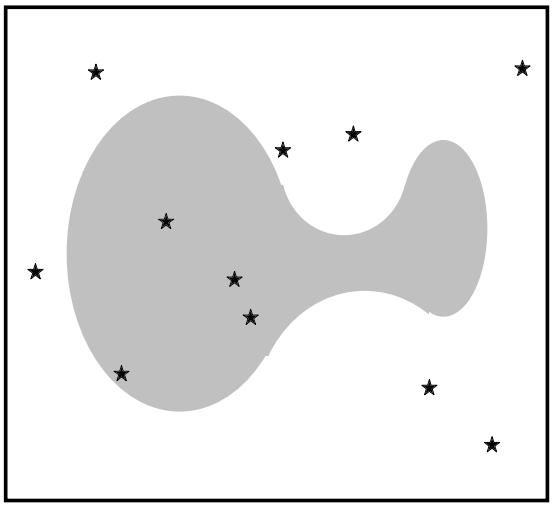
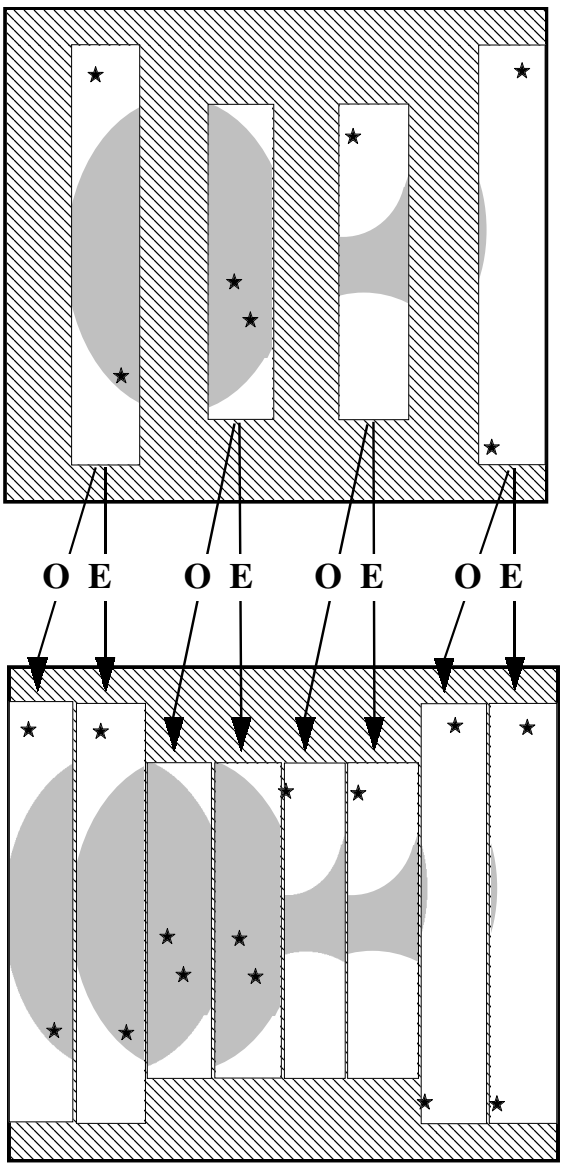


1) The telescope forms an image of an object in the focal plane. Any stars in the field can be used to align the images during the data reduction stage.



2) A mask consisting of a series of equally spaced parallel bars obscures the focal plane image.

3) The polarimeter forms two copies of the masked focal plane image, displaced perpendicularly to the mask bars, so that they appear side-by-side on the detector. These are called the "*O*" and the "*E*" ray images. The mask ensures that the two images do not overlap, as the area occupied by each image is left dark by the other image.