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DIRECT IMAGING OF EXTRASOLAR PLANETS

III: ADAPTIVE OPTICS



1st ADVANCED SCHOOL OF EXOPLANETARY SCIENCE METHODS OF DETECTING EXOPLANETS MAY 25-29, 2015 - VIETRI SUL MARE (SA)



AO: the very beginning ...



Mt. Wilson



If we had the means of continually measuring the deviation of rays from all parts of the mirror, and of amplifying and feeding back this information so as to correct locally the figure of the mirror in response to the schlieren pattern, we could expect to compensate both for the seeing and for any inherent imperfection of the optical figure

Babcock 1953, Publ. Astron. Soc. Pac. 65:229

In the late 1980s **COME-ON** was tested at the 1.52-m telescope (Merkle et al. 1989, 1989. *Messenger* 58:1, Rousset et al. 1990, *Astron. Astrophys.* 230:L29) of the Observatoire de Haute-Provence and later installed at **ESO's 3.6-m** telescope on La Silla in Chile (Rigaut et al. 1991, *Astron. Astrophys.* 250:280).



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Earth's Atmosphere



Day-time: Sun shield (UV radiation) Night-time: low thermal excursion Absorption Absorbes part of the radiation Scattering Deformation of the light coming from astronomical objects



Atmospheric Absorption



Atmospheric Structure



Troposphere

Lower part: ~10 km Contains about 80% of the total atmospheric mass

Tropopause

Thermal inversion zone Height ~10 km (16 km @ equator and 9 km @ poles) Stratosphere

~10 to 50 km height O_3 molecules \longrightarrow The temperature increases

Mesosphere

Extends up to about 90 km Negative thermal gradient

Mesopause

Coldest layer of the atmosphere (no solar heating, CO₂ radiative cooling) Sodium Layer **Thermosphere**

...rarified air



Real Atmosphere!







~10 m

0 m

GROUND LAYER

Thermal exchange between the ground surface and the air (humidity and air streams => turbulent layer)

~1 km

BOUNDARY LAYER [#]

GROUND LAYER

~10 m

0 m

-Ascending streams due to difference of T which move turbulent air
bubbles
-Sites with thermal background constant (oceans, deserts)

Thermal exchange between the ground surface and the air (humidity and air streams => turbulent layer)



Turbulent motion of air bubbles (T, n, wind)

-Ascending streams due to difference of T which move turbulent air
bubbles
-Sites with thermal background constant (oceans, deserts)

Thermal exchange between the ground surface and the air (humidity and air streams => turbulent layer)



Several models describing the most important observing sites $C_n^2(h)$: structural function of the refractive index n

Thus, the definition of the average r₀ is more complicated...











...what happen on the focal plane of the telescope?



Both Tip-Tilt and High-Orders have the same final effect: integrating with time, loss of resolution in the telescope!

Tilting flat mirror Deformable mirror
Temporal Frequency: few ms
Spatial Frequency: tenth of cm

Corrector

цадал

Atmospheric Parameters

FRIED parameter:

-Spatial scale inside which the WF statistically varies less than 1 rad

-Average size of turbulent cell

-Size of an air bubble with constant ${\bf n}$

ISOPLANATIC angle:

-Angular scale inside which the WF statistically varies less than 1 rad

COHERENCE time:

-Time scale inside which the WF statistically varies less than 1 rad

Strehl Ratio: PSF_{obs}/PSF_{teo}

$$r_0 \propto \lambda^{6/5} [\int_{0}^{\infty} dh C_n^2(h)]^{-3/5}$$

Good sites: K band => r_0 =30cm

$$\theta_0 \propto r_0 / \overline{h} \propto \lambda^{6/5}$$

$$\tau_0 = r_0 / v \propto \lambda^{6/5}$$
$$\tau_0 \approx 1 ms$$









 ✓ Restore the theoretical angular resolution
 ✓ Concentrate the flux inside the diffraction peak





Wavefront Sensor

Real Time Computer

Deformable Mirror

Wavefront Sensor

should allow high order correction and be very sensitive (fast response).

Real Time Computer

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should allow high order correction and be very sensitive (fast response).

Real Time Computer

should close the loop at >1 kHz frequency.

Deformable Mirror

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should close the loop at >1 kHz frequency.

Deformable Mirror

the highest the number of actuators, best correction of the wavefront error can be obtained. Other important parameters are speed, dynamic range, number of fault elements, and density of actuators (optics size)

to improve ... we need measurements





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the direction of propagation is perpendicular to the wavefront



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Using micro lenses we can have an idea on the "local" tilt of the wavefront



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High Order Wavefront Measurement

How to perform High-Order WFSensing? The basic idea is to split the incoming wavefront in several part to check which are the aberrations in that small portion

- The higher the number of sub-apertures, the better the sampling, but:
- The higher the number of sub-apertures, the lower the light for each subaperture
- A limit is imposed also from the number of actuators of the DM
- Of course the scientific wavelength is important to select the n of sub-apertures being r₀ dipendent on the wavelength

WAVEFRONT ANALISYS



Open Loop





Close Loop

WAVEFRONT ANALISYS



Open Loop





Close Loop

Wave Front Sensors



DEFORMABLE MIRRORs



Deformable mirror by CILAS 17 x 17 actuateurs

Several technologies ...

- piezo-electric
- micro mirror
- membranes



DEFORMABLE MIRRORs

Three main technologies:



Adaptive Secondary Mirrors (MMT; LBT; GMT; VLT)

Piezo Deformable Mirrors (more common)

Micro Optical Electrical Mechanical Systems (MOEMS)









Piezo high-order 1,377-actuator DM for SPHERE

DEFORMABLE MIRRORs

DMs correct optical path difference (OPD) by advancing or retarding reflected beam:

- same SHAPE of the WF
- 1/2 amplitude of the WF

Features:

- # actuators: matching sub-aperture to avoid over or undersampling

- update rate: accordingly to f_G
- dynamic range (mechanical stroke)

$$f = 20-100 f_G$$

 $s=0.15(D/r_{\theta})^{5/6}\,\lambda$

DM Classes

	Astronomy (10m class)	Astronomy (30m class)
Stroke	5 μm	10-15 μm
# actuators	350-2500	7000-10000
Frequency response	1-5 kHz	1-5 kHz
Mirror-Surface Errors (rms)	30 nm	30 nm
Aperture Size	1-15 cm	2-30 cm

A Reference is needed

single-conjugate adaptive optics (SCAO)





Laser Guide Star (LGS)

For a reasonable correction performance, AO systems need sufficiently bright (~15 mag) guide stars within θ_0 of the astronomical target.



Laser Guide Star (LGS)



Davies & Kasper, 2012







Laser Guide Star







Mirror

CONE EFFECT

on telescope of 8 m could reduce the Strehl ratio of a factor of 0.6 in J and 0.85 in K



Mir



Laser tomography adaptive optics



Multi-object adaptive optics



Laser Tomography Adaptive Optics

Laser tomography adaptive optics



In order to contrast the Cone Effect Different LGSs are used. Very Important: the two cones have to superimpose on the turbulent zone

Ground Layer Adaptive Optics

Ground-layer adaptive optics



Correction only for the ground Layer. All rays (also those off axis) pass through this layer ... Advantages: Larger Field of View correction is independent by the distance of Guide star

Multi Conjugate Adaptive Optics

Multi-conjugate adaptive optics



Several reference stars - Partial superimposition of cones on the turbulent layers and completely superimposed at lower height. Two or three different turbulent layers each conjugate with a deformable mirror

Strehl Ratio

The AO Correction is never perfect The Strehl ratio (SR) is the ratio between the intensity of the central peak as given by AO and the diffraction peak

Residual Wavefront error (and SR) mainly depends on:
✓ Pupil Sampling (Fried radius)
✓ Temporal Sampling (coherence t₀ ~2ms)



Marechal approximation SR=exp[- $(2\pi WFE/lambda)^2$]



NACO ~ 200 Actuators (~3r₀) WFE~250nm XAO (SPHERE) ~1400 Actuators (r₀) WFE~90nm

Outer Working Angle

- The number of actuators limits the number of modes that are corrected
- Nyquist sampling limits the radius of the PSF region where correction is obtained (Outer working angle = OWA)
- OWA is given by the separation between actuators as projected on the telescope primary:

OWA ~ $1/2(lambda/D) (n_{actuators})^{1/2}$

If n_{actuators}~1400, OWA ~ 20 lambda/D

Some Numbers

	lambda	SR (AO)	SR (XAO)	OWA
	(µm)	200 act.	1400 act.	(arcsec)
		NACO	SPHERE	
WFE (nm)		250	90	
R	0.64	0.00	0.46	0.31
I	0.79	0.02	0.60	0.38
Z	0.95	0.07	0.70	0.46
J	1.25	0.21	0.82	0.60
Н	1.65	0.40	0.89	0.79
K	2.20	0.60	0.94	1.06
L'	3.80	0.84	0.98	1.83

Adaptive Optics Science

SOLAR SYSTEM

SUN

ASTEROIDS PLANETS

STELLAR FORMATION

STELLAR MULTIPLICITY CIRCUMSTELLAR DISKS

EXOPLANETS

RESOLVED STELLAR POPULATIONS THE GALACTIC CENTER GALAXY NUCLEII AND ACTIVE GALAXIES

BLACK HOLE MASSES GAS INFLOW AND OUTFLOW QUASAR AND MERGER

THE HIGH REDSHIFT UNIVERSE

Globular Cluster: Terzan 5 with MAD

MAD (Multi conjugate AO Demonstrator) is designed to perform wide Field of View (FoV) adaptive optics correction in **K band** (2.2 μ m) over **2 arcmin**on the sky by using relatively bright (mv < 14) Natural Guide Stars (NGS).



Resolution of 0.1 arcsecond on a FoV of 60 arc seconds





