KStars for Mac Quick Start Guide

1. After mounting the DMG, drag the KStars.app application bundle to your /Applications folder or anywhere you would like to put it on your Mac. If you would like to plate-solve images, please **do not put it in a folder that has a space anywhere in the file path**.

2. Double click on the KStars.app. On the first run, several things will happen that should not happen later if you run it again.
   a. A dialog box might pop up saying it is from an unidentified developer. This is because KStars is open source software. You should be able to right-click (or ctrl-click depending on your Mac) and select "Open" from the top of the contextual menu to get KStars to open. If you still cannot run it, then you may need to change your security setting in System Preferences.
   b. A dialog box might pop up saying that KStars was downloaded from the Internet. Click ok to run it.
   c. If you have not had KStars installed before, then KStars will need to copy the data directory into your Library folder.   The wizard will help you do this.

3. KStars should now be working well. The rest of these steps are optional.

GSC

    If you want to run gsc to get "stars" in the CCD simulator, you can use the downloader in the startup wizard or your can download and unzip this file http://www.indilib.org/jdownloads/Mac/gsc.zip into the KStars Data directory ~/Library/Application Support/kstars

Astrometry.net configuration

    If you would like to run Astrometry offline on your Mac, you will need to copy some index files into ~/Library/Application Support/Astrometry/.   KStars has installers for these files in the Astrometry options in the Align tab in Ekos

1. If you just want to try out Astrometry on KStars using the fake gsc based images using the CCD simulator, then be sure to follow all of the instructions above, and download the 4205 series and 4206 series index files. Then it is jut a matter of adjusting your settings in the align tab and astrometry options.

2. If you instead want to use a real telescope and imager, the exact index files you will need depends on your field size. In the Ekos Align Module, the astrometry options will make some recommendations based on your field size. Also, the Astrometry Readme file explains this well astrometry.net/doc/readme.html. However, I have found that the easiest way to determine what you will need is to just take a few images in different areas of the sky using your system and upload them to nova.astrometry.net/upload. Pay attention to which index files solve your images. Then download those series of index files using the installer in the Astrometry Options in the Align tab in Ekos.   If the download times out for whatever reason, you can also download the index files from the astrometry.net website and copy them into ~/Library/Application Support/Astrometry/.