The performance index is dependent on three factors; seeing, aperture and obstruction ratio. Tabulated values of n correspond to each factor - to obtain the performance index, simply add the factors:

APERTURE		OBSTRUCTION RATIO		SEEING	
Dmm	n_D	ε	n_ε	n_s	
				SPURIOUS DISC	RAD.α
less than 75	4	0	4	I < 0.25ρ	4
75 - 150	3	0.1	3	II ≥0.25ρ	3
151 - 300	2	0.2	2	III≤0.50ρ	2
301 - 450	1	0.33	11/2	IV≤1.00ρ	1
451 - 600	1/2	0.4	1	V >1.50ρ	1/2
≥ 600	1/2 - 1/4	0.5	1/2		

$$n = n_D + n_\varepsilon + n_s$$

N.B. a **r** spurious disc radius in units of 1.22λf/#

To use the nomogram -

(i) determine the appropriate performance index from the table;

(ii) construct an isopleth to the particular value of Δm;

(iii) read off the corresponding resolution function *using the right hand scale;

(iv) construct an isopleth connecting the telescope aperture and the resolution function * defined on the left hand scale;

(v) read off the corresponding separation in arcsecs.