

Mv=13.1 Binary stars H band (FWHM 0.12") H band (seeing 1.7") compensated uncompensated

E

R.A. OFFSET 2.0" R.A. OFFSET 2.0 COME-ON+/ESO 3.6m/Nov 93

A Brief History of Adaptive Optics





Talk Research and Sources



- Hardy's book ("Adaptive optics for astronomical telescopes"): an extensive chapter on AO history, a first hand report
- **Roddier**'s book ("Adaptive optics for astronomy")
- Beckers' 1993 Annual Review of A&A paper.
- Various web resources, within others:
 - CfAO list of links
 - Google, Google image
 - Fuka's history of AO page (2002)
- Rousset's Come-ON & Come-ON+ presentation (2009)
- Discussions with J.Beckers, N.Hubin, B.Ellerbroek,
 G.Rousset, R.Ragazzoni, C.Max, D.Gavel, T.Fusco,
 E.Diolaiti, A.Moore, R.Conan, E.Gendron, etc...

• "A technique to compensate atmospheric turbulence using a wavefront sensor and phase corrector in a close loop arrangement."

OBS **CREDIT VTT**





NAOS/CONICA, VLT





With Adaptive Compensation 5 arcmir

• "A technique to compensate atmospheric turbulence using a wavefront sensor and phase corrector in a close loop arrangement."

OBS **CREDIT VTT**





NAOS/CONICA, VLT





With Adaptive Compensation 5 arcmir

 "A technique to compensate atmosphericturbulence using a wavefront sensor and phase corrector in a close loop arrangement."





NAOS/CONICA, VLT

Without Compensation

U.ROCHESTER

CREDIT



CREDIT VTT o "A technique to compensate atmosphericturbulence using a wavefront sensor and phase correctors in a close loop arrangement."

OBS

U.ROCHESTER

CREDIT

Without Compensation





NAOS/CONICA, VLT

CREDIT ESO/VLT

With Adaptive Compensation

5 arcmir

o "A technique to compensate atmosphericturbulence using a wavefront sensor and phase correctors in a elose loop arrangement."

OBS **CREDIT VTT**





NAOS/CONICA, VLT



U.ROCHESTER

CREDIT



Without Compensation

With Adaptive Compensation

5 arcmir

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CREDIT ESO/VLT

• "A technique that uses a combination of wavefront sensor(s) and corrector(s) to fully or partially compensate for quickly varying optical disturbances."







NAOS/CONICA, VLT

- "A technique that uses a combination of wavefront sensor(s) and corrector(s) to fully or partially compensate for quickly varying optical disturbances."
- Fields of application: Astronomy (night-time & Solar), medical (eye), space debris, defence (passive & active), telecom, industrial.
- Many "breeds" of AO: AO, LGS AO, GLAO, MCAO, ExAO, LTAO, MOAO, etc...



NAOS/CONICA, VLT









- Astronomy
- Defence: Satellites surveillance, SDI
- Medical: Ophthalmology, Oncology
- Industry: Cutting and welding
- Space: Space debris
- Lasers : Femtosecond lasers pulses using adaptive optics, Laser propagation (thermal blooming, air building to building propagation), Fiber coupling, precision focus of high energy laser (Fusion), high precision measurements using laser (LIGO and VIRGO)

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Not just Astronomy !

• Astronomy

- Defence: Satellites
- Medical: Ophthalm
- Industry: Cutting a
- Space: Space debr
- Lasers : Femtoseco propagation (therma Fiber coupling, prec precision measuren



e optics, Laser ng propagation), (Fusion), high GO)





- Astronomy
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on),

- Astronomy 0
- Medical: O 0
- Industry: C 0
- Space: Spa 0
- Lasers : Fe 0 propagation Fiber coupl precision m





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O Astronomy

- Defence: S
 Medical: O
 Industry: C
- Space: Spa
- Lasers : Fe propagation
 Fiber coupl
 precision m





What is Adaptive Optics?

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Galactic center



SEEING LIMITED UH 2.2-M TELESCOPE FWHM = 0.65" PI W.BRANDNER



FIELD OF VIEW 30"X30"

WAVELENGTH 2.2MICRONS

Galactic center





AO COMPENSATED GEMINI TELESCOPE FWHM = 0.10"

FIELD OF VIEW 30"X30"

WAVELENGTH 2.2MICRONS













IMAGE SIZE WITHOUT AO: 0.6" WITH AO: 0.08"

FIELD OF VIEW





IMAGE SIZE WITHOUT AO: 0.6" WITH AO: 0.08"

FIELD OF VIEW 20"X20"

Uranus, with and w/o AO





CREDIT KECK OBSERVATORY

What does AO do?



O Reduce image "size"=width=FWHM → See more details
 O Concentrate the light, against sky background and/or detector noise
 → See fainter objects



What does AO do?



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A brief history of Adaptive Optics

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Horace Babcock (1912-2003)



• Generally viewed (rightly) as the inventor of adaptive optics

- Seminal paper: "The Possibility of Compensating Astronomical Seeing", PASP, October1953
- Worked at MIT, Caltech, then as Director and astronomer at Mt Wilson and Mt Palomar



The History of AO



- 212 BC 1953: Prehistory of Adaptive Optics • Archimedes, Galileo, Newton, Foucault, Hartmann, paving the road
- o 1953 1973: From concept to reality
 - Babcock, Linnik, Shack, Fried, ...
- o 1973 1989: The military years
 - o Hardy, Buffington, Greenwood and the DARPA efforts
- o 1989 1995: Astronomical AO comes to age
 - Come-on, UH curvature, PUEO
- o 1996 2010: The big boom
 - Recognition of AO by astronomy and telescope communities
 - Eruption of instruments and new concepts
 - Opens the door to ELTs
- Astronomical AO becomes mainline with the ELTs

The Prehistory of AO (212BC - 1953)



 212 BC: Archimedes allegedly uses (powered) mirrors to burn and drive away Roman ships. Once again, military applications drive science and technology.



• Cleomedes (1rst Century AD): Atmospheric refraction

The Prehistory of AO (212BC - 1953)



• 1704: Newton describe the effects of atmospheric turbulence in *Opticks*:

"If the Theory of making Telescope could at length be fully brought into Practice, yet there would be certain Bounds beyond which Telescopes could not perform. For the Air through which we look upon the Stars, is in a perpetual Tremor; as may be seen by [...] the twinkling of the fix'd Stars. [...] The only Remedy is a most serene and quiet Air, such as perhaps can be found on the tops of the highest Mountains above the grosser Coulds."

The Prehistory of AO (212BC - 1953)



- 1859: Foucault's knife-edge test. A first order, qualitative Wavefront Sensor
 - o long exposures: figure of telescope optics
 - short exposures: mirror figure + atmospheric turbulence



20th Century Players



o Karl Strehl

- Andrei Kolmogorov
- Fritz Zernike -
- Roland Shack
- David Fried







• And many others: Roddier, Tatarski, Greenwood...

Precursors of AO

Australian National University

- Drawings made in the early days is a form of intelligent frame selection, but is more similar to lucky imaging, sans quantitative selection criteria
- **Tip-Tilt stabilisation** has all aspects of AO (speed, close loop) except high order (Babcock again or HRCam @ CFHT, etc)







Babcock's realizations



- Babcock role was not contained to proposing AO. A few of his realisations relative to image compensation:
 - 1947: Built the first 2D automatic guider using a rotating knife edge 1/3 Hz sampling.
 - o 1953: AO seminal paper
 - 1953: Improved guider using a separate Tip-Tilt plate and rotating knife edge (60Hz sampling, 10Hz bandwidth)
 - 1958: Proposal of a new kind of DM (electrostatic membrane)

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Babcock's original idea

The 1953 paper included a concrete implementation proposal. All is there:
 Pupil re-imaging
 Separate TT corrector
 Wavefront sensor and corrector
 Close loop arrangement




Babcock's original idea



Babcock's DM: the Eidophor

- Babcock also understood the limitations we are still struggling with:
 - Need for a bright star
 - Correction only valid
 close to the guide object
 - ...and therefore limited sky coverage
- Babcock was presented the Hale Prize in 1992



V.P. Linnik (1957)



- Babcock's proposal (1953) was paralleled in a 1957 paper by V.P. Linnik (U.S.S.R.):
 - First proposal to use a segmented mirror
 - White light interferometer
 - Realisation of guide star limitations lead Linnik to the first proposal of an artificial guide star (in airplane 8-10km high)

The DARPA years



- 1972: At the heart of the cold war years, DARPA (Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency) looks for a mean of identifying/imaging USSR low earth orbit satellites.
 - Contract Itek (Hardy and coll.).
 - Problem more difficult than for Astro
 - * fast moving target (require 10kHz sampling)
 - * any seeing conditions, visible wavelength.
 - Many technologies to develop:
 - * fast wave-front sensing (shearing interferometer)
 - * Reconstructor (analog, array of resistor; local)
 - * DM: Feinlieb et al → MPM* 21 actuators
 - More theory: WFSs for white light, extended sources.

* MPM = Monolithic Piezoelectric Mirror

The DARPA years (cont'd)



- December 1973 ! : First lab tests of the Real-Time Atmospheric Compensator (RTAC). First close loop ever. Very successful tests.
- Summer 1974: RTAC field tests. Horizontal propagation.
 Successful.
- In Parallel, "Multi-dithered" methods investigated by Buffington et al. Image sharpening method using hill climbing. Some success but difficult to scale to large apertures/large number of actuators.
- Next generation was designed on the principle of RTAC

The DARPA years (cont'd)



- o 1974-1982: CIS (Compensated Imaging System).
 - o first light in 1982
 - 168 actuators ! Separate TTM
 - Shearing interferometer w/ photomultiplier tubes
 - Bandwidth 1000Hz !
 - Cass. mounted on AMOS 1.6-m Maui telescope
 - Full fledge diagnostics report system
 - In use till 1994. Hardy refers to it as the grandfather of AO systems (A shameful grandfather that has made himself known only very late to its descendants)
- 1992: Special issue of J.O.S.A including many declassified results. "Reserved" to military programs.

Astronomical AO: early years

- First known project for night time astronomy @ NOAO in 1985-87.
 Beckers, Roddier & Kibblewhite.
 "Too many primadonas"*. Project is stopped in ~1987
- In Europe, the VLT agreement is signed. Pierre Léna (CNRS), J.-C.
 Fontanella (ONERA) and Fritz
 Merkle (ESO): AO is required to take full advantage of 8-m
 interferometric coupling. Start of COME-ON (1987-1992).



Australian

Jniversity

National





The COME-ON System



- COME-ON spins off partly from French's own "defence" efforts in AO. Deformable mirrors and expertise available from Laserdot & ONERA (LATEX, SILVA).
- Bench integrated in Meudon (Kern et al 1989)
- o 19 actuators Piezostack mirror
- O 20 subapertures Shack-Hartmann sensor, with image amplifier (QE≃7%)
- o 32x32 IR Camera







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PLEASE CILEDIT TIMOTOT AND OTHERD (FRONED) 2010

The COME-ON System

- First light in November 1989 at Observatoire de Haute Provence. Success: Diffraction limit achieved in the NIR in mediocre seeing conditions (Rousset et al 1990)
- Moved to the 3.6-m at ESO La Silla in 1990. Used successfully for several runs until 1992 (Rigaut et al 1992)





















R136, Adonis







1kW per square meter...



- Meanwhile, solar astronomers were actively working: Lockheed/Itek put a system at Sac Peak in the mid-late 80's with FWHM gain of 3-4.
- Extensive program at Sac peak/Big Bear and 3 other facilities in the world.
 - Typically 70cm class telescopes
 - AO 24: 1998-2000
 - AO 76: 12/2002-now
- Different constraints (correlators)
- Limitation: Field of view ⇒ MCAO programs in the work

re meter...



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opes

Limitation: Field of view ⇒ MCAO prog





Limitation: Field of view ⇒ MCAO prog

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heed/Itek put of 3-4. ies in the



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The Emergence of Curvature AO



- Shearing interferometer & Shack-Hartmann wavefront sensors: Shortcomings of optical 2D detectors prompted the curvature idea.
- Old technique, revived at NOAO by Roddier and Beckers (seminal paper Roddier 1988)
- Realisation at University of Hawaii. First light at the UH 2.2-m in 1992.
- Less expensive and more sensitive approach than Shack-Hartmann (limiting magnitude R ~ 17) prompted several facilities to build similar systems (CFHT/PUEO, OHP, ESO/ MACAO, UKIRT)

PUEO: AO for non-believers



- O Based on curvature concept
- O Aimed at user friendly/efficient operation
- Adequate instrumentation (1k x 1k NIR camera, OASIS IFU)
- Proper characterisation, ease of operation and PSF calibration facilities make for increased astronomical exploitation: 64 papers published in the first 5 years of operation (1997-2002).



Galactic Center / 2.2 microns

Without Adaptive Optics compensation 0.57" Seeing

> With Adaptive Optics compensation 0.19" Full Width at Half Maximum

> > Copyright CFHT. 1998.

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• Starting in 1996, things are starting to get out of hand:

- Blooming of systems everywhere (CFHT, Mt Wilson, Hokupa'a, followed by 8-m systems in 1999-2000)
- Prompted by the success of COME-ON (1990+5 years development time) and international competition.
- Puts aside lack of science papers and data reduction issues.
- Second wave after PUEO demonstrated automation is possible
- From 2005, getting even mainline with ELTs





- Things are also booming on the theory of AO side:
 - 1995-1998: Work on LGS and LGS related issues (Tip-Tilt, e.g. Ragazzoni)
 - o 1998-now: Score of new concepts:
 - * Pyramid WFS (Ragazzoni, Esposito, ADOPT@TNG)
 - * Multi-Conjugate AO (Ellerbroek, GeMS@Gemini, MAD@ESO)
 - Ground Layer AO (Rigaut, Tokovinin)
 - * Multi-Object AO (Gendron, Gavel, Conan, e.g. Falcon)
 - Many papers published ! Active field of research.
- Growing recognition and interest by media





- New technologies demonstrated:
- Laser Guide Stars:
 - Early efforts at the MMT, Calar Alto, Lick
 - Operational LGS systems at:
 - * Keck (3 generations GSL),
 - * ESO (2 generations GSL),
 - Gemini (1.5 generation GSL),
 - Subaru (1.5 generation GSL)
 - New, dependable lasers now available
- **Deformable Secondaries**
 - o in 2005: MMT 6.5-m 336 actuators. Lowest emissivity system (dichroic = dewar entrance window). Up to 20% Strehl ratio, nice and round images
 - Since extremely well performing systems, with 93% H band Strehl at LBT (and visible AO @ Magellan)

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Science with AO

Solar System



WEATHER (URANUS, KECK)





MONITORING VOLCANOES ON IO (KECK)

MAPPING TITAN CONTINENTS (GEMINI)



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Solar System



WEATHER (URANUS, KECK)





MONITORING VOLCANOES ON IO (KECK)

MAPPING TITAN CONTINENTS (GEMINI)



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Solar System



Brown Dwarf Gliese 229B



Palomar Observatory Discovery Image October 27, 1994 Hubble Space Telescope Wide Field Planetary Camera 2 November 17, 1995

PRC95-48 · ST Scl OPO · November 29, 1995 T. Nakajima and S. Kulkarni (CalTech), S. Durrance and D. Golimowski (JHU), NASA

Brown Dwarf Gliese 229B



Gemini NICI first light 02/2007 GL229B 7.8" separation Methane in-out 80mas FWHM 5 x 60s (x2)

100



"FIVE KNOWN PLANETARY SYSTEMS IMAGED WITH CURRENT ADAPTIVE OPTICS SYSTEMS. FOMALHAUT SHOWN ON THE TOP-RIGHT IS THE ONLY SYSTEM DETECTED WITH THE HST. CREDIT: CHRISTIAN MAROIS."

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CREDIT ESO

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Astronomy with Adaptive Optics

- Discovery of black hole at center of Milky Way
- Direct imaging of first extra solar planetary system
- Beta Pictoris and other debris disks
- Multiple asteroid systems
- Resolved stellar population in external galaxies
- Dynamic and chemical evolution of galaxies...





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A0 vs space facilities

Ground based AO vs HST





Ground based AO vs HST





AO vs HST



HUBBLE SPACE TELESCOPE, NICMOS



AO vs HST. YES, BUT...



HUBBLE SPACE TELESCOPE, NICMOS

KECK WITH AO NEAR INFRA-RED (NIR)





AO can not replace space facilities

AO pros

- A0 is much cheaper. Millions vs Billions, e.g.:
 - Gemini (\$90M/telescope) + Altair A0 (\$10M)
 - vs HST programme (\$4.5B)
- Currently provide better or similar angular resolution than HST (0.05")

A0 cons

- A0 restricted to moderate field of view (< 1arcmin) vs many arcmin for HST
- Atmosphere is opaque at some wavelengths (UV, NIR, etc)
- Sky background from atmosphere OH emission is 1000-10000x brighter than in space

A0 is not a drop-in replacement for space facilities, but, coupled with large telescopes, can do better for some applications (narrow field, spectroscopy)

Bullet cluster Gravitational arcs

HST ACS F850LP 10124 sec



1



SKY BACKGROUND LIMITED!

GeMS GSAOI Kprime 1890 sec



AO/space complementarity





SAME ANGULAR RESOLUTION, DIFFERENT WAVELENGTHS, DIFFERENT VIEWS

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HST V band



O HST:

- V Band
- WFPC2





O HST:

- V Band
- o WFPC2

• Gemini Altair LGS:

- 4x120s
- K' band
- FoV 43"x40"
- FWHM <100mas
- Meets or exceeds HST V resolution



ALTAIR-LGS K'



O HST:

- V Band
- o WFPC2

• Gemini Altair LGS:

- 4x120s
- K' band
- FoV 43"x40"
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O HST:

- V Band
- o WFPC2

• Gemini Altair LGS:

- 4x120s
- K' band
- FoV 43"x40"
- FWHM <100mas
- Meets or exceeds HST V resolution

Similar resolution, different wavelengths: complementary



ALTAIR-LGS K'



Where is AO going?



Extreme AO

GEMINI HR8799 3 GIANT JOVIANS A0 + ADI

BROWN DWARF GLEISE 229B



PALOMAR DISCOVERY IMAGE 1994



HST WFPC2 1995



GEMINI NICI AO 2007



Bernin Observatory / NRC / AURA / Christian Marois, et al.

LBT, H BAND STREHL=85% PYRAMID WFS

Cheap AO?



o Price of AO components going down

- Deformable Mirrors now ~€400/actuators, reliable
- Detectors still expensive, but price going down and perf going up
- For amateur astronomy? NO
 - Amateur telescopes almost always in bad sites.
 AO depends on r₀⁵ ! r₀² (fitting) x r₀ (servolag) x r₀² (anisoplanatism)
 - Amateur telescope budget << Professional telescope budget
 - Amateur essentially interested in wide field of view (many arcmin)
- For mid size professional telescopes? **YES**
 - Located in better site than amateur telescopes
 - Often looking for improvement of their local dome/seeing
- For laboratory purposes? YES
 - Some cheap components appearing (e.g. Thorlab US\$4k DM)
 - Small to medium order systems controllable with cheap computing units

Medical adaptive optics



VISION GENTEaberrations real time and in

- Evaluation of eye diseases linked to photo retinopathy, macular degeneration and gla
- Measurements for refractive surgery compensation of high order about
- Combined with confocal scanning laser op & retinal pigments
- Combined with Optical Coherence Tomog of retinal structures (3x3x3µm)
- New instruments using MCAO for 5 degrees field of view





IMAGES OF RETINAL GANGLION CELLS, GRAY ET AL, 2008



Medical adaptive optics



AO ON

sel

OSDIGGENA aberrations real time and in

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- New instruments using MC² for 5 degrees field of v



AO applications to space science

- Ground-space problems
 - Propagation through turbulence
- Problems related to quickly varying optical aberrations
- Satellite imaging (passive)
- Space debris tracking (passive)
- Space debris nudging (active)
- Space debris de-orbiting (active)
- Australia CRC for Space Environment Management (2014-2019)



SANDRA BULLOCK GEORGE CLOONEY

FROM DIRECTOR ALFONSO CUARÓN

GRAVIT

Sateme maging @ Stromlo

Australian National University

141-iridium86 frame 3 CL, 5 OL















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