

4MOST: ESO's new wide-field, high-multiplex, optical spectroscopic survey project

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4MOST is a new high-multiplex, wide-field spectroscopic survey facility under construction for ESO's 4m-VISTA telescope at Paranal, Chile. Its key specifications are: a large field of view of 4.4 square degrees, a high multiplex fibre positioner with 2436 science fibres, of which 1624 fibres go to two low-resolution spectrographs ($R = \lambda/\Delta\lambda \sim 6500$) and 812 fibres transfer light to the high-resolution spectrograph ($R \sim 20,000$). All subsystems are finished and full testing in Europe will be completed fall 2023, after which 4MOST will be shipped to Chile. An overview will be given of instrument capabilities, the planned science of the consortium and the selected community programmes, and the unique operational scheme of 4MOST.

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