

# The SDSS-III Apache Point Observatory Galactic Evolution Experiment (APOGEE)

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Room 184 Nieuwland Science Hall

For its third iteration the Sloan Digital Sky Survey expanded its capabilities into the near-infrared with one of its four sub-projects centered around a galactic chemical evolution survey based upon a 300-fiber 1.5-1.7 $\mu$ m R=23000 cryogenic spectrograph. This Apache Point Observatory Galactic Evolution Experiment (APOGEE), whose observational phase is now nearly complete, aims to target >100,000 Milky Way giant stars in order to catalog the relative abundance of 19 chemical elements star by star. This large, meticulously selected sample provides a means of examining the abundance trends in the Galaxy, ultimately providing clues to its assembly history.