

# Douglas B. George

President, Diffraction Limited

Diffraction Limited, established in 1993, produces MaxIm DL software, MaxPoint telescope pointing refinement software, MaxDome observatory control systems, Boltwood Cloud Sensors, Quick Fringe interferogram analysis software, and OEM products for astronomy and for optical and electron microscopy.

## Education

B.A.Sc. University of Toronto, Engineering Science, 1984  
Masters Eng. Carleton University, Systems Engineering, 1987

## Membership / Organizations

Life Member, Royal Astronomical Society of Canada  
Past President of both the RASC nationally and the RASC Ottawa Centre.  
Member, Professional Engineers Ontario.

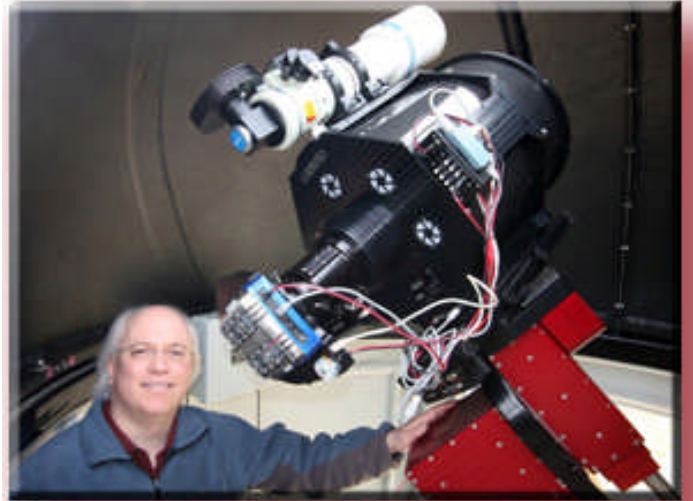
## Honors and Awards

The Engineering Medal - Engineering Excellence, Professional Engineers Ontario, 2001.  
RASC Ken Chilton Prize - awarded three times.

## Abstract NEAIC 2010

Optimizing your Signal-to-Noise Ratio

The key to high-quality deep sky imaging is optimizing the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) of your raw images. In this talk, we will explore the importance of good SNR and how it is measured. We will look at how factors such as telescope aperture, image scale, sky background, camera sensitivity, noise, and image calibration all affect the quality of your final image, and what you can do to optimize your results.



*This image of Messier 31, the Andromeda Galaxy, was taken by Douglas George from his observatory near Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.*