Imaging large fields at high resolution: cheat's MCAO for the CAHA and ORM



arXiv:1110.2261

Basic concepts

The perfect image form the ground... an old dream of astronomers.

The diffraction limit and atmospheric turbulence



 $\frac{Coherence time:}{\tau_0 = r_0/v_{wind}} \approx 60 \text{ ms} (2.2 \mu \text{m})$



The diffraction limit and atmospheric turbulence

Fried parameter:



The diffraction limit and atmospheric turbulence

Fried parameter:

ADAPTIVE OPTICS

But: It's (very) expensive and (very) complex.

Is there a smarter, leaner way, attractive for small telescopes?

Uncorrected

Corrected

I) take short exposures with $t_{exp} \sim T_0$ 2) reconstruct images off-line

Simple Shift-and-Add (SSA) algorithm:

 choose a reference star and reference pixel
 shift each image in stack so that brightest speckle of reference star comes to rest on reference pixel
 average stack
 (see, e.g., Christou, 1991; Eckart & Genzel 1996; Ghez et al., 1998)

Selection of best frames (lucky imaging) ⇒ Strehl ratios 10%-30%

(4-10m telescopes, Ks-band, e.g. Schoedel et al., 2003; Ghez et al. 2005)



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 \Rightarrow but: inefficient and not very sensitive



SSA reconstruction



Speckle holography

$$O(u, v) = \frac{I_m(u, v)}{P_m(u, v)}$$
$$= \frac{I_m(u, v)P_m^*(u, v)}{|P_m(u, v)|^2}$$



$$O_e(u, v) = \frac{\langle I_m P_m^* \rangle}{\langle |P_m|^2 \rangle}.$$

see, e.g., Primot, Rousset & Fontanella (1990); Petr et al. (1998)

Speckle holography

 $O(u, v) = \frac{I_m(u, v)}{P_m(u, v)}$ $=\frac{I_m(u, v)P_m^*(u, v)}{|P_n(u, v)|^2}$ many frames $O_e(u, v) = \frac{\langle I_m P_m^* \rangle}{\langle |P|^2 \rangle}.$

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figure from Petr et al. (1998)

Speckle holography



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The Test: Speckle imaging of NGC 3603



NGC 3603 NaCo@VLT, Ks windowing 512x514 DIT = 0.11s DIMM~0.5" 4900 frames $t_{int} \approx 540s$



Thanks to J. Girard, S. Rengaswamy, G. Montagnier (ESO)!



• Step 4 Select reference + secondary stars For each frame do... • Step 5 **PSF** estimate • Step 6 Improve PSF estimate by subtraction of secondary stars

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dKs

Difference in m_{K_s} vs. separation for all detected pairs of stars

Conservative source selection, performance of holography probably under-estimated.

black: holography red:AO More tests...

Multiple, faint reference stars

Multiple, faint reference stars

Short wavelengths: I-band

Core of MI5 FASTCAM@NOT I-band, seeing ~I"

Simple shift-and-add with frame selection (8.5%): *lucky imaging* ~7% Strehl, ∆m≈8

Short wavelengths: I-band

Core of M15 FASTCAM@NOT I-band, seeing ~1"

Holography with frame selection (50%), separate reconstruction of subfields to deal with anisoplanatic effects: ~18% Strehl, $\Delta m \approx 8.5$

INGRID@WHT

Core of M15 INGRID@WHT K-band, DIT=0.8s

More applications...

Holography + AO

Holography + AO

Idea:

If holography also works when the diffraction limit is sub-sampled, then we can trade off lower angular resolution for a larger FOV and increased sensitivity.

NACO, 0.027"/pixel scale

Reconstructed image, ~0.13" FWHM

Holography with NOTCAM

80"×80"FOV with 0.078"sampling, diffraction limit Ks~0.20"

Simulation: 0.8" seeing, windspeed 10m/s, airmass 1.2 Gain, Readout noise as in NaCo's HAWAII - detector

Astrometric precision ≤ 0.001 pixel (~0.1 mas) for Ks ≤ 16 in 1h \Rightarrow proper motions ≥ 1 mas/yr can be detected in 1 yr

Holography with NOTCAM

Conclusions

The case for a wide angle speckle system - WASPS

Science cases:

High accuracy photometric and astrometric studies of distant (1-10kpc) SFRs, globular clusters, Galactic center, Galactic bulge, multiplicity and orbits of OBstars

Proper motion studies in embedded regions can complement Gaia results.

A speckle camera can provide any telescope within short times and with relatively small investment with MCAO-like capabilities, similar to Gemini's GeMS.

e.g., speckle camera@WHT/CAHA: 2k x 2k detector with Nyquist sampling at K can provide 120''x120'' FOV.

What to take away...

Holography...

- can be equivalent to or even superior to AO and is (almost always) superior to simple lucky imaging
- can make optical diffraction limited imaging possible at 10m-telescopes
- is economic, powerful, and easy (plug&play)
- is particularly **attractive for small telescopes**
- works with existing instruments (INGRID, NOTCAM, ASTRA-LUX, FASTCAM), very little or no investment needed (RO electronics)
- Fast readout mode should be made available at all imaging instruments

Schödel, Yelda, Ghez, Girard, Labadie, Rebolo, Pérez-Garrido, Morris, 2012, arXiv:1110.2261

...and in the future

The ground-based space telescope with "zero noise" NIR detectors... astronomers' dream may actually become true.

Finger et al. (2010): Development of high speed low noise NIR HgCdTe Avalanche Photo- diode Arrays for Adaptive Optics and Interferometry (ESO/Selex-Galileo Infrared Ltd)

Figer et al. (2011): A photon-counting detector for exoplanet missions

Thank you!

WASPS: conceptos

dewar + óptica (optimizada para astrometría) + detector (Sistema de refrigeración opcional)

a) Infrarrojo cercano (sólo J,H,K)

diseño sencillo; desarrollo rápido; costes de material dominados por costes de detector (e.g. Teledyne H2RG: ~350k€)

b) 2 canales: IR/óptico o J-K/L-M

gran utilidad, pero más complejo y caro

SHARP@ESO NTT: NICMOS 2 256, FOV: 13"×13"

Telescopios: GTC/VLT o NTT/WHT/CAHA

Campo (banda K) con detector 2k x 2k y muestreo del límite de difracción:

- ~60"x60" en VLT/GTC
- ~120"x120" en NTT/WHT

con sub-muestreo: 120"x120" en VLT/GTC 240"x240" en NTT/WHT 28

Lucky imaging

SSA image reconstruction combined with strong frame selection (only 1%-10% of frames used).

Special lucky imaging approach, e.g. AstraLux: push into optical domain with electron multiplying high-speed CCDs; off-the-shelf components (low costs!; see, e.g., *Hormuth et al. 2008*)

 \Rightarrow HST resolution in i/z-bands on ground-based 2-4m telescopes

Lucky imaging

Core of MI5 with AstraLux, Calar Alto 2.2m (Hormuth et al. 2008)

Figure 3. Comparison between seeing limited imaging and the "Lucky" version: The combination of the best 5% of 10000 single frames provided a Strehl ratio of 20% in this observation of the core of the globular cluster M15. Though the conventional result contains 20 times more photons, it is clearly inferior in terms of point source detection limits.