \leq \left( \frac{2}{3} \right) \frac{dt}{t} \approx \left( \frac{2}{3} \right) \frac{1.4 \text{ px}}{30 \text{ deg arc}} \approx \left( \frac{2}{3} \right) \frac{70 \text{ arcsec}}{30 \text{ deg}} \approx \frac{1}{2000}$$

e.g. Macko (1962)

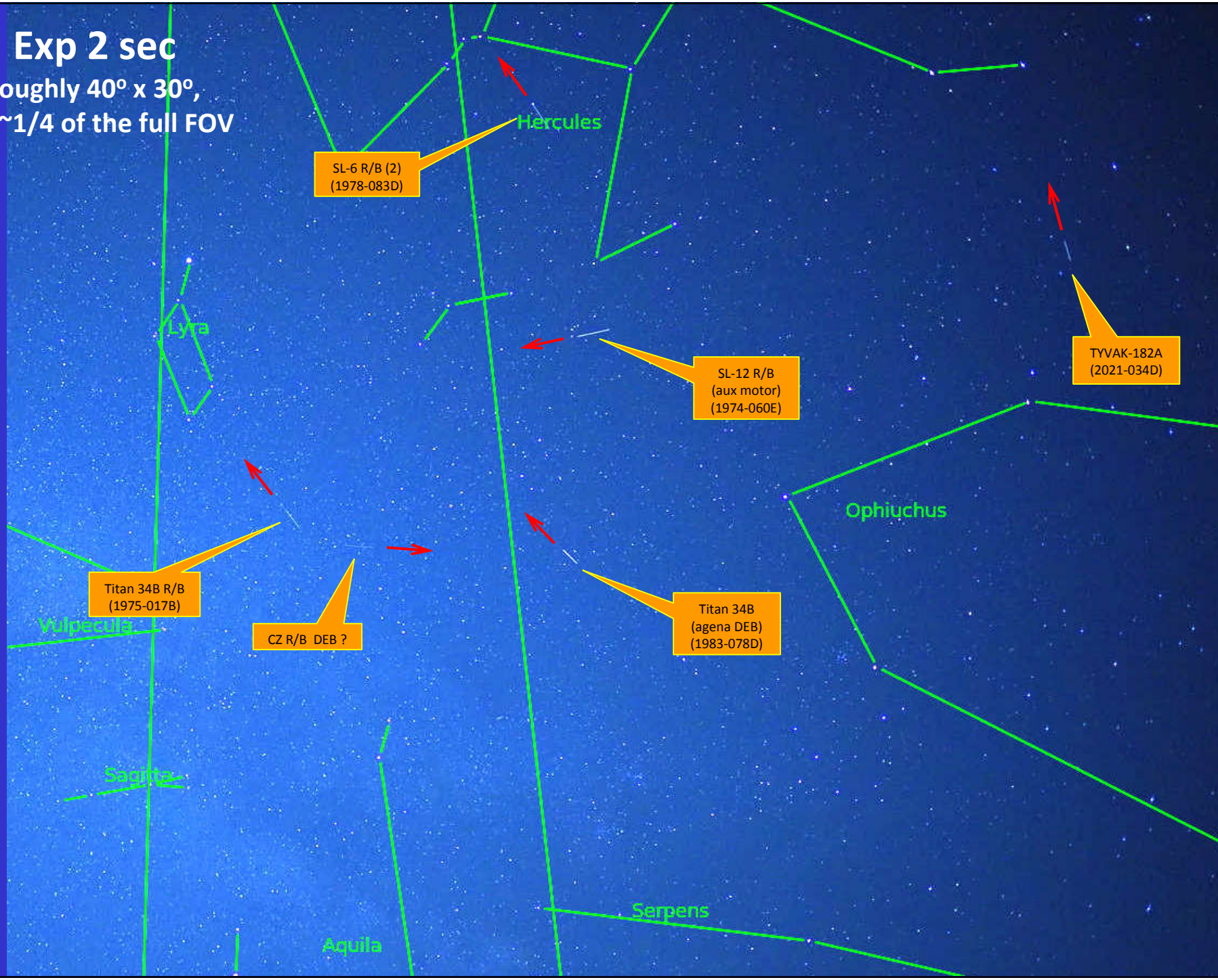
# Magnitude vs. Size

$$V \cong -5 \log(s_{cm}) + 5 \log h_{km} - 2.5 \log(\alpha / 0.1) + 3.40$$

(Buzzoni et al. 2014)



Exp 2 sec  
roughly 40° x 30°,  
i.e. ~1/4 of the full FOV



Hercules

SL-6 R/B (2)  
(1978-083D)

Lyra

SL-12 R/B  
(aux motor)  
(1974-060E)

TYVAK-182A  
(2021-034D)

Ophiuchus

Titan 34B R/B  
(1975-017B)

Vulpecula

CZ R/B DEB ?

Titan 34B  
(agena DEB)  
(1983-078D)

Sagitta

Aquila

Serpens