SBIG Research Series STL-1001E, STL-1302E, STL-4020M, STL-6303E and STL-11000M Large Format CCD Cameras





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Research Series Dual Head, Triple Sensor, Self-Guiding, Large Format CCD Cameras

The Research Series Self-Guiding CCD cameras from SBIG represent a new step forward in the field of astronomical imaging. These cooled, large format cameras leave nothing to be desired in the way of features and functionality. All Research models include the following:

- Large area imaging CCDs, up to 35mm format
- ➤ 1 Megapixel to 11 Megapixels
- ▶ Built-in 657x495 pixel TC-237H guiding CCD
- Optional remote guiding head with TC-237H CCD
- ➢ Internal 2" filter carousel
- ➢ Two-stage thermoelectric cooling
- ▶ Provision for water circulation, cooling to -50 degrees C below ambient
- ▶ Fast USB electronics, up to 425,000 pixels per second transfer rate
- Professional software: CCDOPS version 5, CCDSoftV5
- Software selectable binning modes, 1x1, 2x2, 3x3, 9x9, 1xN
- ➢ 12VDC Operation
- Status and Power level indicator lights
- Optional Nikon camera lens adapter
- Universal 90-240VAC power supply
- Custom waterproof, dustproof, crushproof Pelican carrying and storage case.

The Research Series cameras support a variety of imaging sensors. The 4 Megapixel STL-4020M and the 11 Megapixel STL-11000M with interline CCDs offer large imaging areas, excellent anti-blooming characteristics and high pixel density at a reasonable cost. The CCD used in the 11 Megapixeel STL-11000M camera is a full 35mm format CCD. These cameras are excellent choices for wide field imaging



Nikon Camera Lens Adapter

with short focal length scopes.

The STL-1001E, STL-1301E and STL-6303E with full frame CCDs offer high quantum efficiency and greater dynamic range. These cameras are the best choices for use on telescopes with longer focal lengths.

The built-in guiding CCD is a TC-237H frame transfer device with high sensitivity and a 657x495 pixel array. The optional remote guiding head contains an identical TC-237H CCD. When the remote head is attached to the main camera the user can select either the internal or the remote guiding CCD for self-guiding a a long exposure.

The internal filter carousel makes adding an expensive 2" filter wheel unnecessary. The built-in filter carousel accepts both 50mm unmounted round filters and filters mounted in 48mm threaded cells. Filter selection is

accomplished with the camera control software. Optional LRGB and UBVRI filter sets are available from SBIG. The front cover of the camera is easily removed for changing filters. Since the CCD is in a separate sealed chamber, removal of the front cover to change filters does not expose the CCD to dust or air and the desiccant does not need to be recharged after replacing the cover. Extra carousels may be purchased for



Research Series Camera with Optional Remote Guiding Head

quick and easy transition between filter sets. A shutter mechanism is also located inside the camera body, between the filter wheel and the sealed CCD chamber.

We have added an internal 12VDC regulated power supply to the camera for simplified power requirements and greater tolerance of input voltage variation. When operating in the field from a 12V battery, current drain, power cord extensions and cold temperatures may cause the input voltage to drop below 12 volts. The

internal regulated supply will accommodate some variation in input voltage (from about 10 volts to 18 volts) and keep the camera operating normally. This will allow for longer power cords to be used with less concern for voltage drops so long as the input voltage stays within a certain range. A set of indicator LEDs will let you know if your input voltage at the camera is getting too low for normal operation. A universal 90-240VAC, 50-60 Hz power supply is also included for operation from virtually any line voltage in the world.

The standard cooling design utilizes a very efficient two-stage TE cooler for maximum performance with large format detectors. Each camera is also liquid assist ready so that additional cooling in warm climates may be



achieved by circulating water if needed. We are currently testing a special magnetic levitating fan to eliminate even the smallest vibration. Cooling to -50 Degrees C below ambient can be achieved with this system.

A set of five LED indicator lights on the side panel of the camera provides critical camera status information. The green LED lets you know the camera is booting up and gives camera exposure status during normal operation. One red LED provides a warning if the heat-sink gets too hot. This could happen,



for instance, if you were running high power to the cooler and the fan failed for some reason. In this case the camera automatically reduces power to the two-stage cooler to prevent damage. One amber LED warns of an input voltage drop to 11 volts or less but the camera will continue functioning normally. The second amber LED warns of an input voltage drop to 10 volts but the camera will still continue functioning normally. The last red LED warns of an input voltage drop to 9 volts or less. In this case, the camera automatically turns off the TE cooler and continues to operate normally without cooling until the voltage drops to the point that the camera shuts down (around < 7 volts).

Power Supply and Heat Exchanger Inside Back Cover

All of these unique features make the Research Series cameras unmatched in features and flexibility. For more information please visit the SBIG web site at http://www.sbig.com or contact SBIG at (805) 571-7244, e-mail to sbig@sbig.com

Model STL-1001E Typical Specifications			
	CCD SPECIFICATIONS		
Imaging CCD	Kodak Enhanced KAF-1001E		
Pixel Array	1024 x 1024 pixels, 24.6 x 24.6 mm		
Total Pixels	1.0 million		
Pixel Size	24 x 24 microns		
Full Well Capacity (NABG)	150,000 e-		
Dark Current	34 e-/pixel/second at 0 degrees C (~1e-/pixel/second at -30 degrees C)		
Antiblooming	NABG only		
READOUT SPECIFICATIONS			
Shutter	Electromechanical		
Exposure	0.11 to 3600 seconds, 10ms resolution		
Correlated Double Sampling	Yes		
A/D Converter	16 bits		
A/D Gain	2.2e ⁻ /ADU		
Read Noise	15e ⁻ RMS		
Binning Modes	1 x 1, 2 x 2, 3 x 3		
Full Frame Download	2.5 seconds		
	SYSTEM SPECIFICATIONS		
Cooling - standard	Two-Stage Thermoelectric, Water Assist, -50 C from Ambient Typical		
Temperature Regulation	±0.1°C		
Power	10 - 18VDC, 12VDC nominal, Universal AC to 12VDC desktop supply		
Computer Interface	USB 1.1		
Computer Compatibility	Windows 95/98/NT/2000/Me/XP / Mac OS-X / Vista 32 bit / Linux (3rd party)		
Guiding	Dual CCD Self-Guiding Standard, Remote Guiding Head Optional		
PHYSICAL SPECIFICATIONS			
Dimensions	6.5 x 6 x 3.5" (16.5 x 15.2x8.9cm)		
Weight	4 pounds (1.8 Kg) without filters		
Internal Filter Carousel	5 positions for 48mm threaded cells or 2" unmounted filters (optional)		
Mounting	2" nosepiece included		
Backfocus	Approximately 1.7 inches (~4.3 cm) with 2" nosepiece attached		
	Quantum Efficiency STL-1001E		



KAF-1001E Quantum Efficiency (Spectral Response)



Model STL-4020M Typical Specifications				
CCD SPECIFICATIONS				
Imaging CCD	Kodak Enhanced KAI-4020M (Class 2)			
Pixel Array	2048 x 2048 pixels, 15.2 x 15.2 mm			
Total Pixels	4.2 million			
Pixel Size	7.4 x 7.4 microns			
Full Well Capacity (NABG)	40,000 e-			
Dark Current	1e-/pixel/second @ 0 degrees C			
Antiblooming	ABG only			
READOUT SPECIFICATIONS				
Shutter	Electromechanical			
Exposure	0.01 to 3600 seconds, 10ms resolution			
Correlated Double Sampling	Yes			
A/D Converter	16 bits			
A/D Gain	0.72e ⁻ /ADU			
Read Noise	<15e ⁻ RMS			
Binning Modes	1 x 1, 2 x 2, 3 x 3			
Full Frame Download	9.8 seconds			
SYSTEM SPECIFICATIONS				
Cooling - standard	Two-Stage Thermoelectric, Water Assist, -50 C from Ambient Typical			
Temperature Regulation	±0.1°C			
Power	10 – 18VDC, 12VDC nominal, Universal AC to 12VDC desktop supply			
Computer Interface	USB 1.1			
Computer Compatibility	Windows 95/98/NT/2000/Me/XP / Mac OS-X / Vista 32 bit / Linux (3rd party)			
Guiding	Dual CCD Self-Guiding Standard, Remote Guiding Head Optional			
P	HYSICAL SPECIFICATIONS			
Dimensions	6.5 x 6 x 3.5" (16.5 x 15.2x8.9cm)			
Weight	4 pounds (1.8 Kg) without filters			
Internal Filter Carousel	5 positions for 48mm threaded cells or 2" unmounted filters (optional)			
Mounting	2" nosepiece included			
Backfocus	Approximately 1.7 inches (~4.3 cm) with 2" nosepiece attached			
	Quantum Efficiency STL-4020M			





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Wavelength nm

STL-1	301E Typical Specificaitons (DISCONTINUED 9/2007)			
CCD SPECIFICATIONS (THIS MODEL DISCONTINUED 9/2007)				
Imaging CCD	Kodak Enhanced KAF-1301E DISCONTINUED 9/2007			
Pixel Array	1280 x 1024 pixels, 20.5 x 16.4 mm			
Total Pixels	1.3 million			
Pixel Size	16 x 16 microns			
Full Well Capacity (NABG)	150,000 e-			
Dark Current	5.6 e-/pixel/second @ 0 degrees C.			
Antiblooming	NABG standard, ABG optional			
H	READOUT SPECIFICATIONS			
Shutter	Electromechanical			
Exposure	0.11 to 3600 seconds, 10ms resolution			
Correlated Double Sampling	Yes			
A/D Converter	16 bits			
A/D Gain	2.3e ⁻ /ADU			
Read Noise	15e ⁻ RMS			
Binning Modes	1 x 1, 2 x 2, 3 x 3			
Full Frame Download	3 seconds			
	SYSTEM SPECIFICATIONS			
Cooling - standard	Two-Stage Thermoelectric, Water Assist, -50 C from Ambient Typical			
Temperature Regulation	±0.1°C			
Power	10 - 18VDC, 12VDC nominal, Universal AC to 12VDC desktop supply			
Computer Interface	USB 1.1			
Computer Compatibility	Windows 95/98/NT/2000/Me/XP / Mac OS-X / Vista 32 bit / Linux (3rd party)			
Guiding	Dual CCD Self-Guiding Standard, Remote Guiding Head Optional			
F	HYSICAL SPECIFICATIONS			
Dimensions	6.5 x 6 x 3.5" (16.5 x 15.2x8.9cm)			
Weight	4 pounds (1.8 Kg) without filters			
Internal Filter Carousel	5 positions for 48mm threaded cells or 2" unmounted filters (optional)			
Mounting	2" nosepiece included			
Backfocus	Approximately 1.7 inches (~4.3 cm) with 2" nosepiece attached			
	Quantum Efficiency STL-1301E			





Model STL-6303E Typical Specificaitons				
CCD SPECIFICATIONS				
Imaging CCD	Kodak Enhanced KAF-6303E			
Pixel Array	3060 x 2040 pixels, 27.5 x 18.4 mm			
Total Pixels	6 million			
Pixel Size	9 x 9 microns			
Full Well Capacity (NABG)	100,000 e-			
Dark Current	1e-/pixel/second @ 0 degrees C			
Antiblooming	NABG standard, ABG optional			
	READOUT SPECIFICATIONS			
Shutter	Electromechanical			
Exposure	0.11 to 3600 seconds, 10ms resolution			
Correlated Double Sampling	Yes			
A/D Converter	16 bits			
A/D Gain	2.3e ⁻ /ADU			
Read Noise	15e ⁻ RMS			
Binning Modes	1 x 1, 2 x 2, 3 x 3			
Full Frame Download	14 seconds			
SYSTEM SPECIFICATIONS				
Cooling - standard	Two-Stage Thermoelectric, Water Assist, -50 C from Ambient Typical			
Temperature Regulation	±0.1°C			
Power	10 - 18VDC, 12VDC nominal, Universal AC to 12VDC desktop supply			
Computer Interface	USB 1.1			
Computer Compatibility	Windows 95/98/NT/2000/Me/XP /Mac OS-X / Vista 32 bit / Linux (3rd party)			
Guiding	Dual CCD Self-Guiding Standard, Remote Guiding Head Optional			
	PHYSICAL SPECIFICATIONS			
Dimensions	6.5 x 6 x 3.5" (16.5 x 15.2x8.9cm)			
Weight	4 pounds (1.8 Kg) without filters			
Internal Filter Carousel	5 positions for 48mm threaded cells or 2" unmounted filters (optional)			
Mounting	2" nosepiece included			
Backfocus	Approximately 1.7 inches (~4.3 cm) with 2" nosepiece attached			
	Quantum Efficiency			
The second	STL-6303E			
	50			
	[*] 30			
KAF-6303E				
Quantum Efficiency (Spectral Response)				
(Speer a response)	Wavelength nm			

Model STL-11000M Typical Specificaitons				
CD SPECIFICATIONS				
Imaging CCD	Kodak Enhanced KAI-11000M			
Pixel Array	4008 x 2672 active pixels, 36 x 24.7 mm			
Total Pixels	11 million			
Pixel Size	9 x 9 microns			
Full Well Capacity (NABG)	50,000 e-			
Dark Current	1.5 e-/pixel/sec @ o degrees C			
Antiblooming	ABG only			
READOUT SPECIFICATIONS				
Shutter	Electromechanical			
Exposure	0.01 to 3600 seconds, 10ms resolution			
Correlated Double Sampling	Yes			
A/D Converter	16 bits			
A/D Gain	0.8e ⁻ /ADU			
Read Noise	11e ⁻ RMS			
Binning Modes	1 x 1, 2 x 2, 3 x 3			
Full Frame Download	26 seconds			
SYSTEM SPEIFICATIONS				
Cooling - standard	Two-Stage Thermoelectric, Water Assist, -50 C from Ambient Typical			
Temperature Regulation	±0.1°C			
Power	10 - 18VDC, 12VDC, 4.5A nominal, Universal AC to 12VDC desktop supply			
Computer Interface	USB 1.1			
Computer Compatibility	Windows 95/98/NT/2000/Me/XP /Mac OS-X / Vista 32 bit / Linux (3rd party)			
Guiding	Dual CCD Self-Guiding Standard, Remote Guiding Head Optional			
	PHYSICAL SPECIFICATIONS			
Dimensions	6.5 x 6 x 3.5" (16.5 x 15.2x8.9cm)			
Weight	4 pounds (1.8 Kg) without filters			
Internal Filter Carousel	5 positions for 48mm threaded cells or 2" unmounted filters (optional)			
Mounting	2" nosepiece included			
Backfocus	Approximately 1.7 inches (~4.3 cm) with 2" nosepiece attached			
	Quantum Efficience			
KAI-1100M Quantum Efficiency (Spectral Response)	STL-11000M			

Remote Guiding Head Specifications (Typical)				
Dimensions	2.75 x 2 x 2 inches (7 x 5 x 5 cm) excluding nosepiece, desiccant plug and connector			
Weight	Approx. 0.5 lbs. (0.23kg)			
Camera Interface	A small flexible cable, 3' long (6' optional) to the camera provides power, control signal and image transfer.			
Computer Interface	USB 1.1 through main camera to computer. Proprietary protocol between remote head and camera body.			
Telescope Interface	T-thread or supplied 1.25" nosepiece, optional T-thread to C-mount and 35mm camera lens adapters are available			
Shutter	Internal Mechanical Shutter for dark frames plus electronic shutter (frame transfer) for short exposures			
Power Requirements	None (Remote head receives power through the head cable from the main camera)			
Mounting connections	1/4-20 threaded holes on two sides of head			
Cooling	Single-stage TE cooling to approximately -25 degrees C below ambient			
	REMOTE GUIDING HEAD SENSOR CCD: Texas Instruments TC-237H Pixel Array: 657 x 495 pixels Pixel Size: 7.4 x 7.4 microns CCD Size: 4.9 x 3.7 mm Cooling; Single-stage Thermoelectric Antiblooming: Yes			

Optional Accessories for Research Series Cameras				
	Remote Guiding Head with cooled TC237H CCD, 3' head cable included	D	Replacement 6' head cable for Remote Guiding Head	
	50mm LRGBC Filter Set		Extra Filter Carousel	
Q	12VDC Power Cable with CigaretteLighter Adapter	0	Nikon 35mm Lens Adapter	
	12VDC Water Pump Cigarette Lighter Plug, Mounting Plate and tubing		Relay Adapter Box	
9' Extension cable for AC power supply	110VAC Transformer for Water Pump	50mm UBVRI Filter Set	50mm H-alpha and other narrow band filters	