Field of View for telescope eyepieces
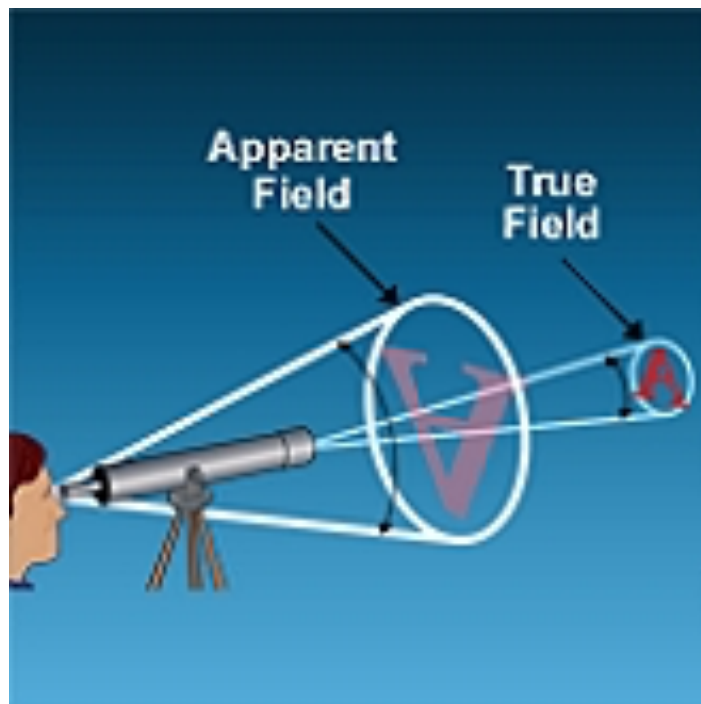*updated: 9/26/20*

An eyepiece's apparent field of view is the angular diameter, expressed in degrees (°), of the circle of light that the eye sees. Eyepiece apparent fields range from narrow (25° - 30°) to extra-wide angle (80° or more). For UST eyepieces: use an apparent field of view of 50°. The true field (or real field) of view is the angle of sky seen through the eyepiece when it's attached to the telescope.

Summary: Apparent FOV is the sky arc you *think* your eye sees through eyepiece. True FOV is the *actual* arc of sky your eye sees (e.g., looking at Moon you think you see 50° of sky, but you really see only 1°) .

Equation**:**   **True Field = Apparent Field ÷ Magnification**

For example, suppose you have an 8" Schmidt-Cassegrain telescope with a 2000mm focal length, and a 20mm eyepiece with a 50° apparent field. The magnification would be 2000mm ÷ 20mm = 100x. The true field would be 50 ÷ 100, or 0.5° - about the same apparent diameter as the full Moon.

James Clarage,
based upon https://www.telescope.com/Apparent-Field-vsTrue-Field/p/99822.uts