

One-time system configuration

The computers supplied with each telescope arrived too late to permit complete configuration prior to shipping. Each team will need to apply the settings described in this document to their computer. This is done just one time as all the changes made here are essentially permanent.

Special Note: Do not ever connect the laptop to any network, wired or wireless.

1. Change system time and date format (system is set to UT, leave it this way)
 - a. Open "Settings" from the start menu (on lower left)
 - b. In "Find a setting" box, type in: change time and date format and click on the topic.
 - c. First day of week: Sunday
 - d. Short date: yyyy-MM-dd
 - e. Long date: dddd, MMMM d, yyyy (no change)
 - f. Short time: HH:mm
 - g. Long time: HH:mm:ss
2. Configure display
 - a. Open "Settings" from the start menu (on lower left)
 - b. Click on "Personalization" box
 - c. Select Background: solid color, pick red (for night vision), or black if you prefer
 - d. Select Lock screen
 - e. Click Screen timeout settings (need to scroll down)
 - f. Screen -> On battery power, turn off after: Never
 - g. Screen -> When plugged in, turn off after: Never
 - h. Sleep -> On battery power, PC goes to sleep after: Never
 - i. Sleep -> When plugged in, PC goes to sleep after: Never
3. Right-click on taskbar at bottom, click on settings
 - a. Turn on, "automatically hide the taskbar in desktop mode". While on the Windows desktop, you get the taskbar back by pulling the cursor down to the bottom and the taskbar will appear. This will suppress getting a taskbar while SharpCap is running in full-screen mode (default).
4. Turn off Cortana functions
 - a. Click in box on the taskbar that says "Type here to search"
 - b. Click on gear icon on left side of screen
 - c. Turn off "Lock screen"
 - d. Turn off "Taskbar tidbits"
5. Other system configuration
 - a. From start menu, click on settings (two icons up from start menu, just above the power icon), this brings up the "Windows Settings"
 - b. Click on System

- i. Click on “Notifications & actions”
 - 1. Turn off “Get notifications from apps and other senders”
 - 2. Turn off “Get tips, tricks, and suggestions as you use Windows”
 - c. Click on “Network & Internet”
 - i. Click on “Wi-Fi”
 - 1. Turn off “Connect to suggested open hotspots”
 - 2. Turn off “Paid Wi-Fi services”
 - d. Click on Devices
 - i. Click on “Mouse & Touchpad”
 - 1. Scroll down and find the entries for three finger tap and four finger tap.
 - 2. Three finger tap, change from “Search with Cortana” to “Nothing”
 - 3. Four finger tap, change from “Action Center” to “Nothing”
 - 4. Three finger drags and slides, change from “Switching apps” to “Nothing”
 - 5. Four finger drags and slides, change from “Virtual desktops” to “Nothing”
 - 6. If you are used to a Mac, turn on the “Reverse scrolling direction”
 - ii. Click on “AutoPlay”
 - 1. Removable drive, set to “Open folder to view files (File Explorer)”
 - 2. Memory card, set to “Open folder to view files (File Explorer)”
6. Configure SharpCap shortcut
 - a. Right click on desktop icon
 - b. Click on Properties
 - c. Click on Compatibility tab
 - d. Select “Run this program as an administrator”
 - e. Click Apply and then Ok
7. Connect camera and start Sharp Cap (see related document for this step).
8. Configure Sharp Cap (under File -> Settings)
 - a. General
 - i. Select “automatically connect to camera when SharpCap starts”
 - ii. Select “display in night vision colors” (optional)
 - iii. “Save capture settings file alongside each capture” should be selected
 - iv. de-Select “Start cameras with ‘Auto’ output format”
 - v. Preferred video format: SER
 - vi. Preferred still format: FITS
 - b. Other four tabs - nothing to be changed
 - c. Open Capture Format and Area (on right side)
 - i. Colour Space: MONO16
 - ii. Capture Area: 1920x1200
 - iii. Binning: 1x1
 - iv. Output Format: “Fits files (*.fits)”
 - d. Open Thermal Controls

- i. Select "Auto" for Cooler Power
 - e. Open Capture Profiles
 - i. Click Save As: give it the name "OCC"
 - f. Install license for Pro version
 - i. Help -> SharpCap Pro License (pops up a window)
 - ii. Cut and paste the license information from the license file, click OK. It should immediately show the license to be valid.
- 9. Configure telescope. Enter J2000 star coordinates as a user object.