



## CANADIAN ASTRONOMY, SATELLITE TRACKING & OPTICAL RESEARCH

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### THE CASTOR SATELLITE SURVEYS

In 2007, CASTOR began an extensive satellite survey to determine the portion of the total satellite population that could be detected with ground-based optical telescopes with apertures of 0.2 to 0.4 metres utilizing research-grade CCD detectors. During 2007, CASTOR detected a total of 2,053 unique satellites from all major orbit types; nearly one sixth of the total known satellite population at that time.

In 2009, CASTOR conducted a supplementary survey of satellites in which an additional 1,100 satellites were detected.

The [CASTOR Satellite Catalogue](#) contains all satellites detected by CASTOR from January 1, 2007 to the present day. Our satellite catalogue continues to be amended as new satellites are detected and tracked. To date, this catalogue contains nearly 4,000 individual satellites from all orbit types; nearly one quarter of the entire known satellite population.

CASTOR has published many research papers based on the satellite surveys of 2007 to 2011. These unique papers demonstrate the enormous potential of private ground-based satellite tracking installations and underlines CASTOR's commitment to ground-breaking satellite tracking research for the private sector.