

## What is a Telescope?

An optical instrument and lenses or their combination used to obtain images of distant objects.



## History

• Pre Telescopic Observatories





Machu picchu

Stonehenge

## History

• Galileo's Telescope



## **Functions of a Telescope**

- 1. Collect and faint light coming from astronomical sources
- 2. Focus the collected light into a point or image

More the aperture(Light collecting area), More the amount of entering light.

## Components

Simply viewing the sky with a telescope and writing down descriptions is a very inefficient way

That is why modern telescopes usually involve some more components along with them

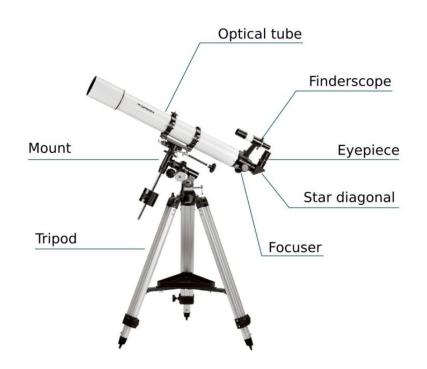
- 1. Telescope, which collects light.
- 2. An Instrument to sort incoming radiation by wavelength as per need.
- 3. A Detector to record the observations.

# Types of Telescope (Based on wavelength of light they observe)

- 1. X-Ray Telescopes
- 2. UV Telescopes
- 3. Optical Telescopes (Visible region)
- 4. Infrared Telescopes
- 5. Submillimeter telescopes (Microwave region)
- 6. Radio Telescopes

## Parts of a Telescope

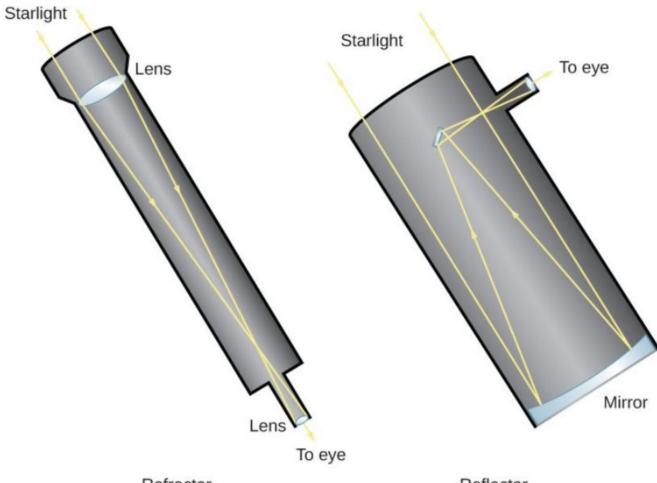
- Minimum 2 lenses/mirrors
- Varying sizes of eyepiece are used



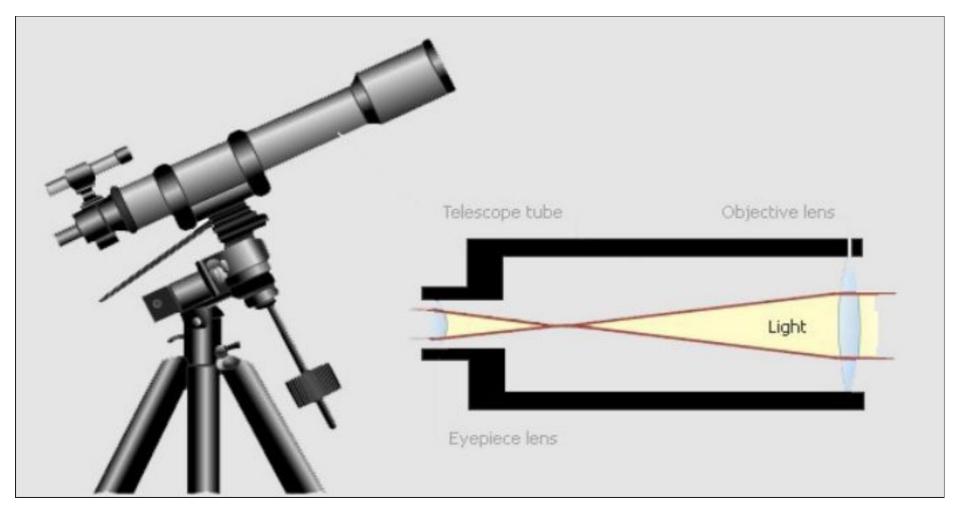


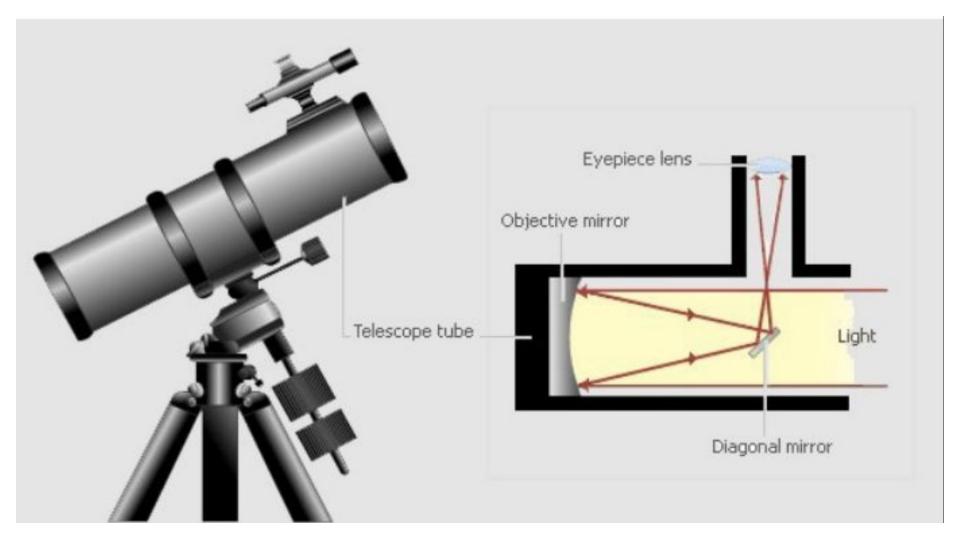
## Types of Telescope

- 1. Refracting Telescopes: Uses lenses
- 2. Reflecting Telescopes: Uses mirrors
- 3. Catadioptric Telescopes : Combination of mirror and lenses

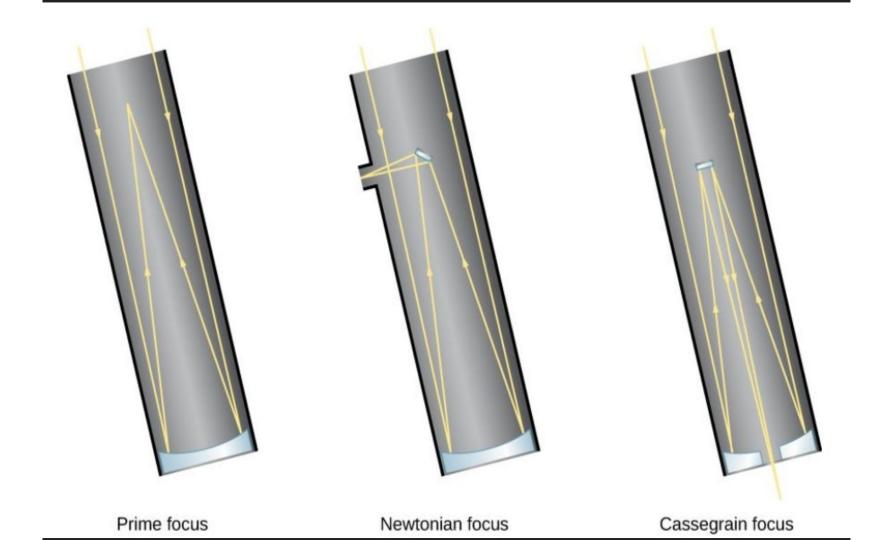


Refractor Reflector



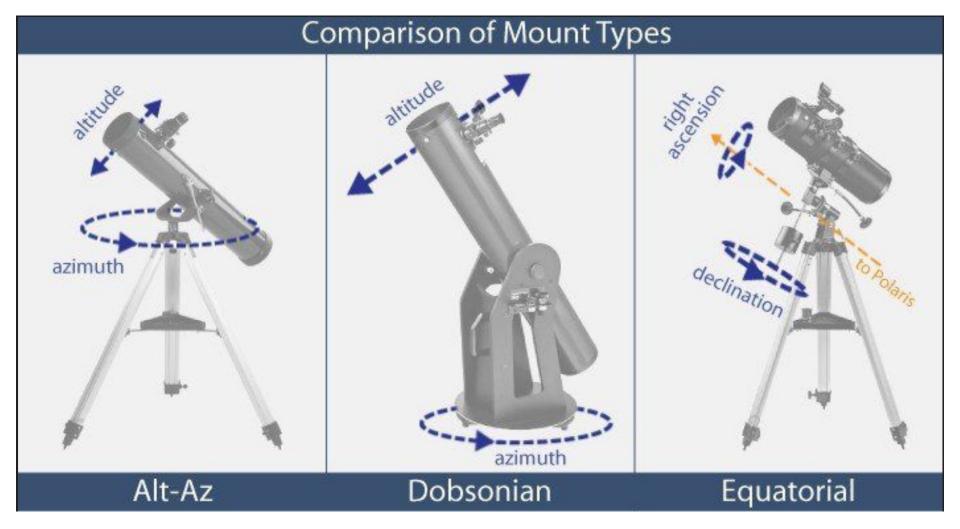


A problem with Refractors



## **Telescope Mounts**

- Alt- Azimuth Aligned with local zenith
- Equatorial- Aligned with polar axis and requires a heavy counter weight



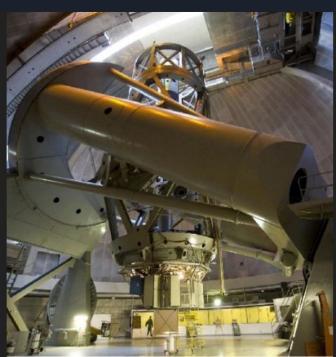
## A Good Telescope?

1. The key characteristics of a telescope is the aperture of the main mirror or the lens.

2. Magnification is not one of the criteria on which to base your choice of a telescope. The magnification of the image is done by a smaller eyepiece, so the magnification can be adjusted by changing eyepieces.

A sturdy and stable mount is essential

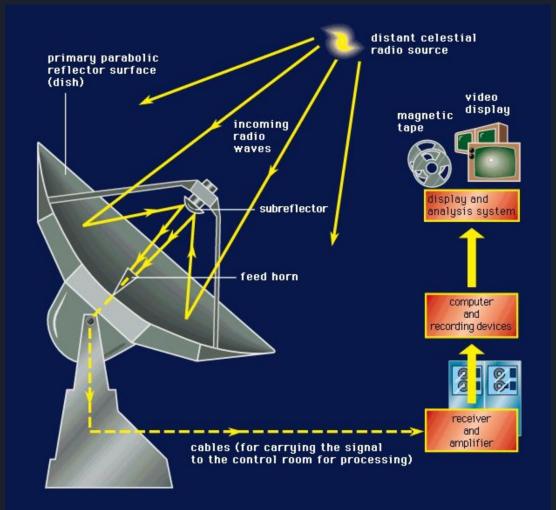




## Radio Telescope

- Radio waves are not something which can be heard
- They can produce current in conductors (metal antenna or something similar)
- Radio waves are reflected by conducting surfaces
- A radio-reflecting telescope consists of a concave metal reflector (called a dish), analogous to a telescope mirror
- The radio waves collected by the dish are reflected to a focus, where they
  can then be directed to a receiver and analyzed
- Furthers methods like interferometry can be applied

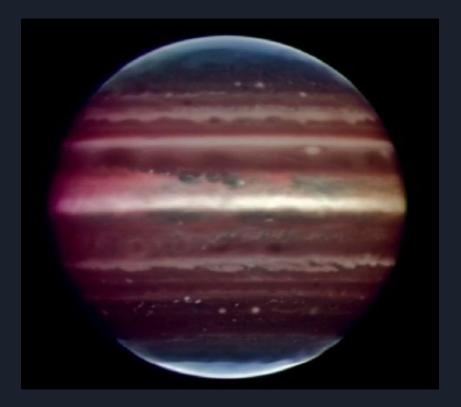




#### Resolution

- Resolution refers to precision of details present in image
- Depends on size of telescope; Large apertures produce sharper images
- Measured in units of arcseconds
- 1 arcsecond = 1/3600 degree
- Sin  $\alpha$  = 138/D

## **Adaptive Optics**



One of the clearest image of Jupiter taken from ground based telescope