



A 53cm-binoculars telescope debris laser ranging system

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Introduction

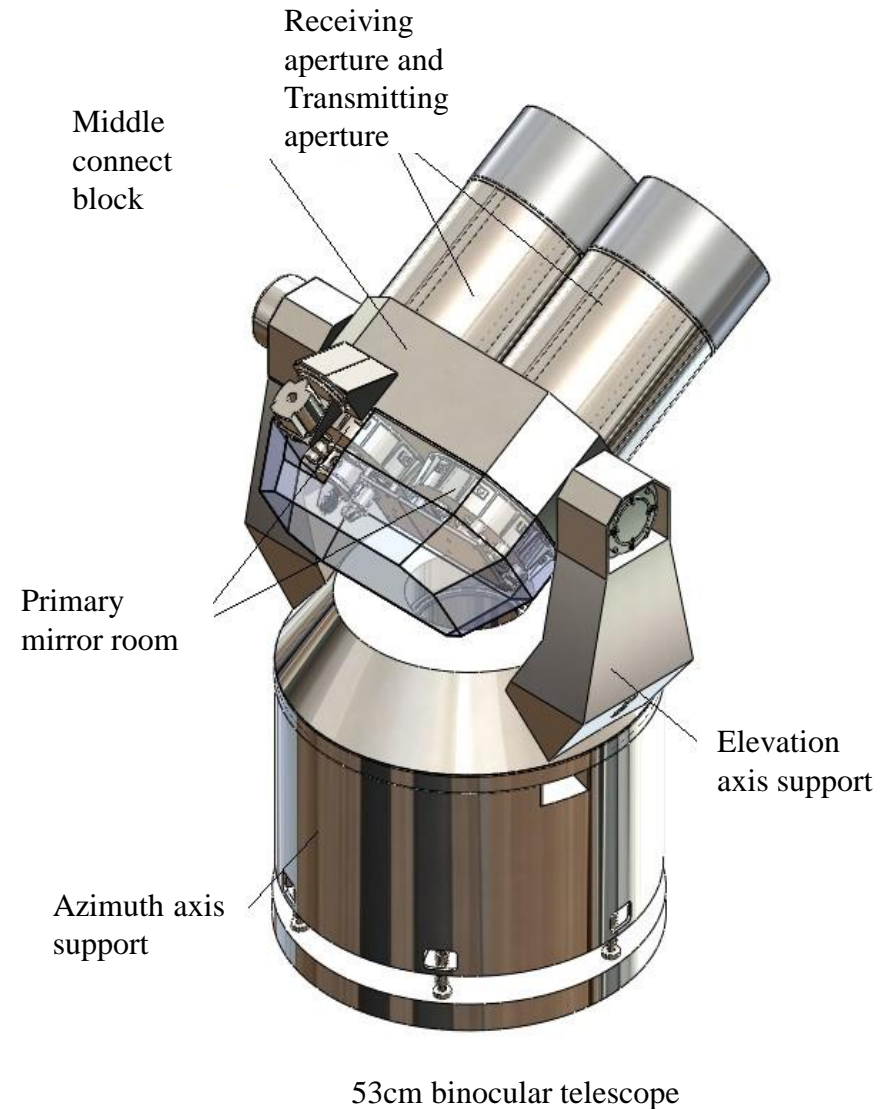
- Based on equipments like the 1.2m telescope and high-power laser generator, a 10Hz debris laser ranging experiment platform is established in the Yunnan Observatories, and detected echo signal of the rocket remain on Jun.07 2010.
- This paper is on the development of the 53cm binocular telescope debris laser ranging system and realization of debris detection with the capability of detecting meter-level target.

Telescope

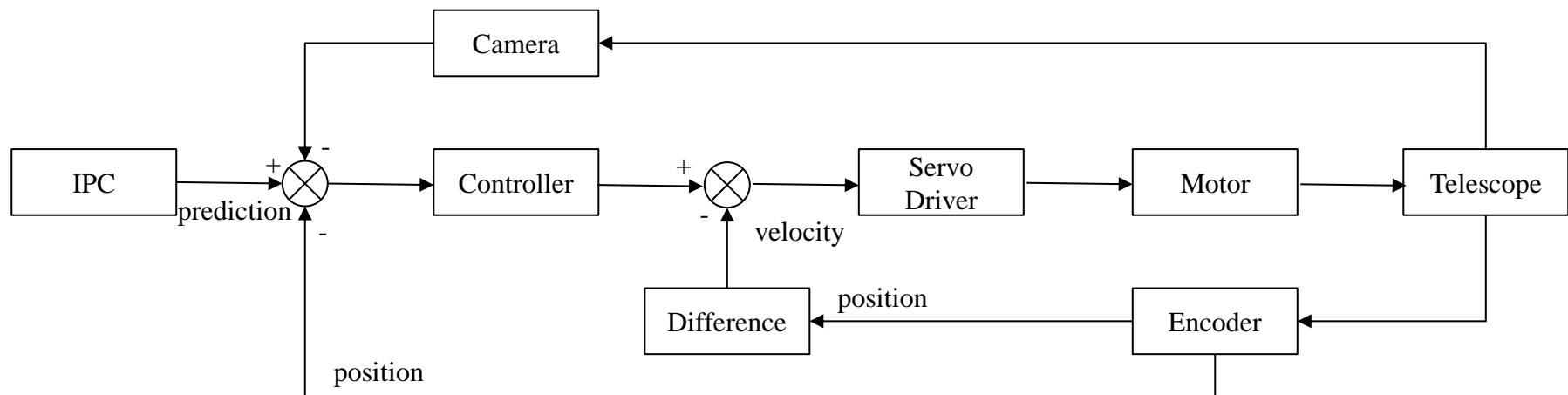


parameters	Transmitting aperture	Receiving aperture
Primary mirror effective diameter	510mm	510mm
Focal length of primary mirror	1078mm	1400mm
Secondary mirror effective diameter	48mm	160mm
Focal length of secondary mirror	93mm	650mm
Shielded ratio	<4.4%	≈17%
Multiplying power	11.5×	
surface figure accuracy	$\lambda/12$	

parameters of the telescope



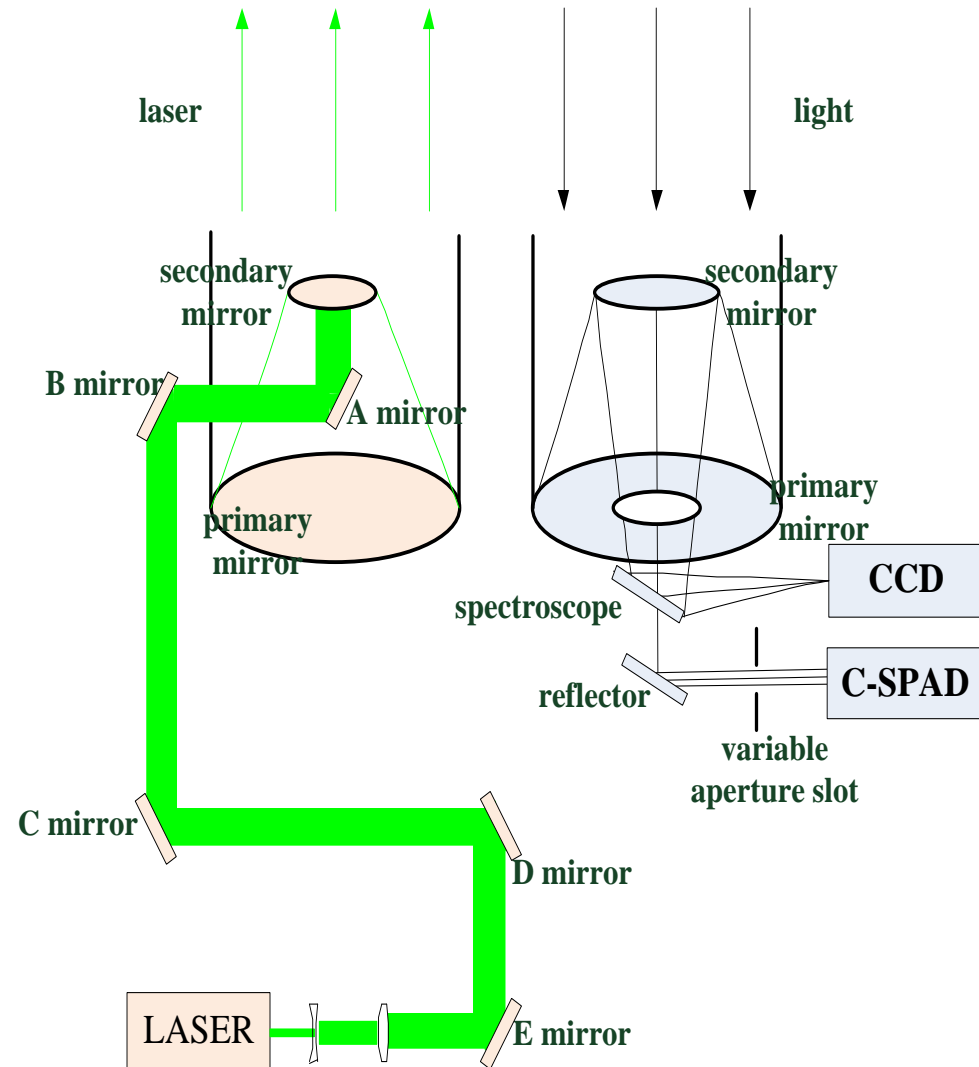
Servo Control



The servo control of the 53cm telescope is capable of fast and stable tracking of debris which is above 400km with the precision better than 5" (RMS<3"). The principle is shown in figure.

Optic path

- It is shown in figure the transmitting/receiving optical path of the 53cm telescope.
- During ranging, laser is generated and passes through lv.1 beam expander system, then travels to reflecting mirrors: E, D, C, B and A, then reaches Secondary mirror. After lv.2 beam expander in Secondary mirror, the laser is transmitted to spacial target.
- Photon signals reflected by the target travel back to the ground and enter the receiving aperture, and are then reflected to spectroscopre, reflector, and enter C-SPAD after beam condensing system.





Debris laser ranging

Laser :

The frequency is 1kHz

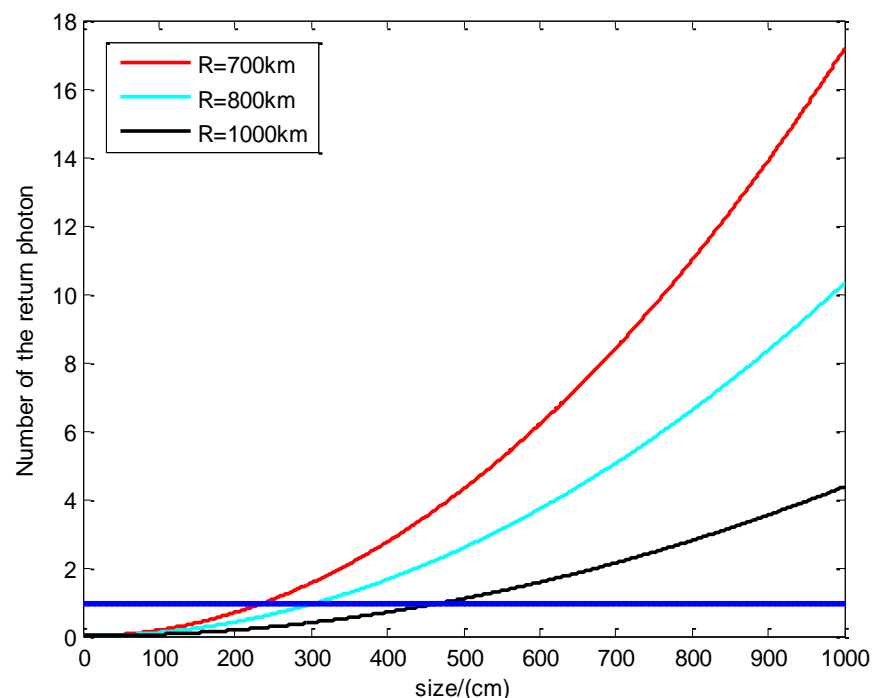
The pulse width is 750ps

The wavelength is 532nm

Each pulse energy is 35mJ

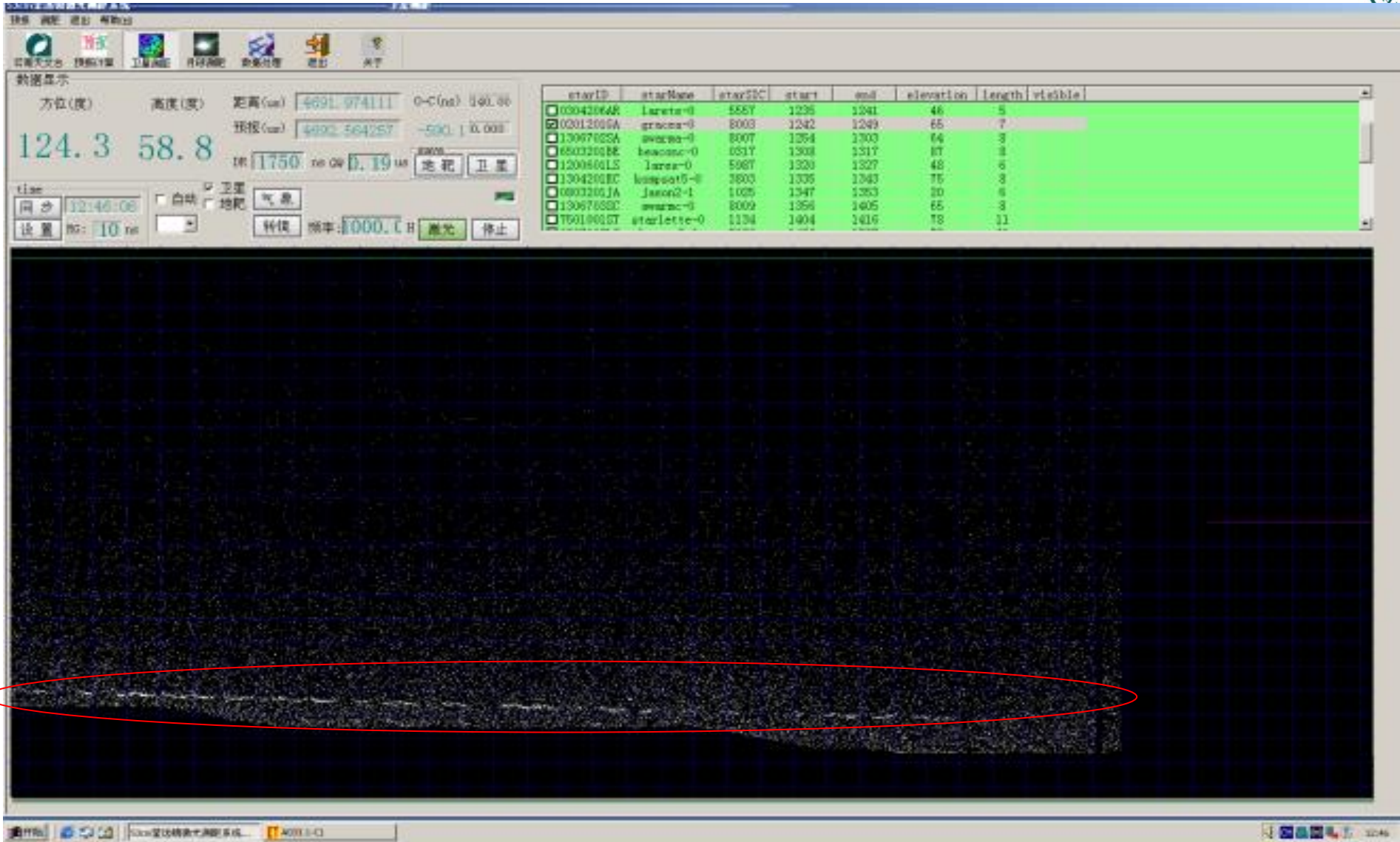
Reflected photon calculation:

When the distance among debris is 700km, 800km and 1000km respectively, the echo that can be detected will approximately be 240cm, 310cm and 480cm accordingly (debris detection with the capability of detecting meter-level target).



reflected photon calculation of ranging system

Debris laser ranging



This laser ranging system was applied at the beginning of 2016 for the debris laser ranging. In figure is the tracking layout of debris (Code No.20466) captured on May.31

The radar cross section (RCS) of the target is round 4.5m^2



Conclusion

- The telescope system is capable of fast and stable tracking targets that are above 400km.
- Combined with high-frequency sub-nanosecond level laser generator and single photon detect technology.
- With the capability of detecting meter-level target.
- In future work the system will be further developed to improve the measuring capability of spacial debris.

Thank you!