

Eleven Years on Maunakea

Presentation by Dan Birchall, GradCertSc '10, for SAO AstroFest 2015

Mauna Kea, 2004

- 12 observatories, 13 (or 20) telescopes
- Age range 36 (UH24) to 2 years (SMA)
- New: Megacam, ULBCAM, SNIFS, etc.
- Coming: PS4, Keck Outriggers, UH-1m?
- Remote observation already common
- Remote ops at UH88 (75%) and VLBA (100%)
- 100,000 tourists/year at VIS
- “Mauna Kea” was two words.



Projection for the 2020s

“In twenty years, I expect that there will be fewer telescopes on Mauna Kea, but those that are there will be the very best in the world... and hopefully a thirty-meter telescope.”

– Rolf-Peter Kudritzki, former Director,
UH Institute for Astronomy, 2004

“Home away from home,” 2004



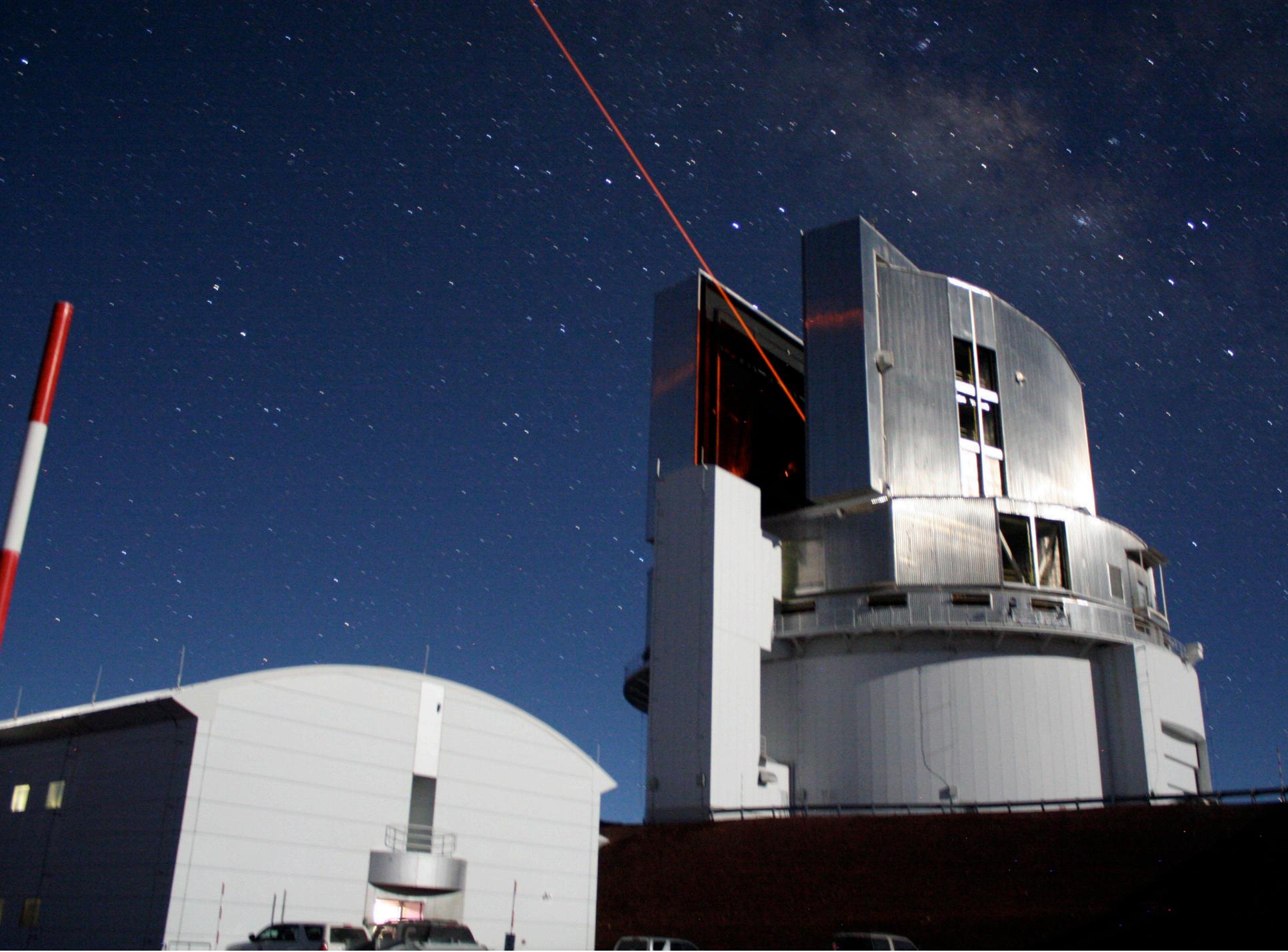


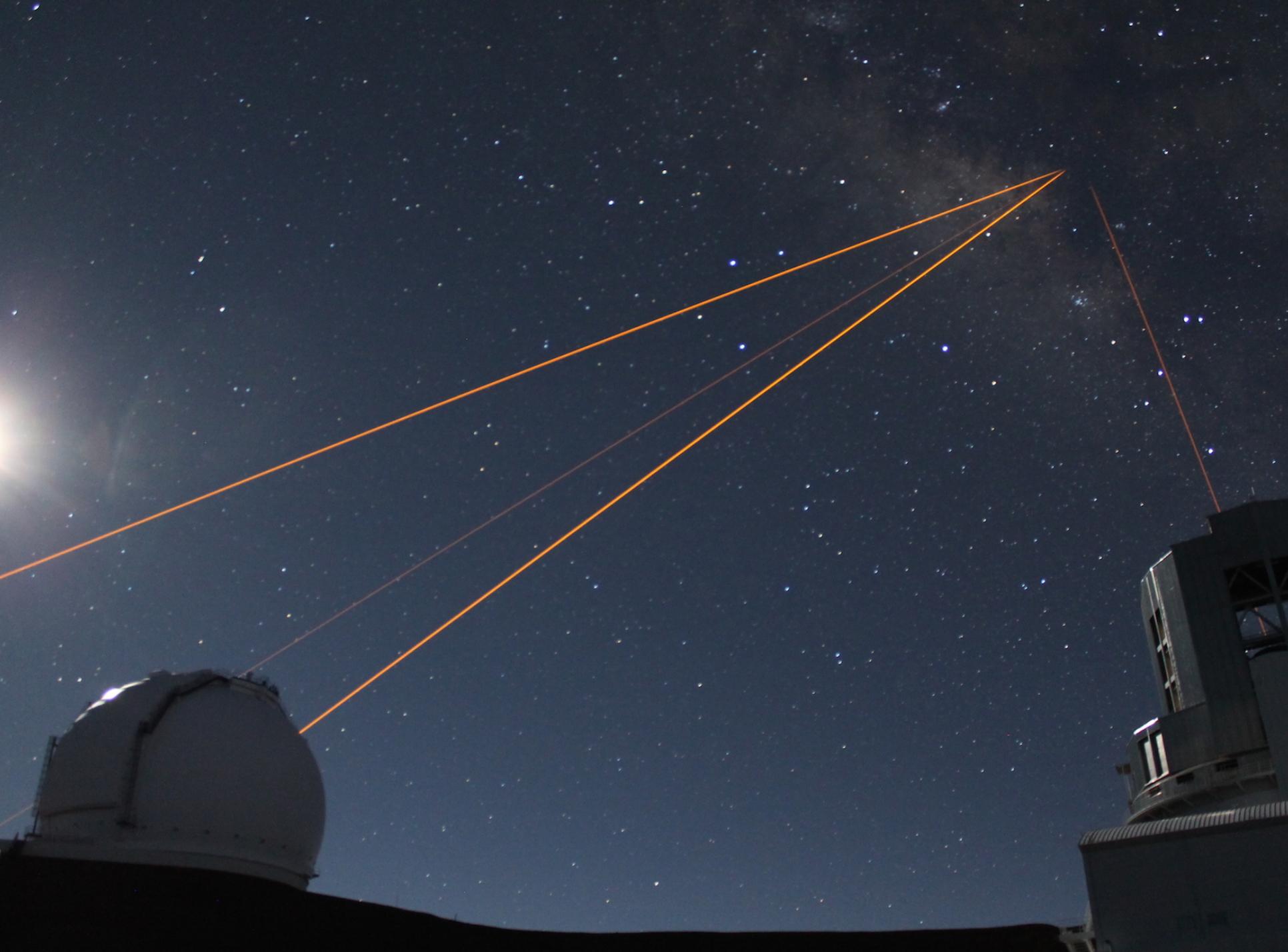












Yes, there's "Black Ice" in Hawaii



“Home away from home,” 2015



Mauna Kea, 2015

- 12 observatories, 13 (or 20) telescopes
- Age range 45 (UH88) to 13 years (SMA)
- New: HSC, MOSFIRE, etc.
- Coming: TMT, PFS, MSE?
- Going: CSO, Hoku Ke'a, others?
- UKIRT now Arizona/NASA/Lockheed
- JCMT now EAO - South Korea/Japan/China/Taiwan
- Most observers now remote.
- 5 facilities frequently operated remotely.
- 300,000 tourists/year at VIS
- “Maunakea” is now one word.

Revisiting the 2020s

- Fewer telescopes on Maunakea – how many will be gone?
- Definitely *among* the best in the world – site characteristics, new instruments
- Hopefully a thirty-meter telescope – stay tuned.
- Trends in operation, observation, human resources, tourism, etc.

Pau.

