

Saturn in Color

12/27/2003 (pm)

Location: 3161 Winston, Toledo, Ohio (Outside back door)

Conditions: residential, 27 deg, no wind, very steady air, no moon(set), sky clear, Saturn directly overhead Basically ideal conditions.

Meade LX-90 8 inch Sct in polar alignment mode:

UV filter on back, right angle prism, 2X Barlow

Meade Lunar-Planetary Imager (LPI):

Shutter: 0.25 sec // Gain: 100 // Offset: 50 // Histogram 0-100, set 0-255.

Used tracking of images and auto combination with min quality 99% and 10 eval. images.

Edge enhancement, hard during acquisition.

Two sets of 150 images then averaged in Registax.

Capture direct to USB port on HP ze5185 notebook using Meade Autostar Suite.

Make "Saturn1_Saturn2_122703_LPI_avg300img_avg2aregx_proc2":

AstroArt V3.0:

Crop

Resize 200%

Unsharp mask 3,3, unadaptive

Histogram 40min – 252max, exponential 6 from linear

Gauss smooth sigma=0.7

Col. Sat. 60% from 50%

Adobe Photo Shop Elements 2.0

Motion blur on planet, 10 pixels, -8 degrees

Gauss top planet 4.0 after lasso and feather 10 pixels

Gauss blur image 0.4 pixels

Microsoft Word:

Brightness 48%, Contrast 52%

Larry Low – Astrophotonist 12/29/2003