



Wide-Field Adaptive Optics for ground
based telescopes:
First science results and new challenges

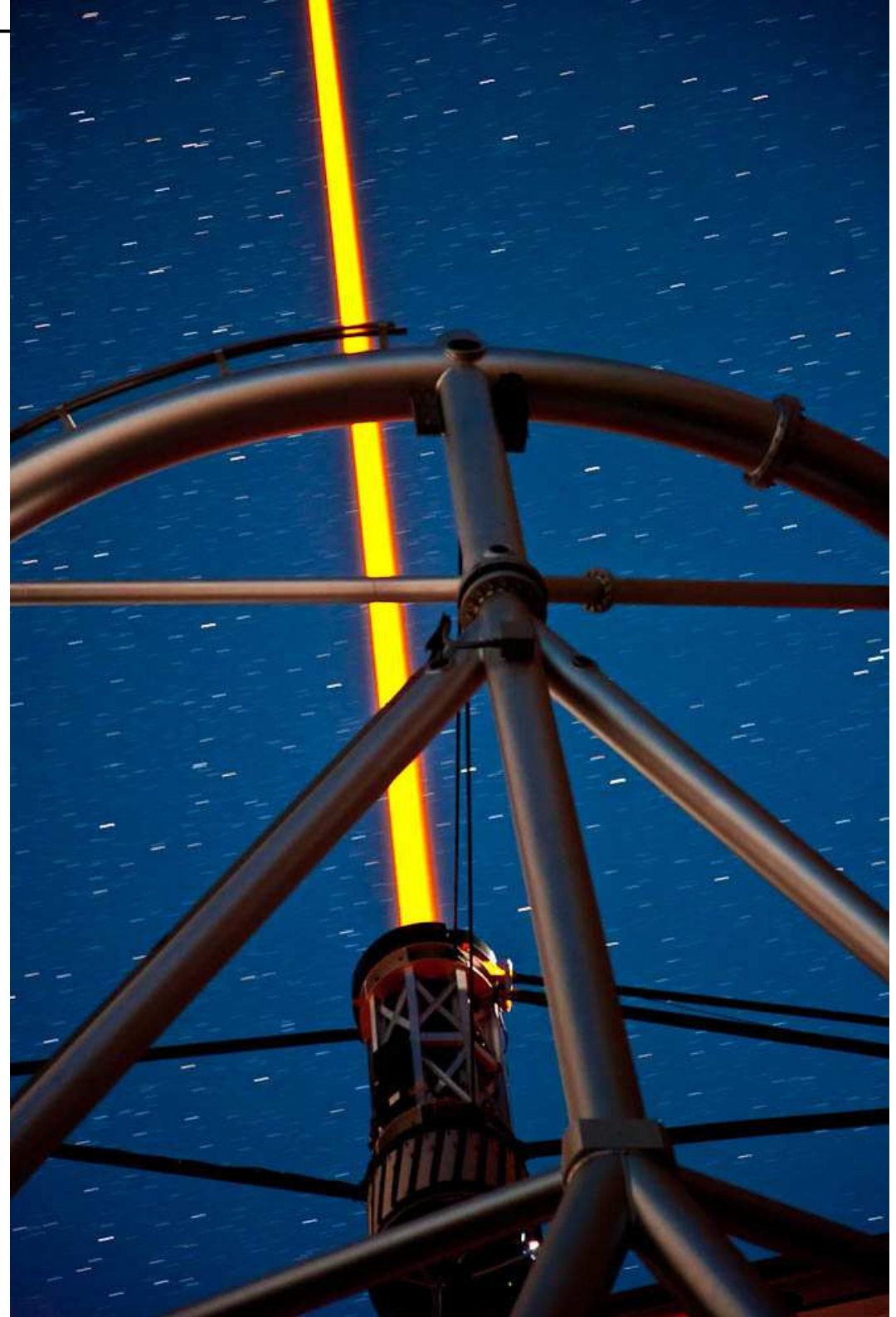
A brief Introduction to Adaptive
Optics (AO) and Wide Field AO

GeMS: the Gemini MCAO
system

Tomography & Calibrations

First science results with
WFAO

New challenges

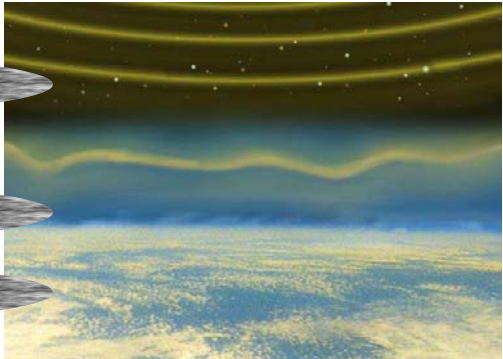
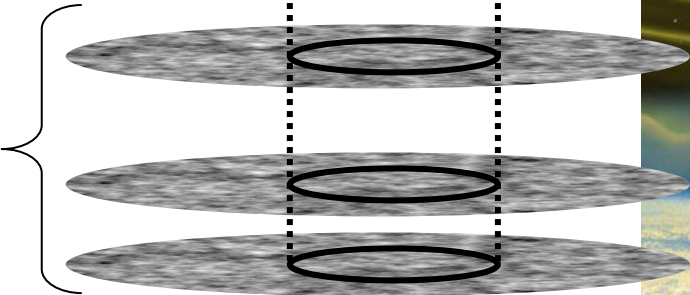


A brief Introduction to Adaptive Optics (AO) and Wide Field AO (WFAO)

Adaptive Optics



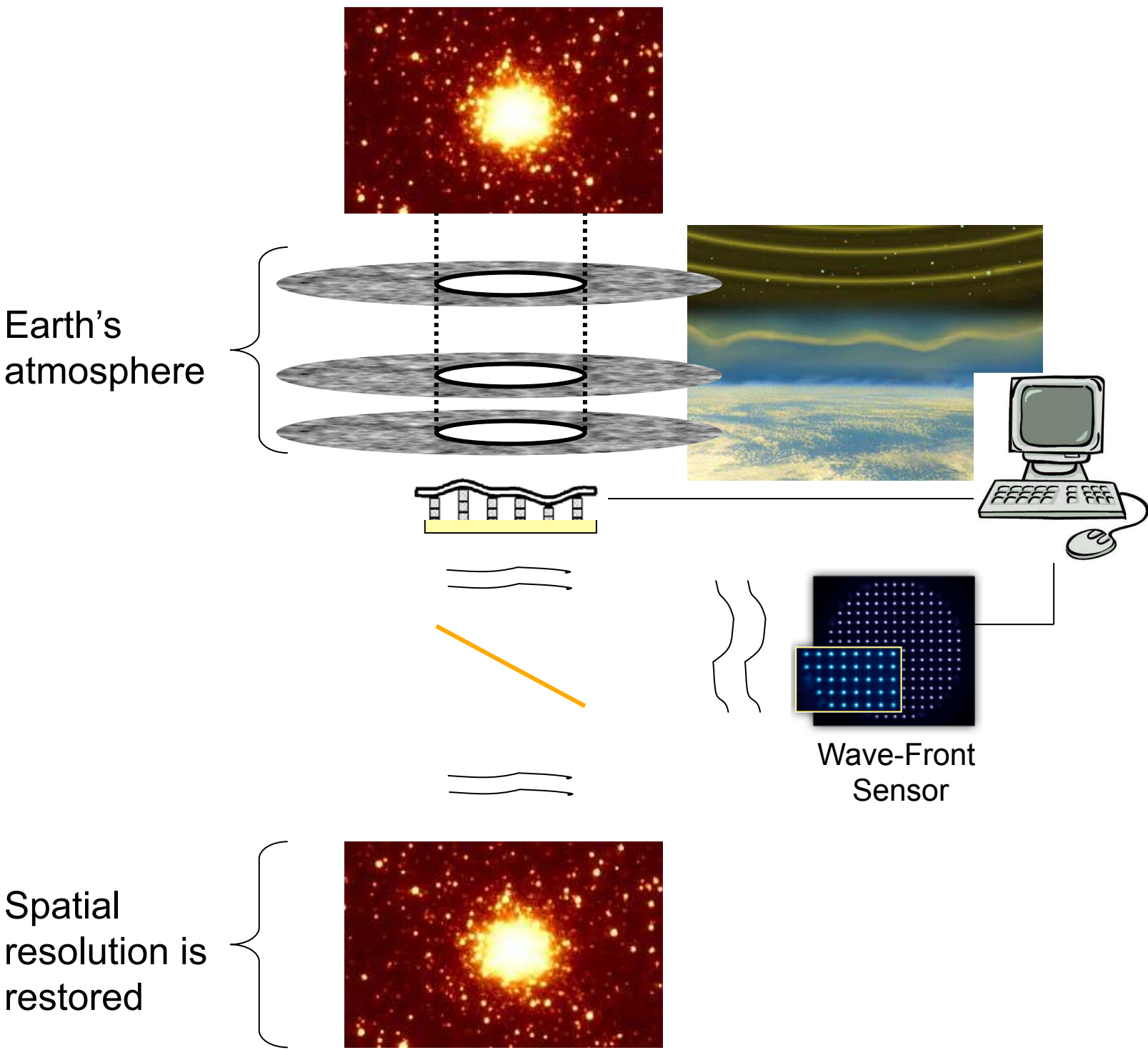
Earth's atmosphere



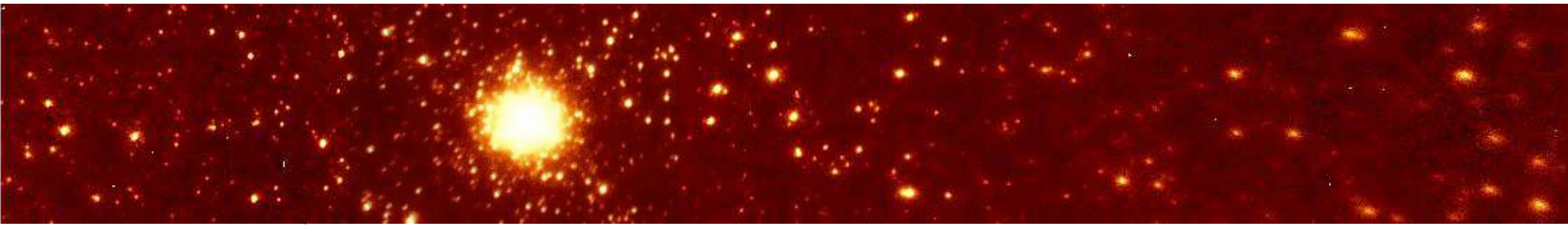
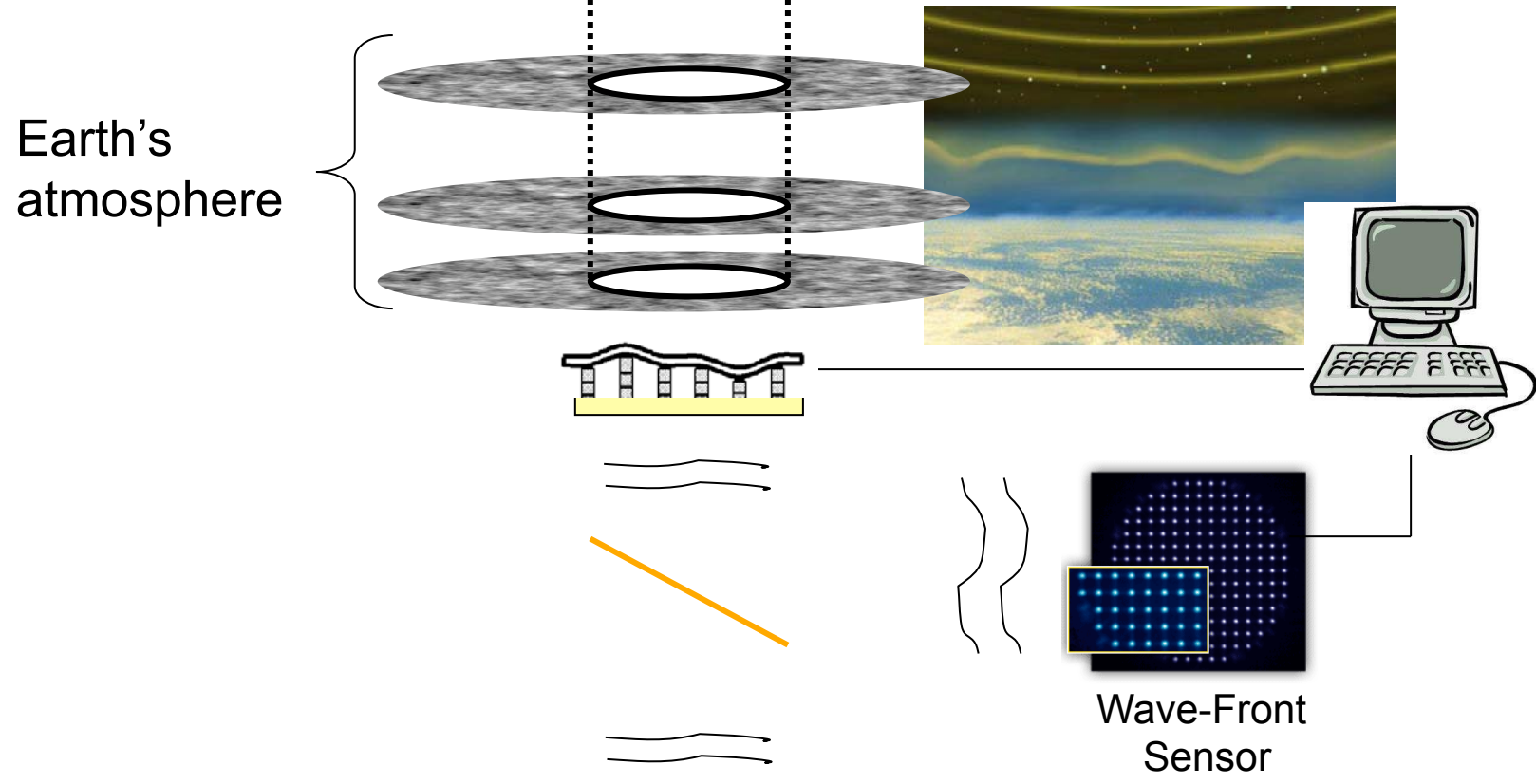
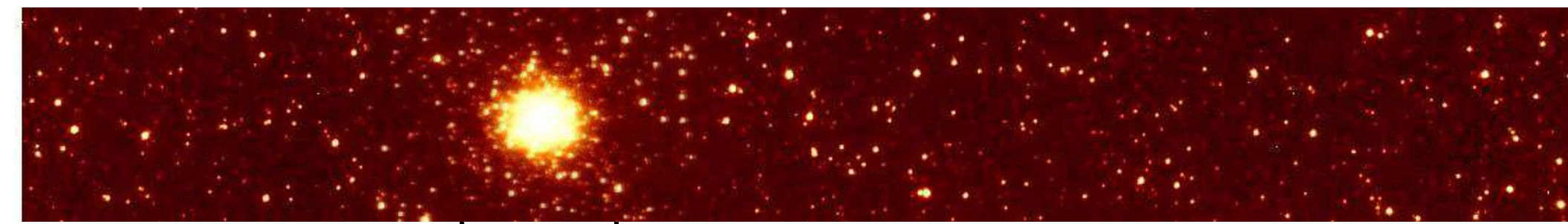
Spatial resolution is lost...



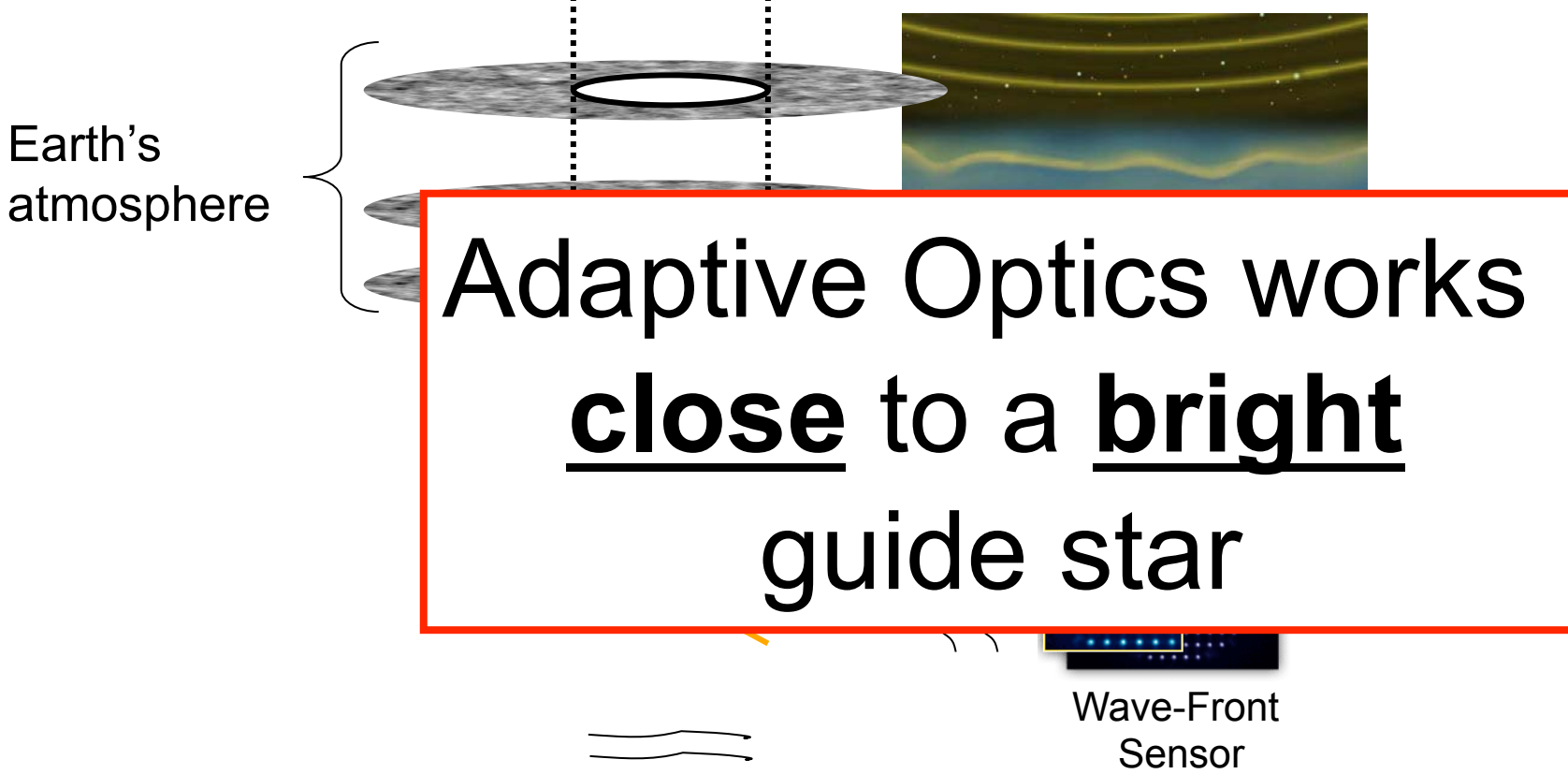
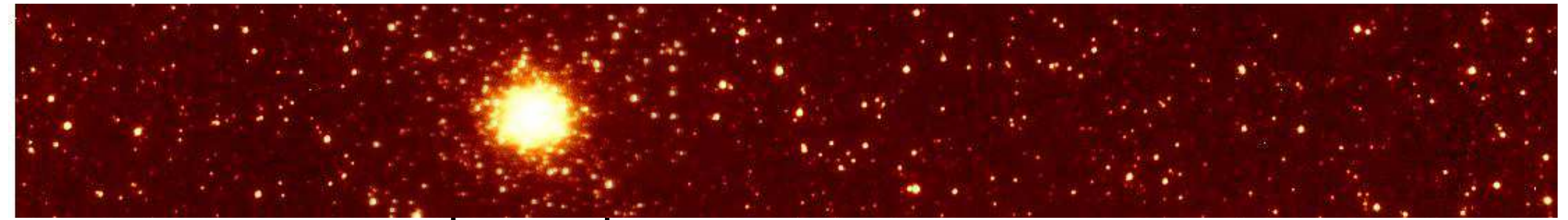
Adaptive Optics



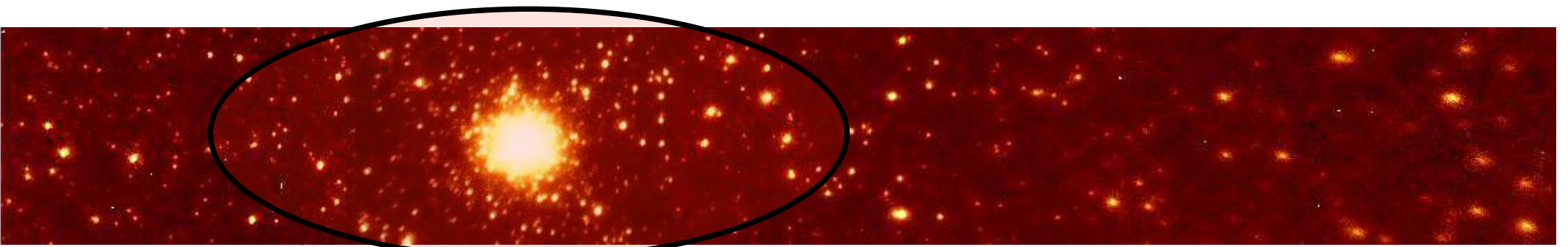
Adaptive Optics



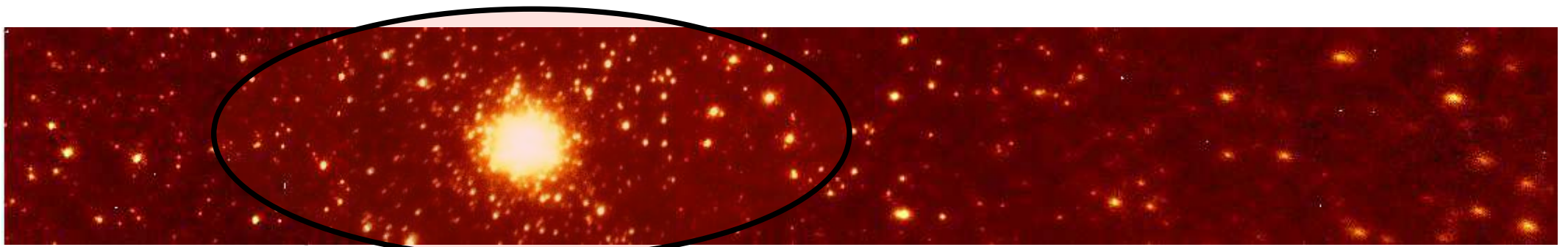
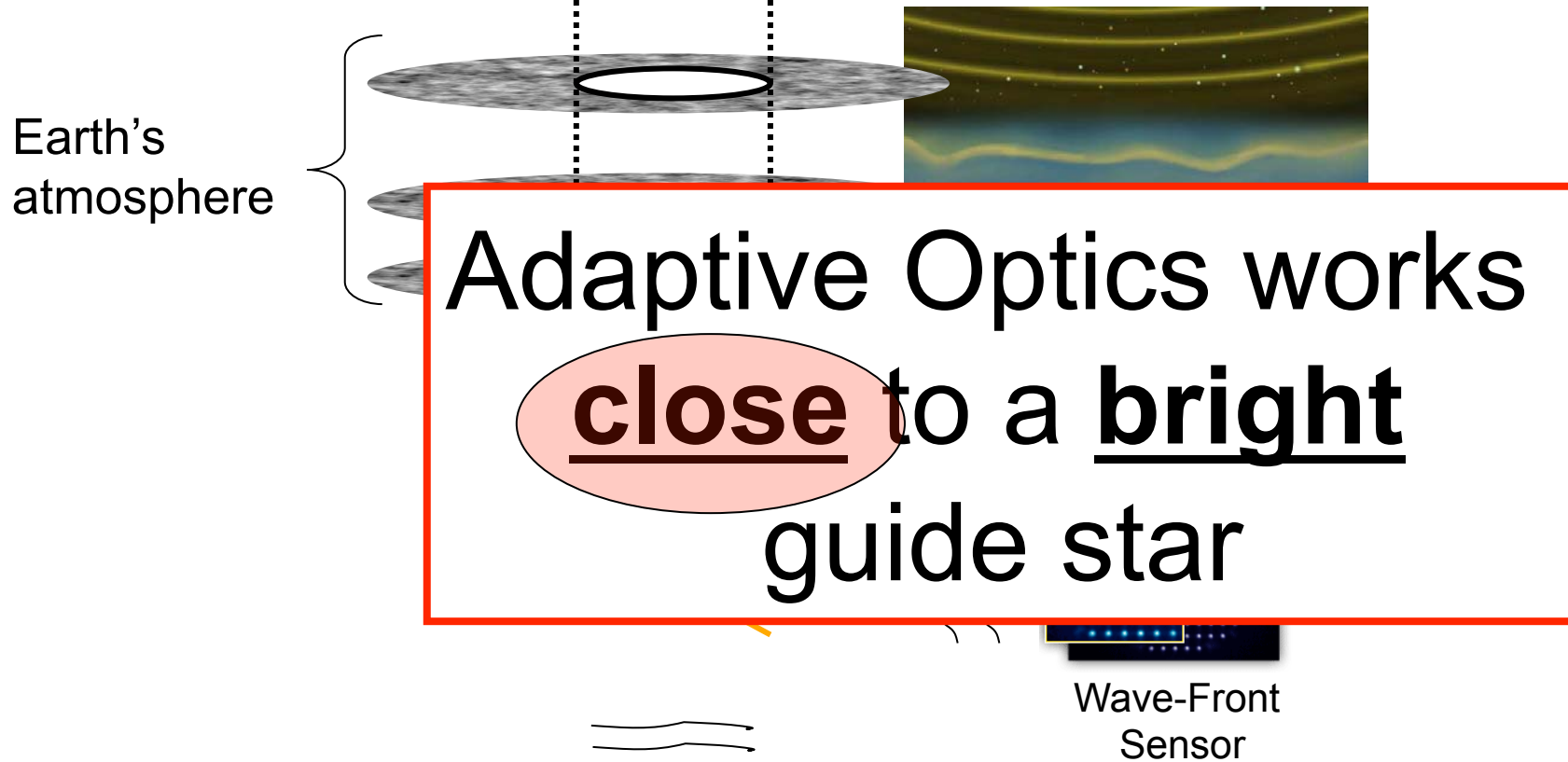
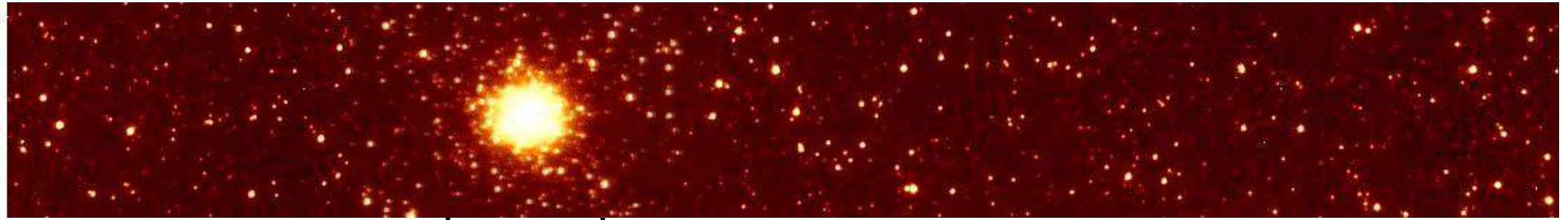
Adaptive Optics



Adaptive Optics works close to a bright guide star

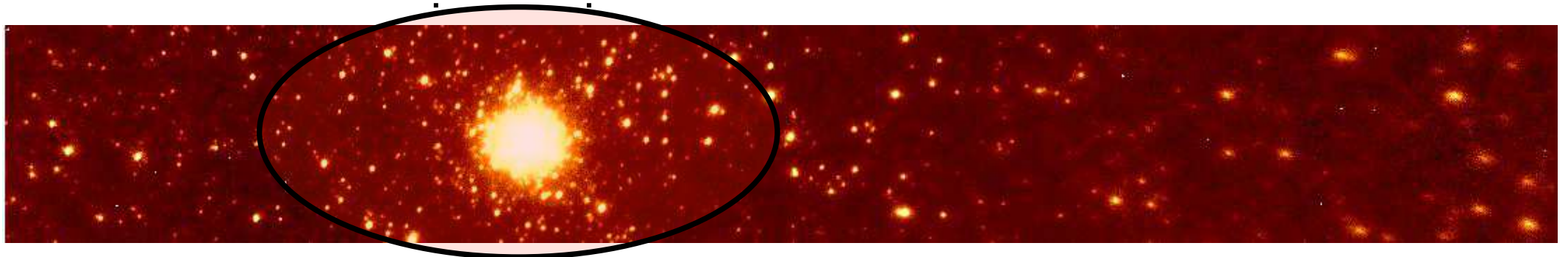
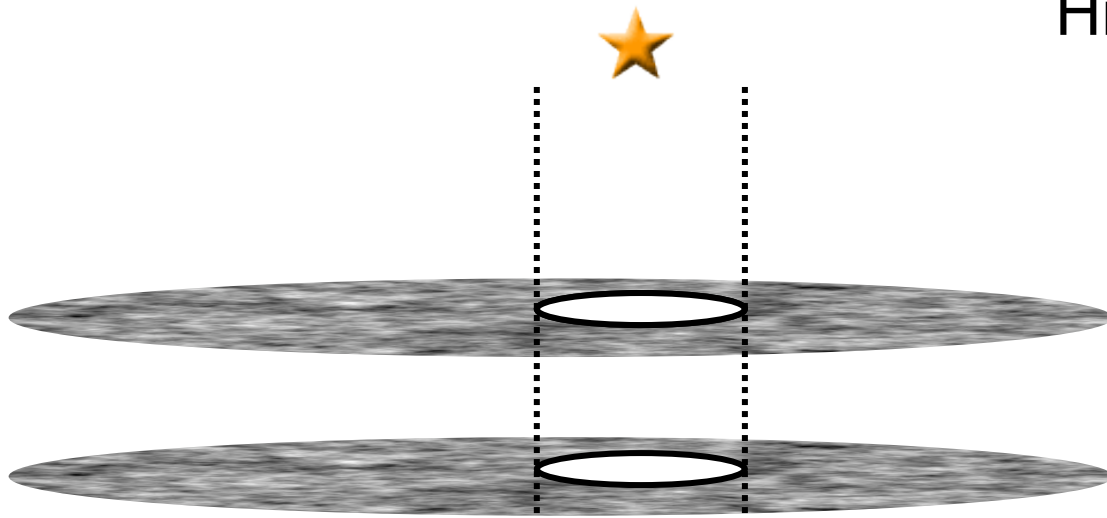


Adaptive Optics



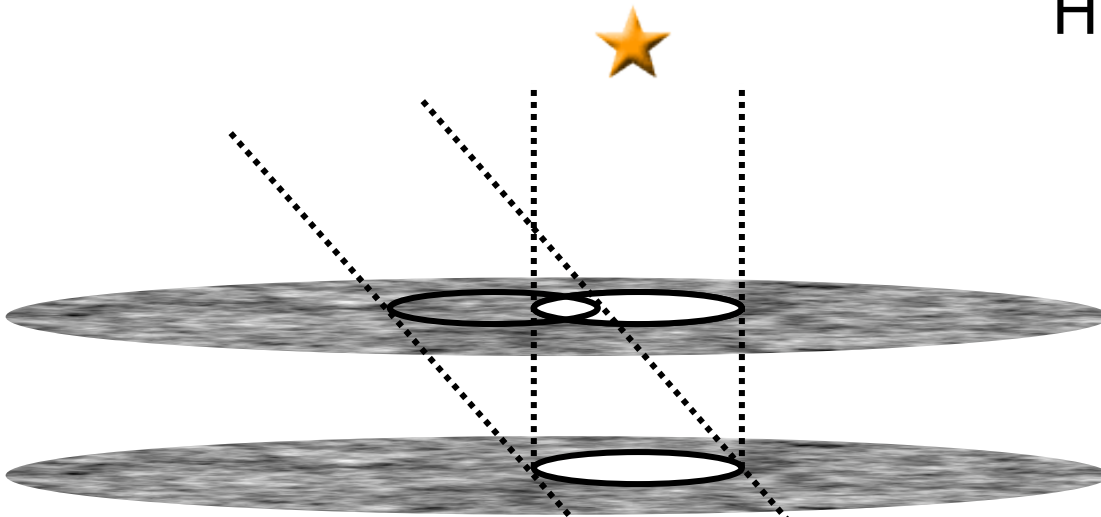
Anisoplanatism

High atmosphere's layers are not sensed when looking off-axis



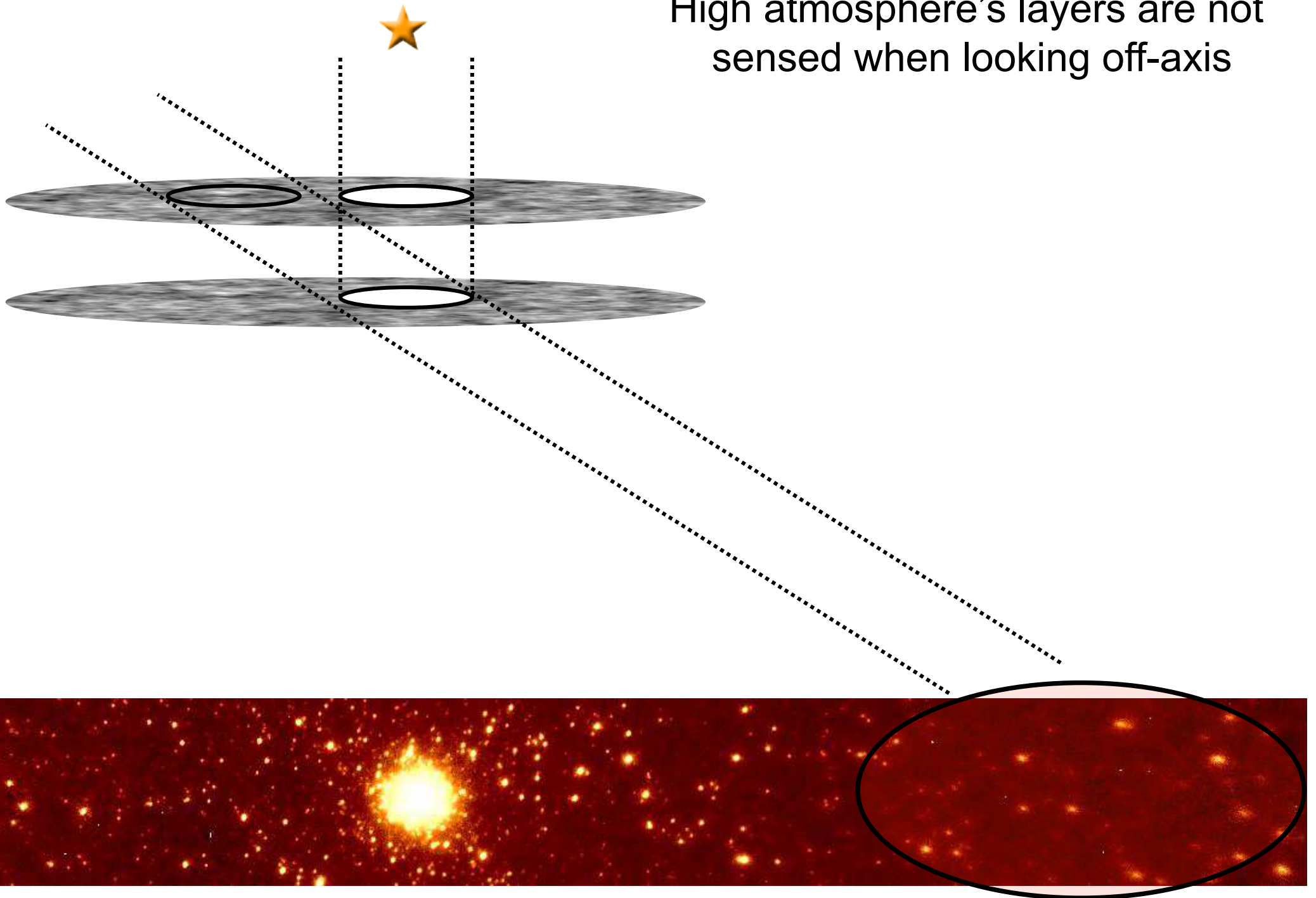
Anisoplanatism

High atmosphere's layers are not sensed when looking off-axis



Anisoplanatism

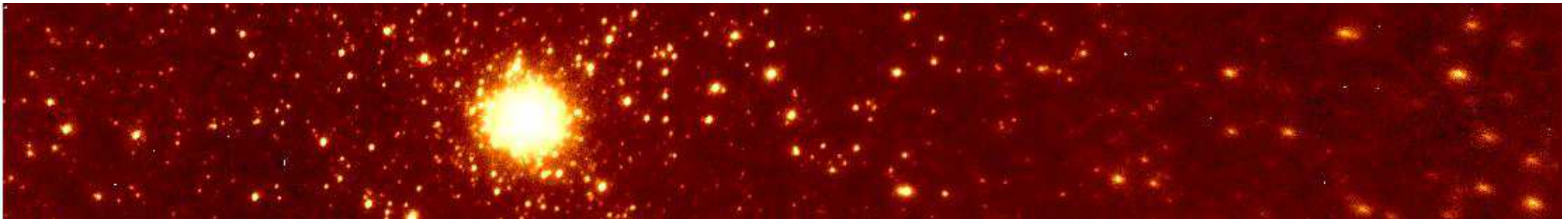
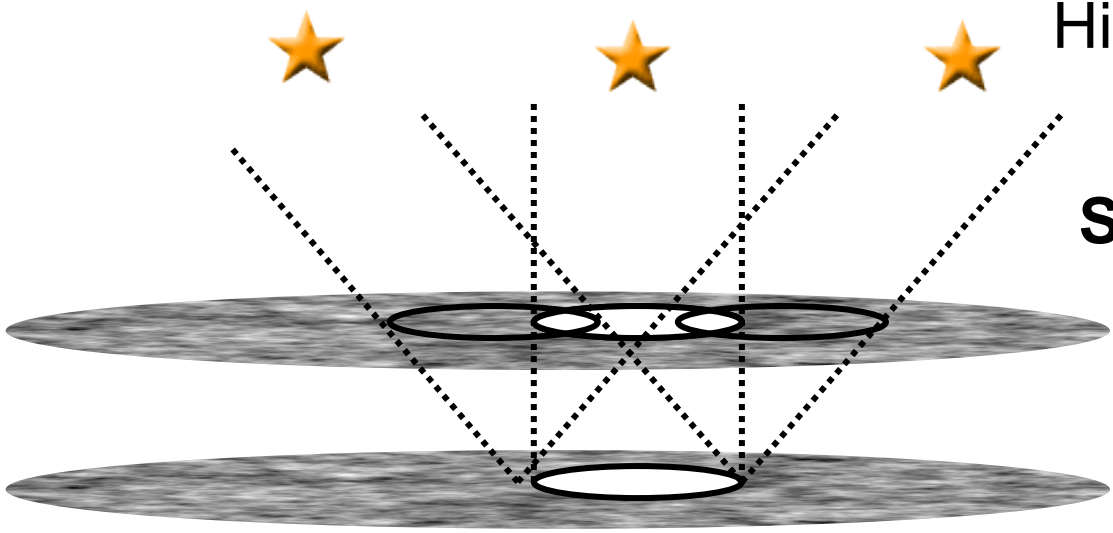
High atmosphere's layers are not sensed when looking off-axis



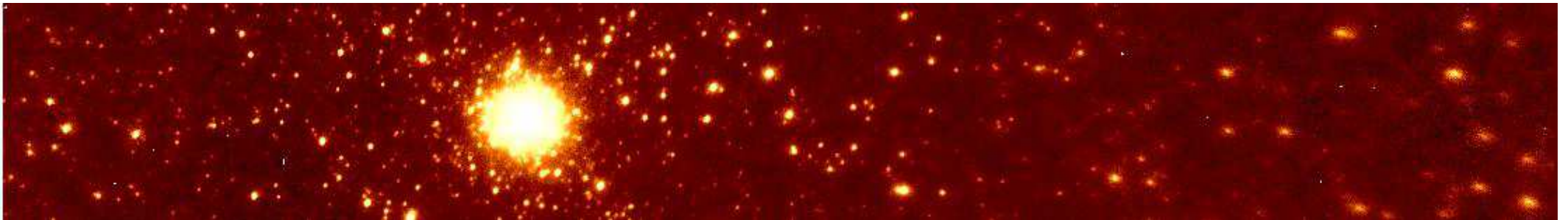
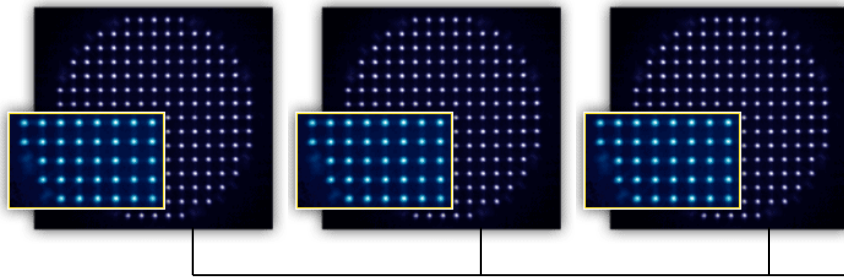
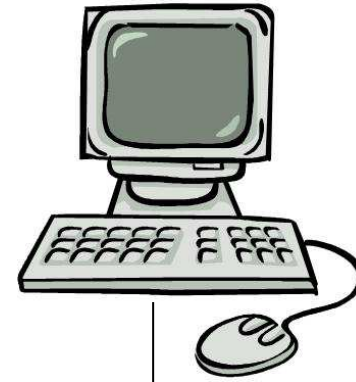
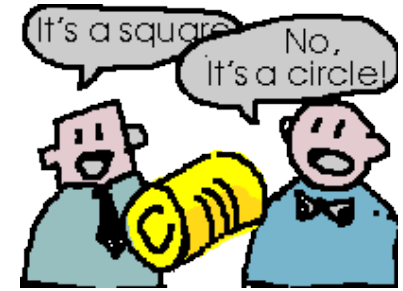
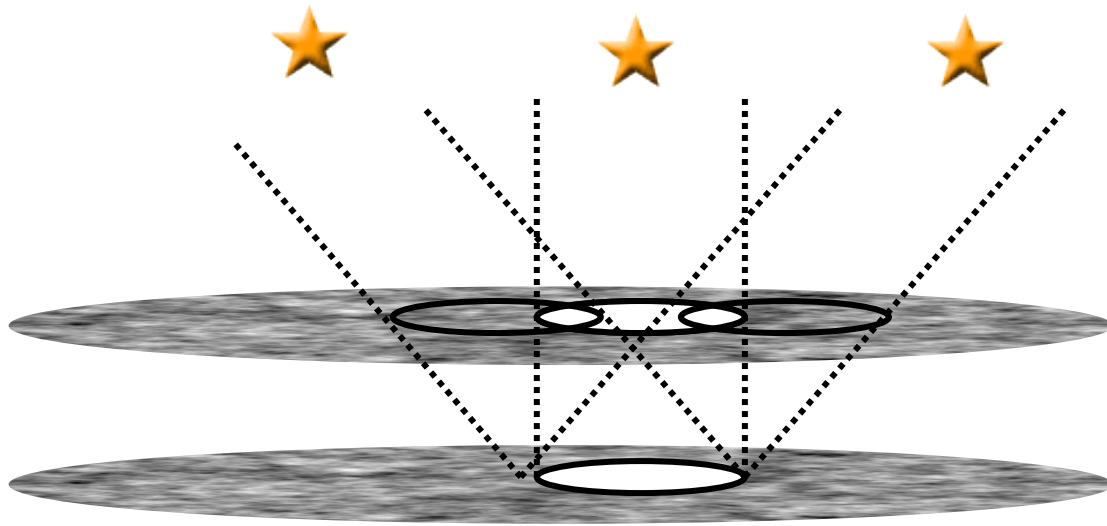
Tomography

High atmosphere's layers are not sensed when looking off-axis

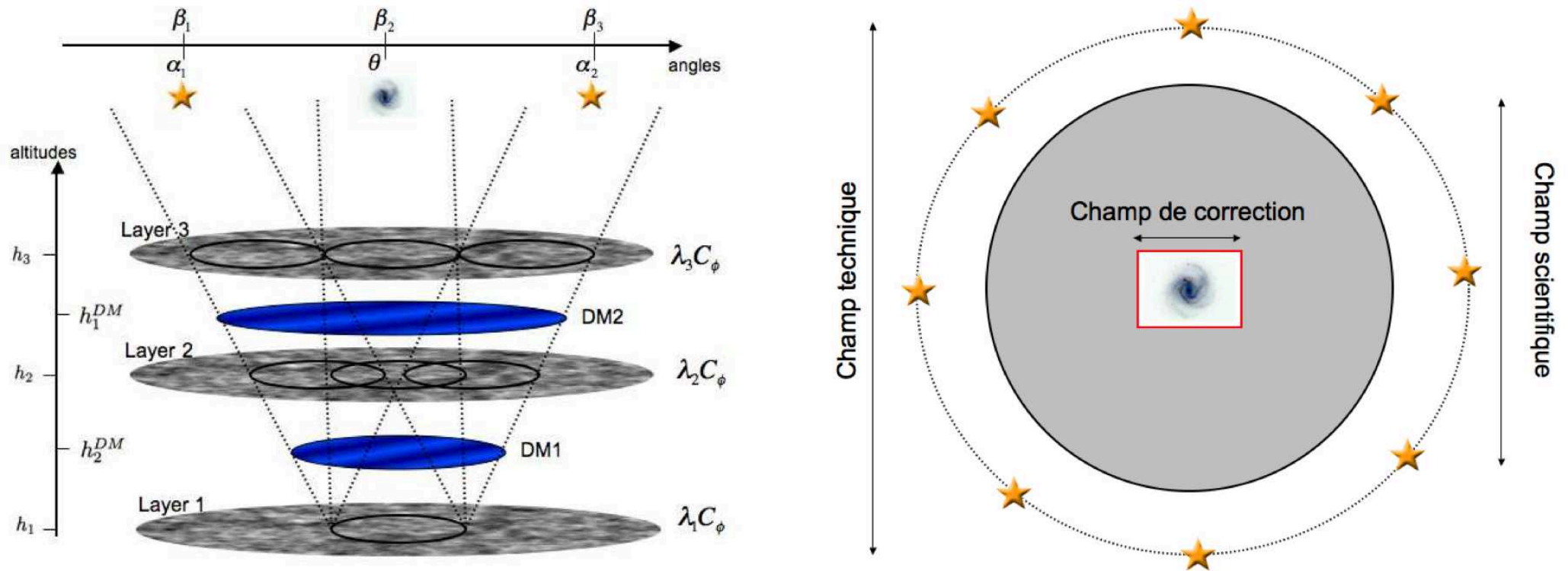
Solution => Combine off-axis measurements



Tomography



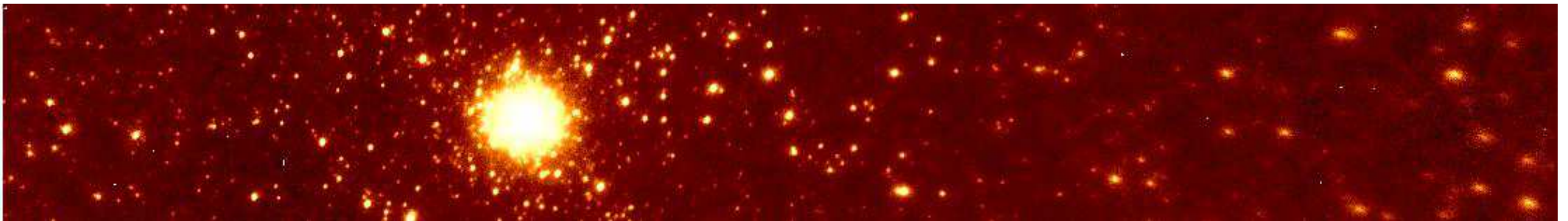
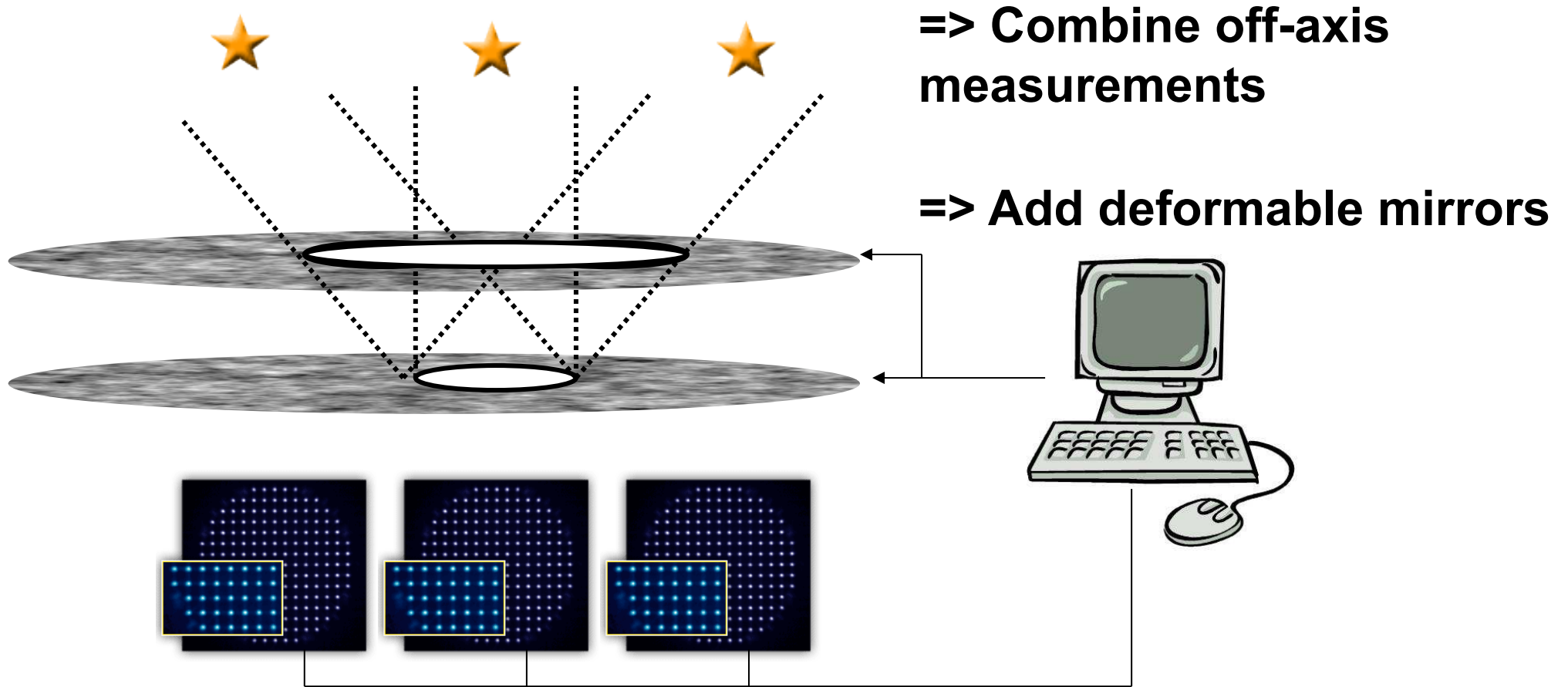
How to combine the WFSs measurements to do the tomography ?



Many different flavors of 3D phase reconstruction:
LSE, MMSE, MV, L&A, FRIM, POLC, Neuronal Network, ...

Usually done in 2 steps (1) Reconstruction ; (2) projection

MCAO



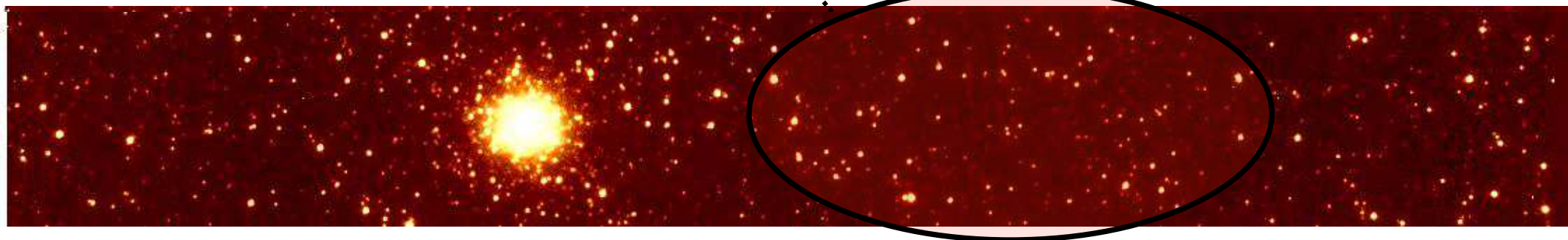
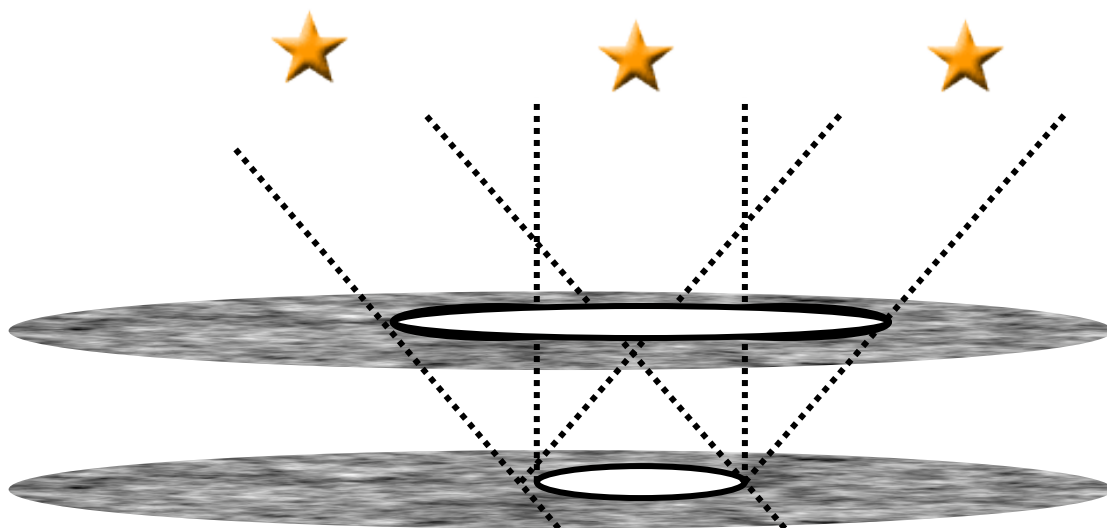
MCAO

=> Combine off-axis measurements

=> Add deformable mirrors



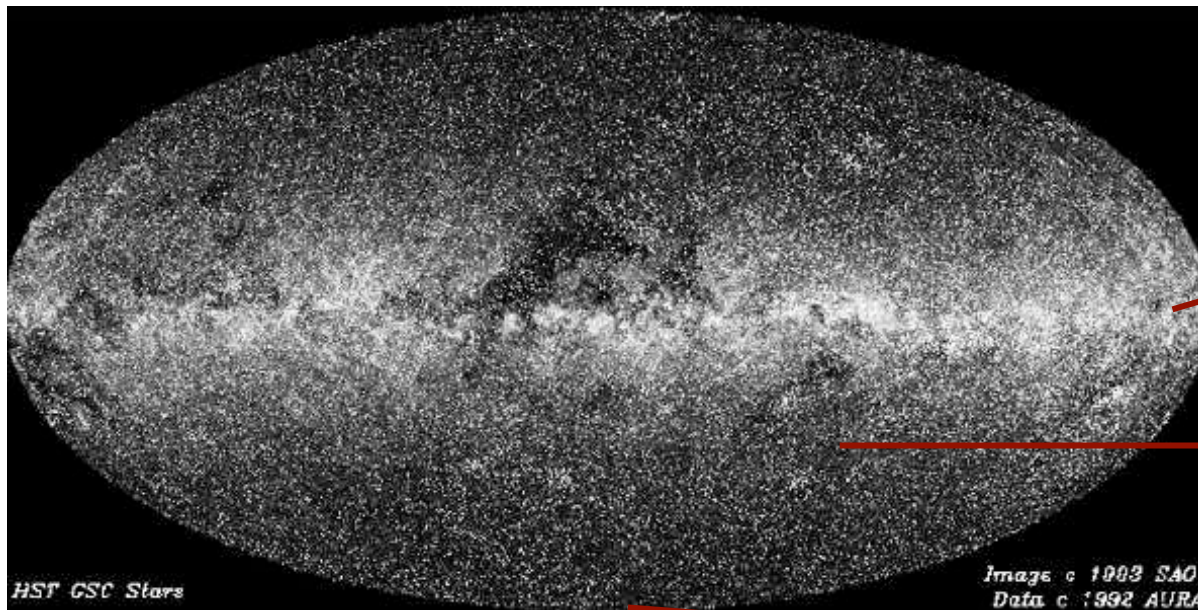
**Good
correction in a
larger FoV !**



Adaptive Optics works
close to a bright
guide star

How many Guide Stars are available ?

3 stars with $R < 16$ in a
2 arcmin FoV



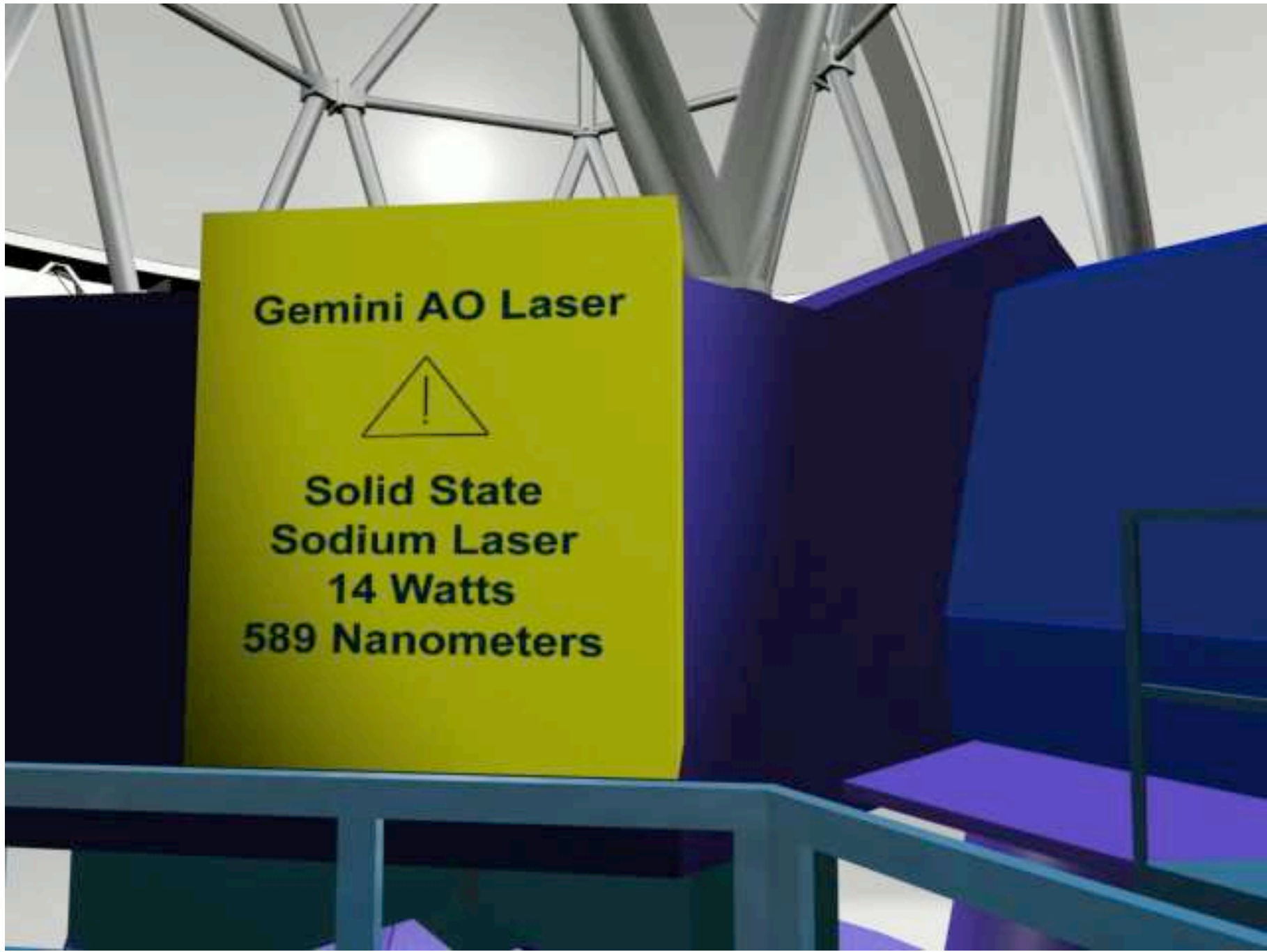
10%

1%

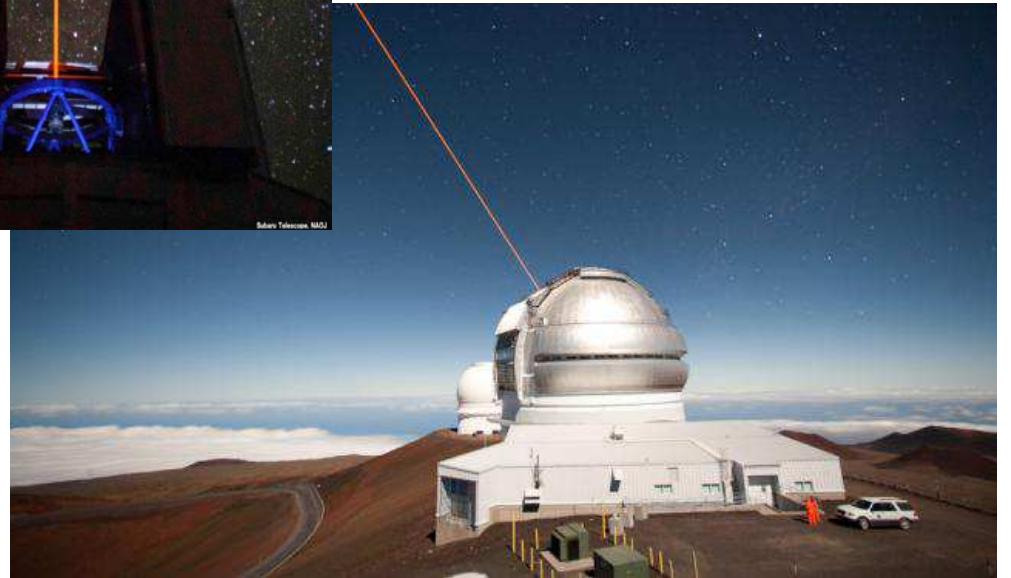
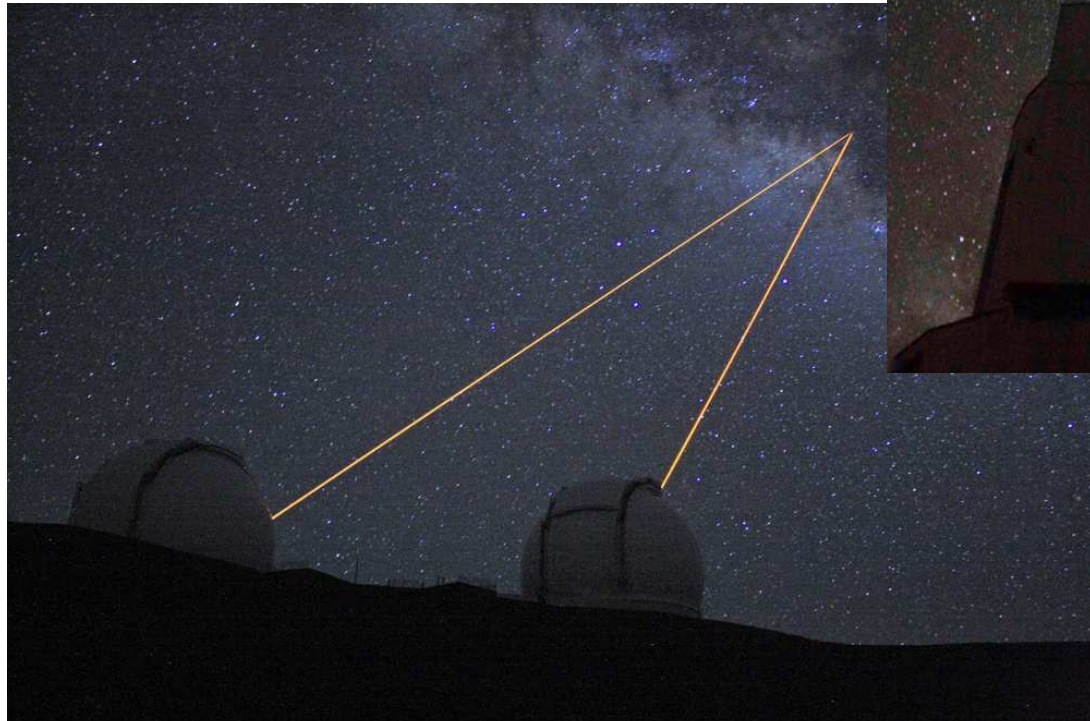
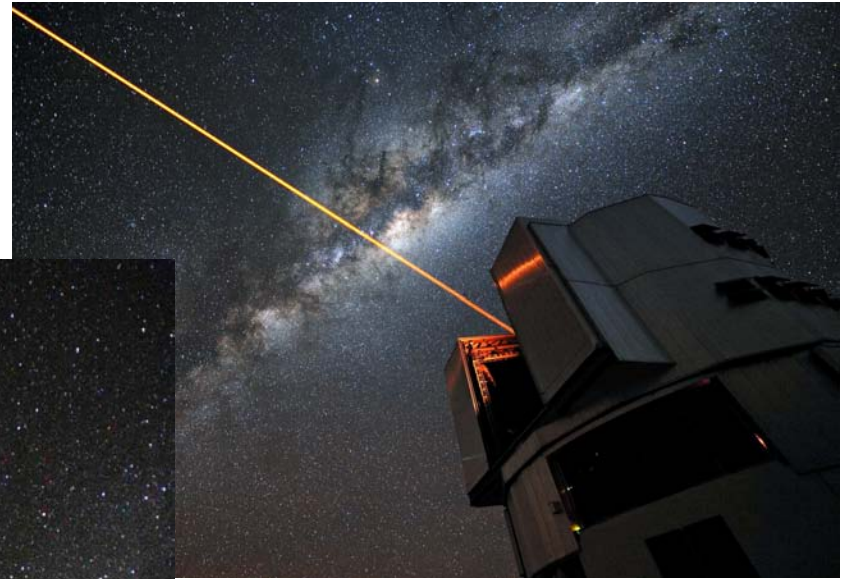
0.1%

Laser Guide Star

When no guide star are available, we can create one



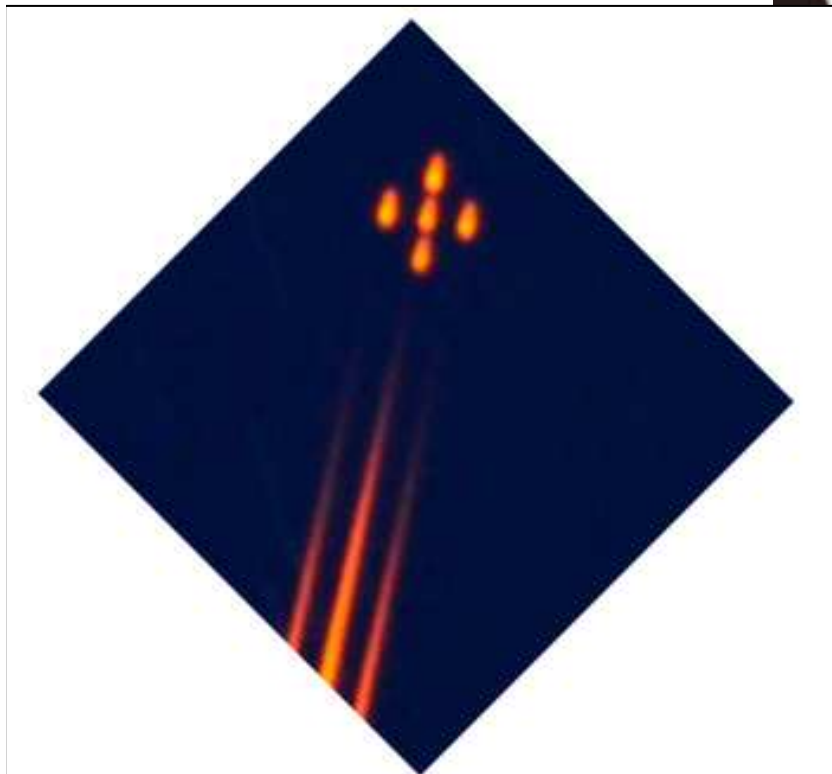
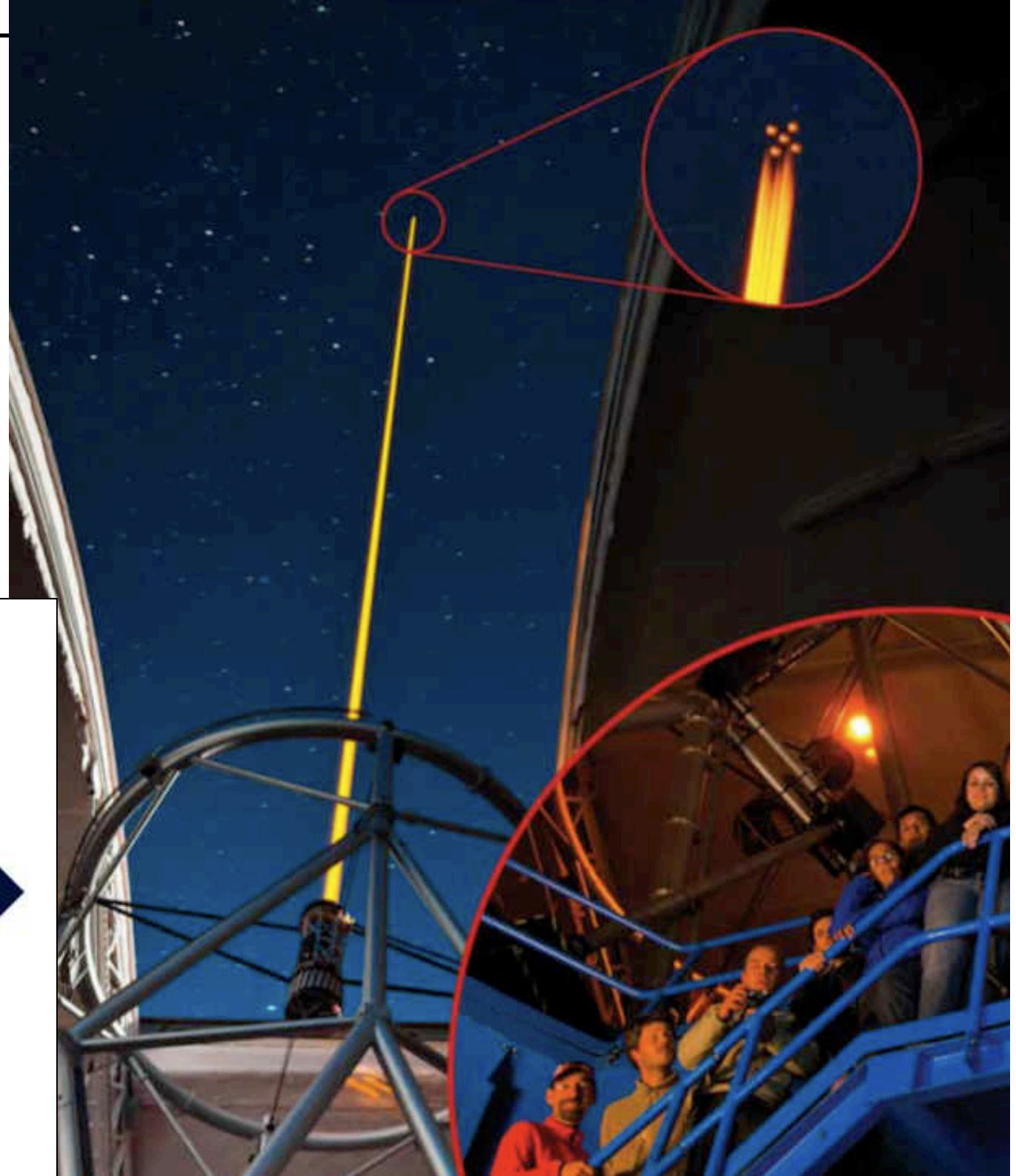
Laser Guide Star



Laser Guide Star

22 January 2011

First LGS
constellation at
Gemini South



- In summary -

Tomography for Astronomy means:

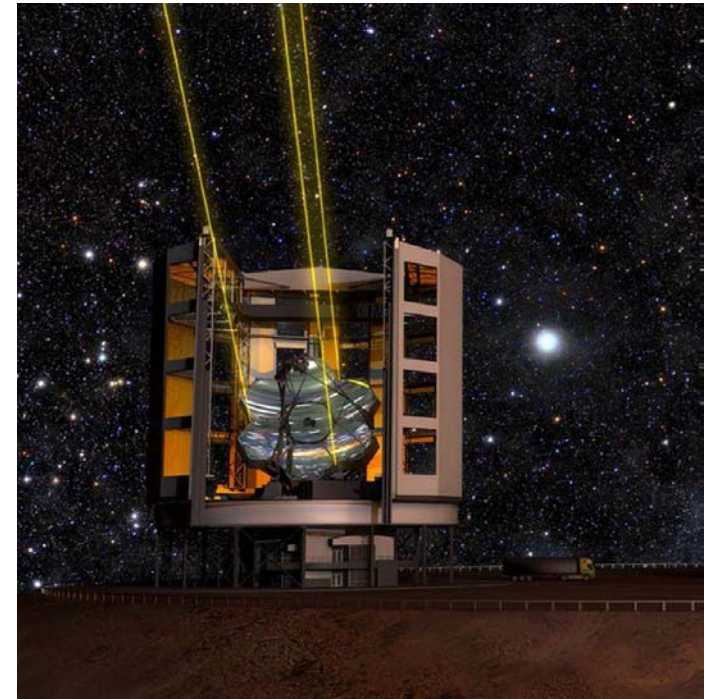
- (1) Access to larger FoV
- (2) Access to better sky Coverage

*Where the first AO systems are limited to small and bright objects, new WFAO system opens the way to a multitude of new science cases.
(We'll see some nice images at the end of this talk)*

BUT requires LGS

(We'll see some of the LGS issues latter in this talk)

All the ELTs are based on multi-LGS WFAO systems

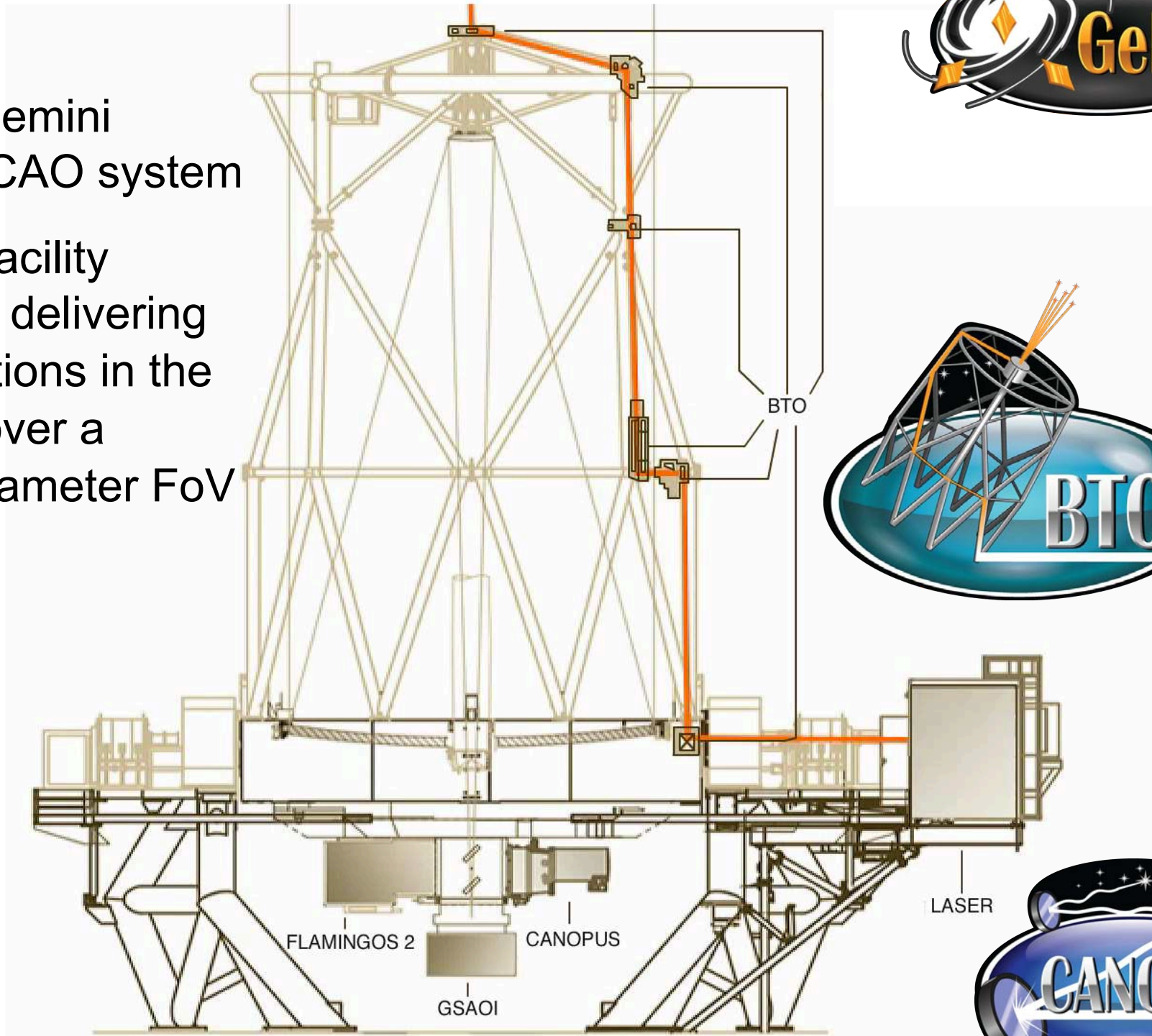


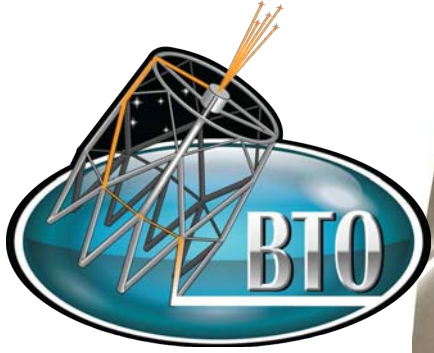
Introduction to GeMS – The Gemini MCAO system



GeMS = Gemini
(South) MCAO system

GeMS = Facility
instrument delivering
AO corrections in the
NIR, and over a
2arcmin diameter FoV

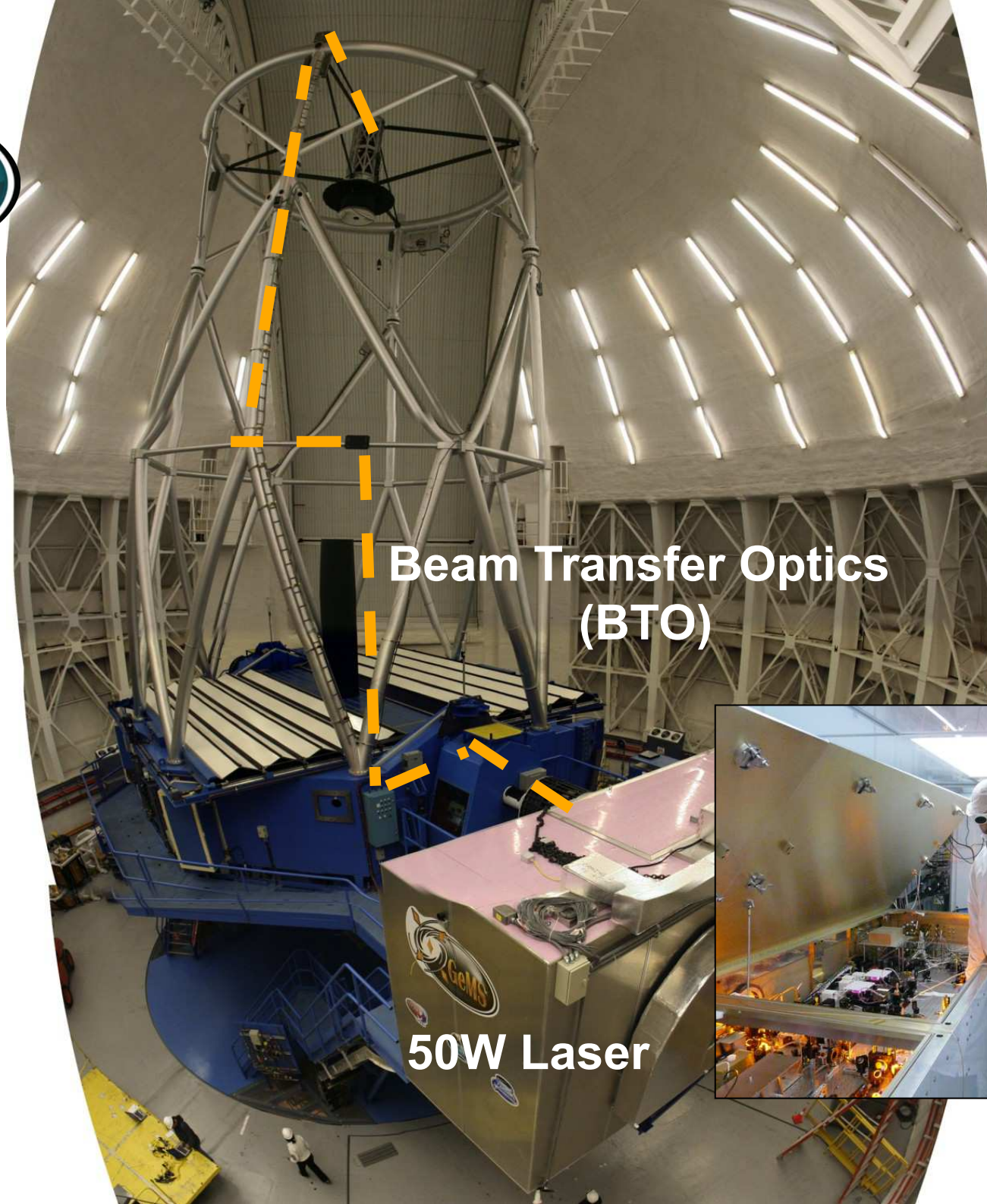






50W Laser

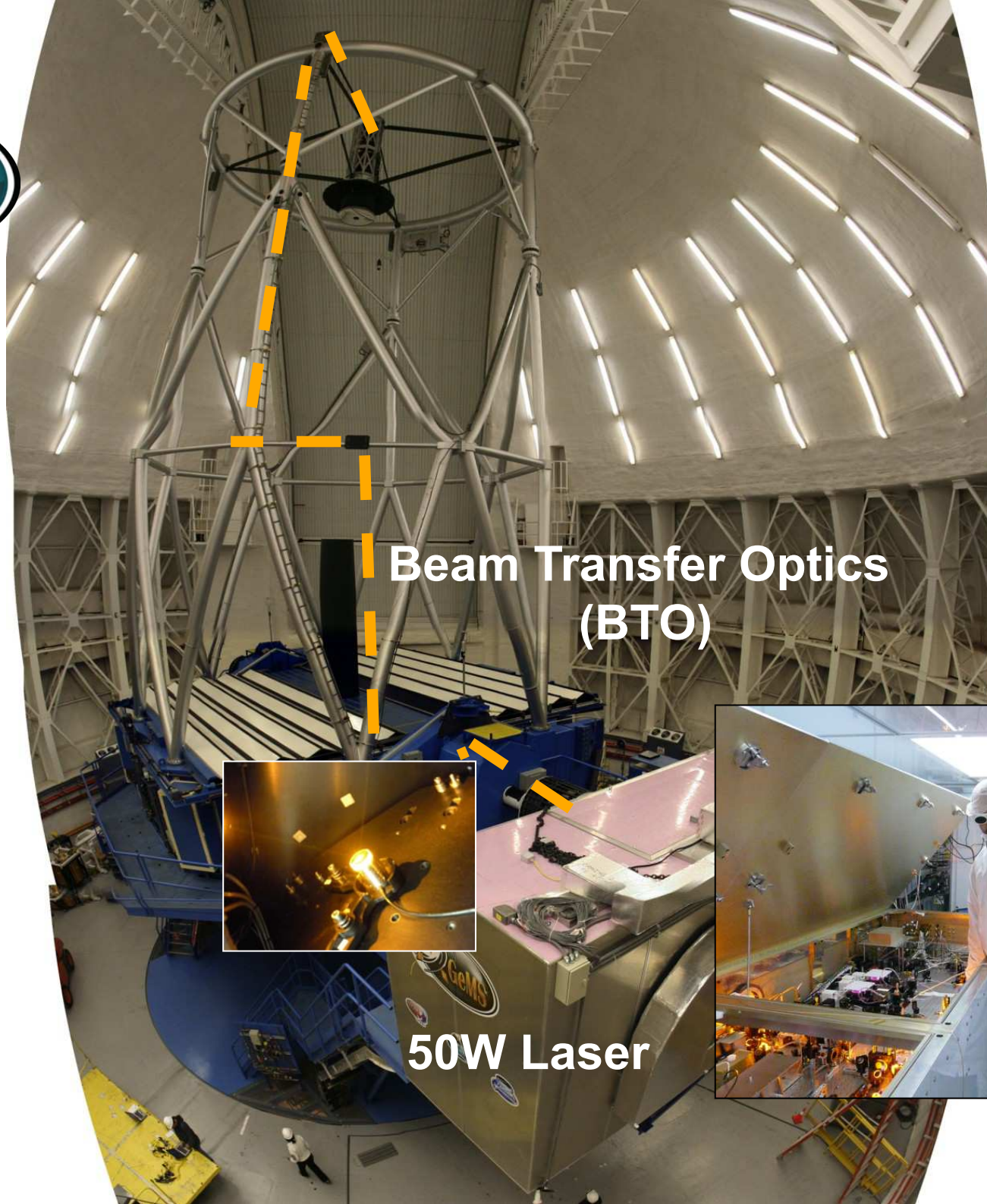




Beam Transfer Optics
(BTO)

50W Laser



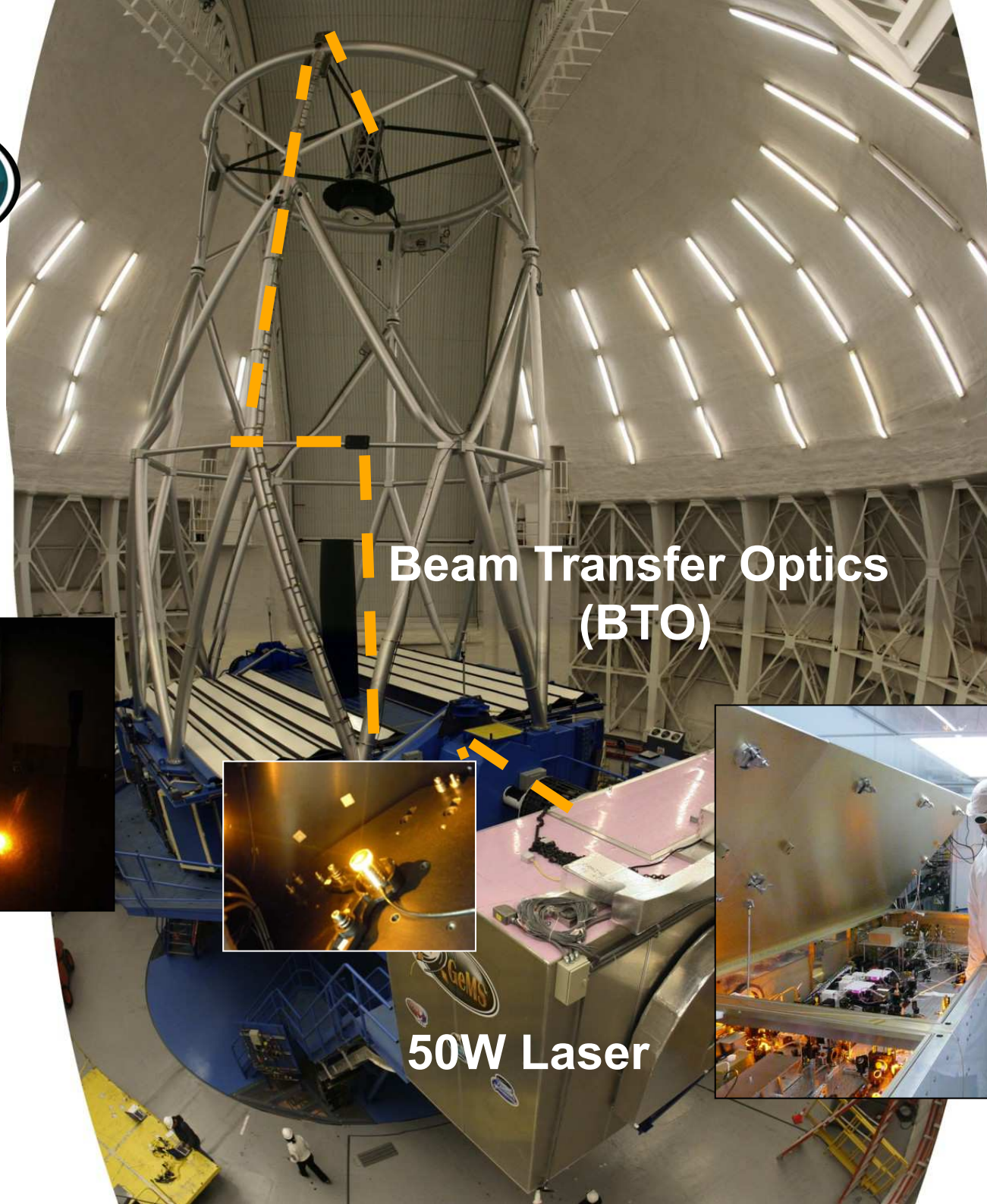


**Beam Transfer Optics
(BTO)**



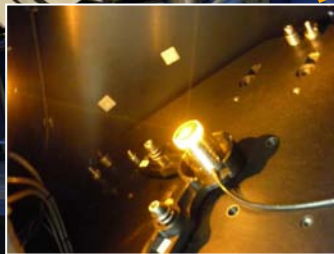
50W Laser

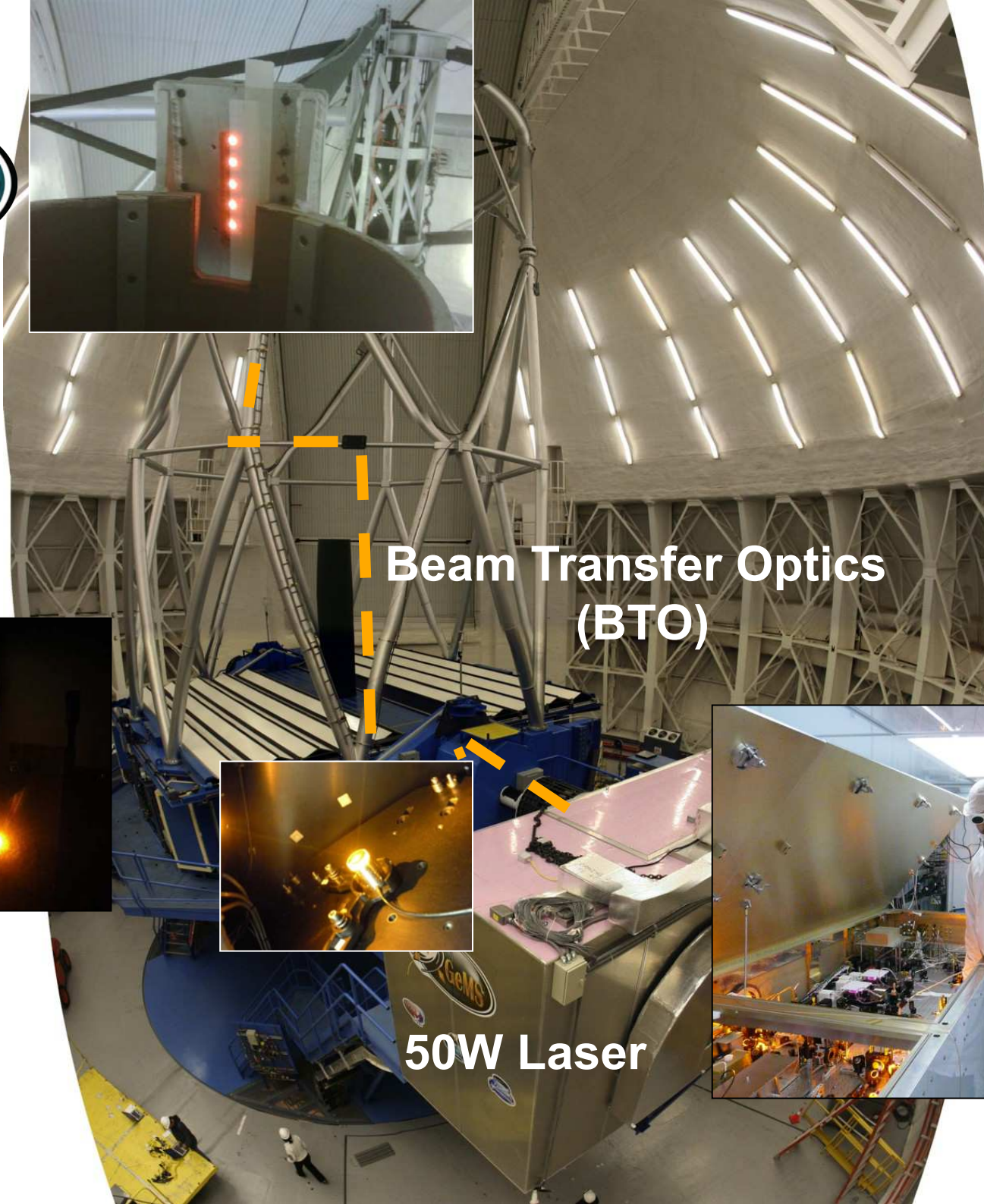
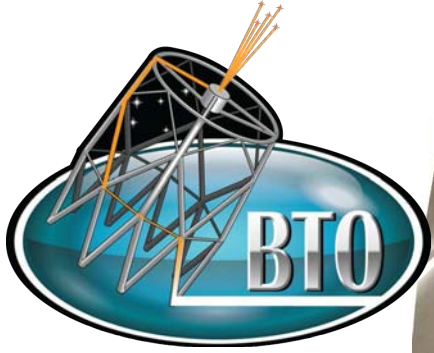




Beam Transfer Optics
(BTO)

50W Laser



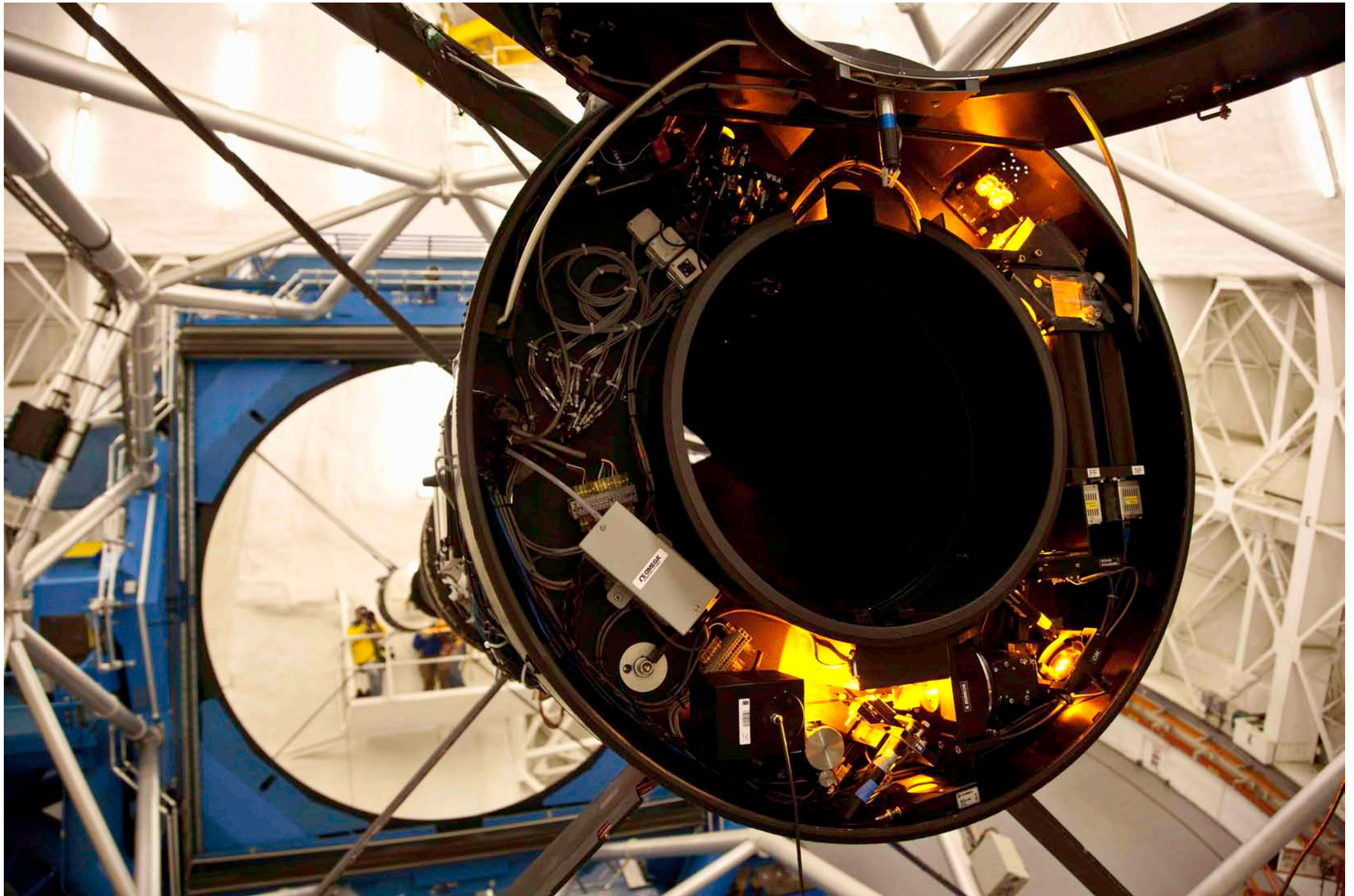


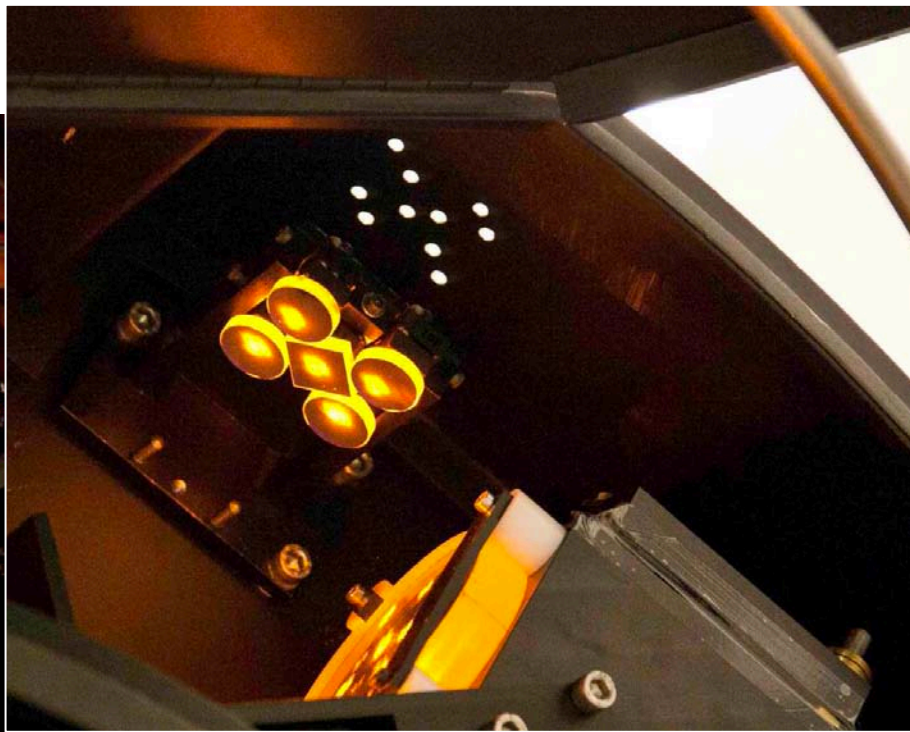
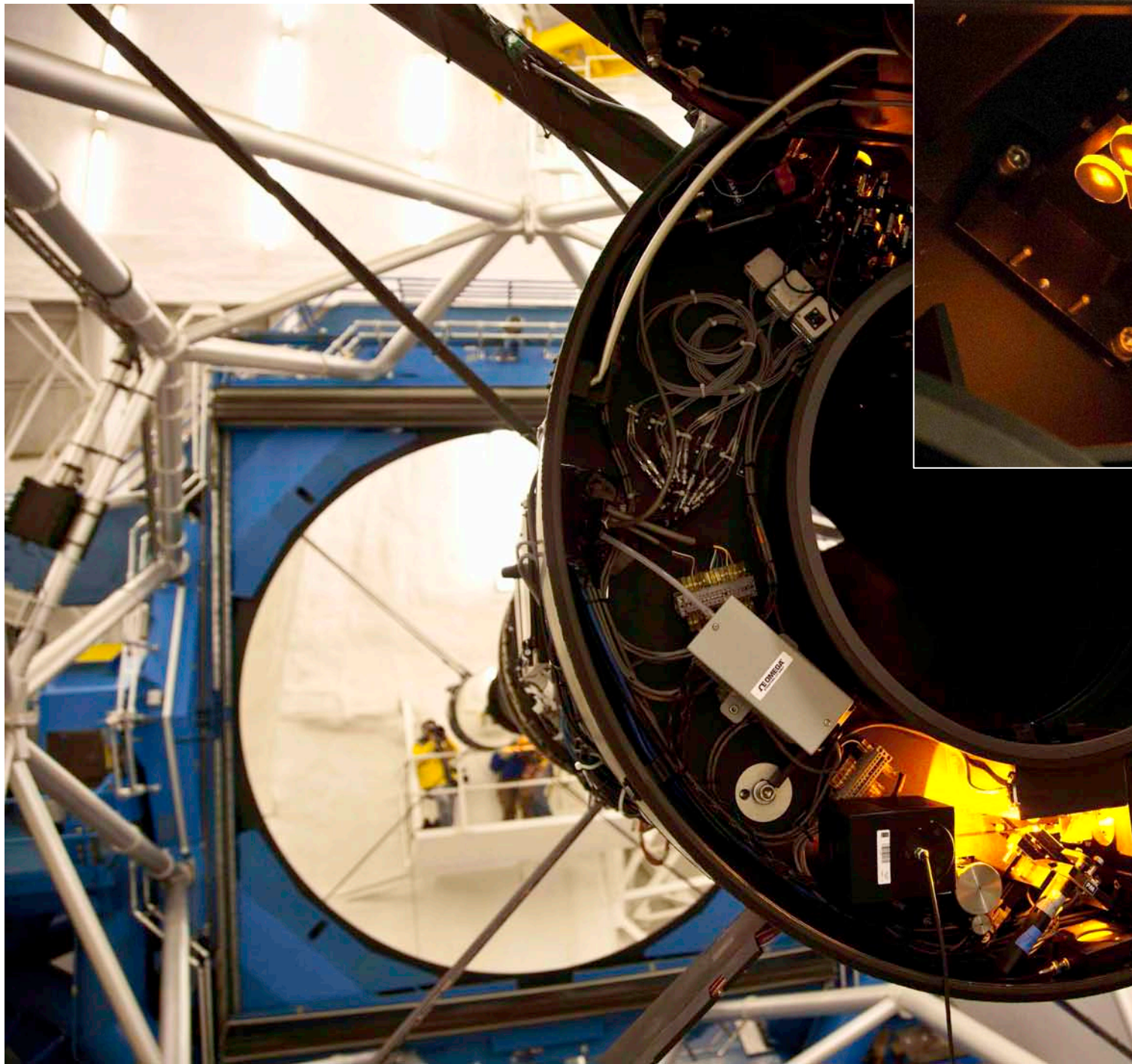
**Beam Transfer Optics
(BTO)**



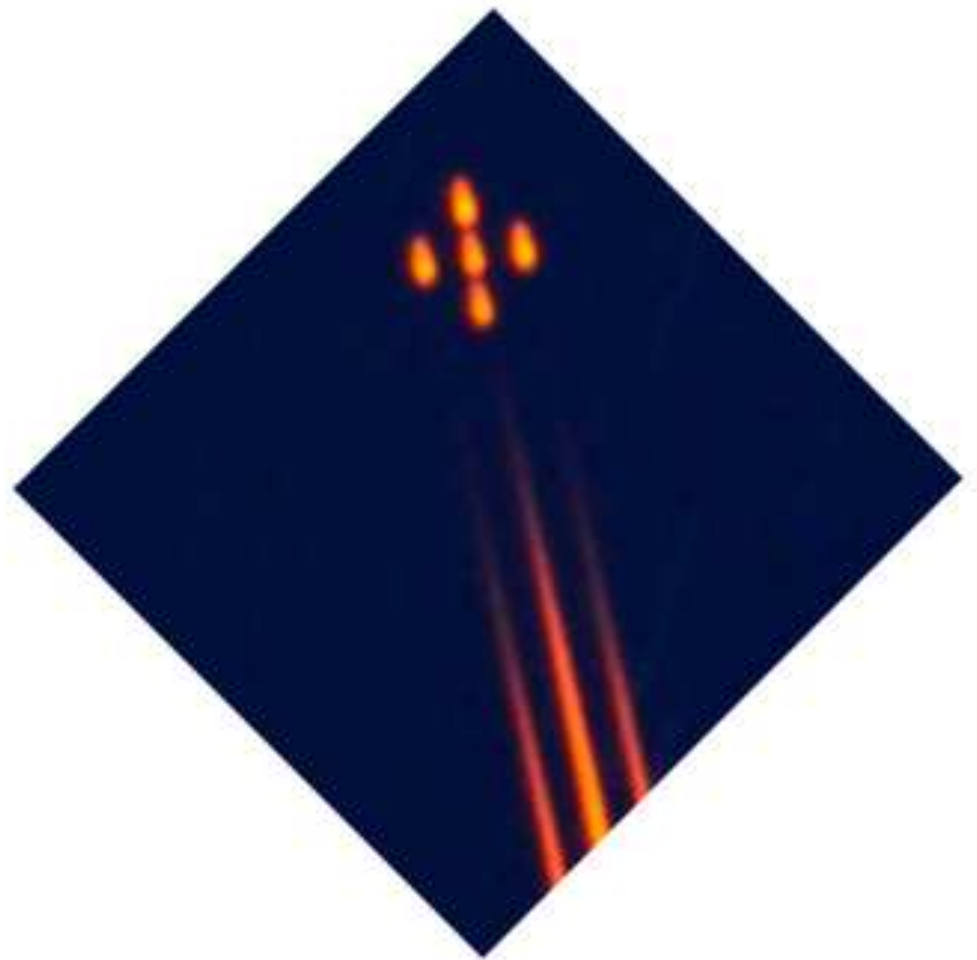
50W Laser

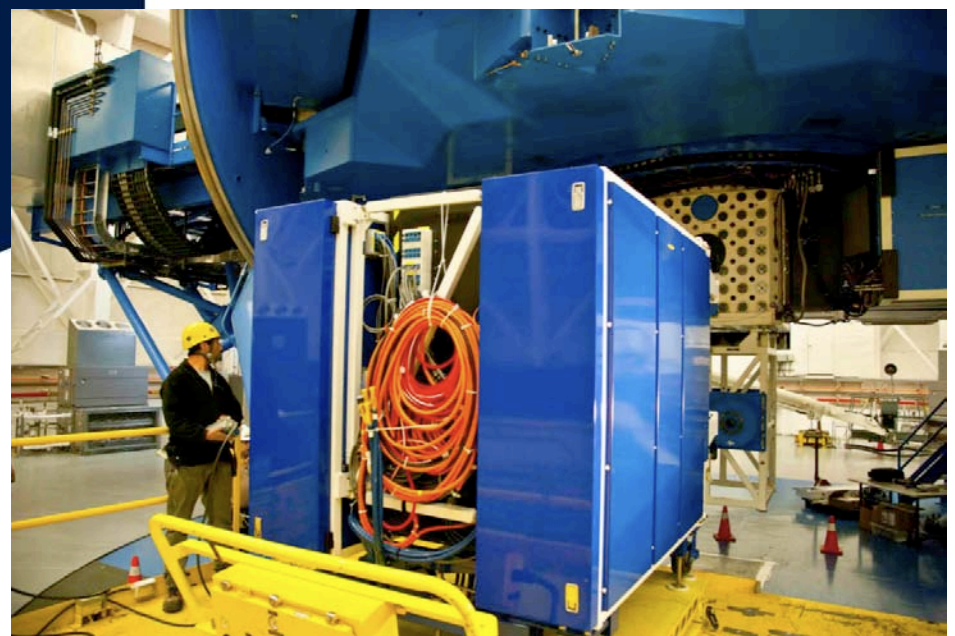
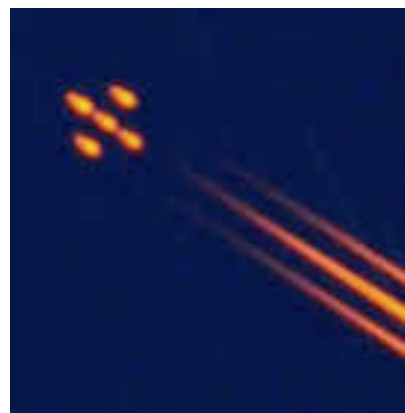












GSAOI

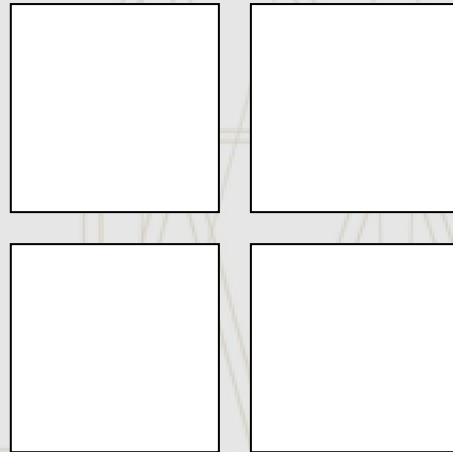
Near-Infrared wide field imager

2 x 2 mosaic Rockwell HAWAII-2RG 2048 x 2048 arrays

0.9 - 2.4 μm wavelength

85" x 85" field-of-view

Pix. scale of 0.02"/pixel



Flamingos-2

Near-Infrared wide field imager and multi-object spectrometer

0.95-2.4 μm wavelength

FoV = 120" diameter

Pix. Scale 0.09 arcsec/pix

Long Slit (slit width from 1 to 8 pixels)

MOS (custom masks)

R = 1200-3000

GMOS

0.36-0.94 μm (New Hamamatsu-Red-Sensitive CCDs) FoV = 2.4 arcminute diameter.
Imaging, long-slit and multi-slit spectroscopy

Integral Field Unit (IFU) - pix = 0.1arcsec - FoV = 17arcsec - R150 to 1200

Gemini Observatory, GeMS-GSAOI first light

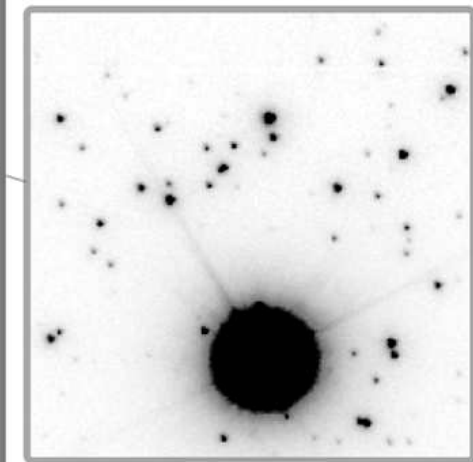
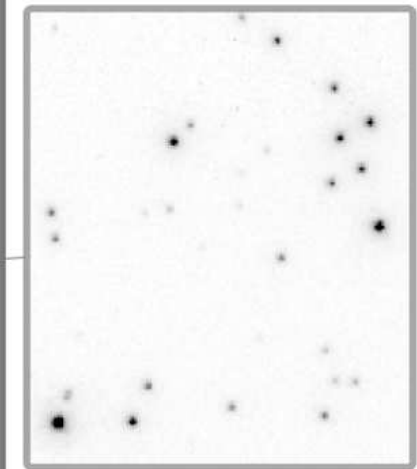
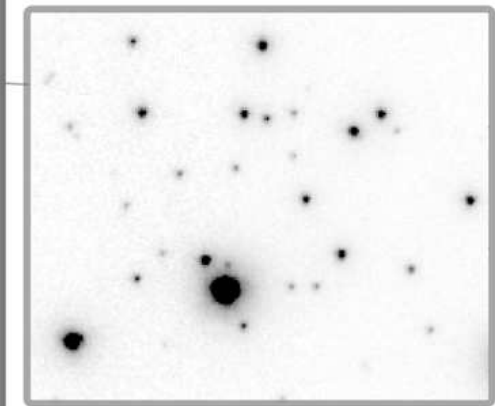
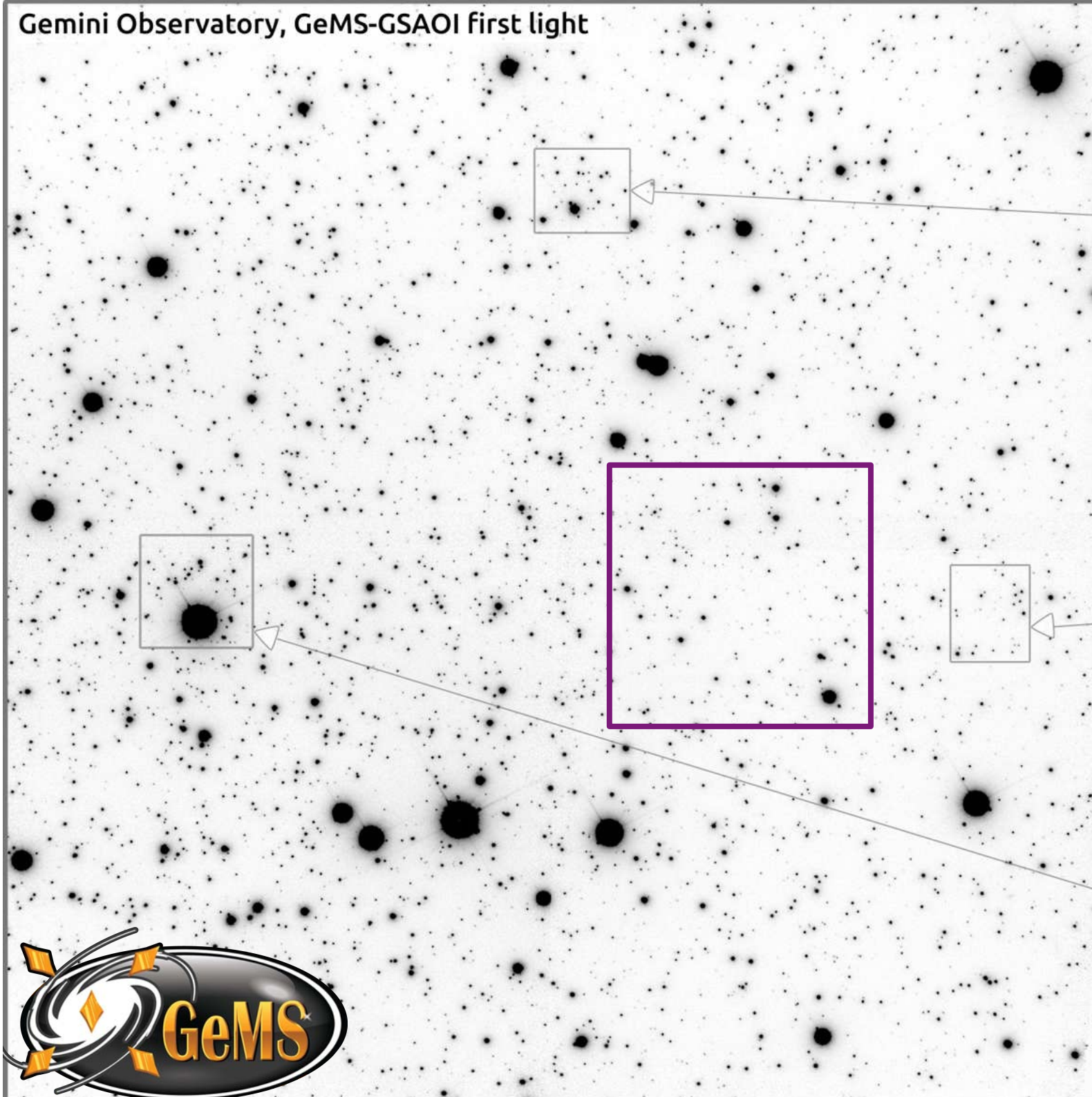
NGC288, H band

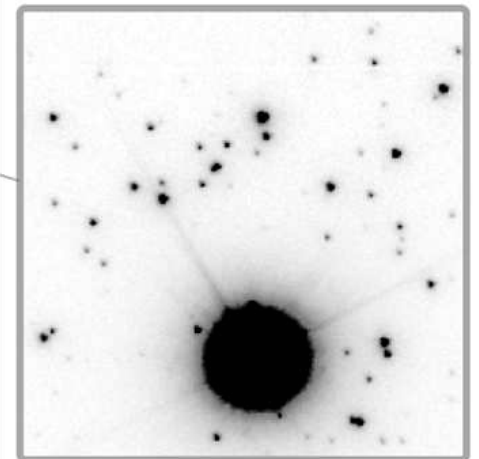
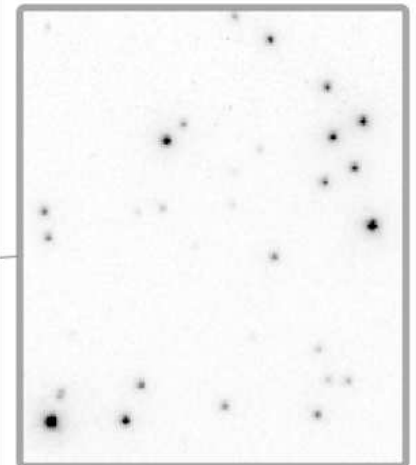
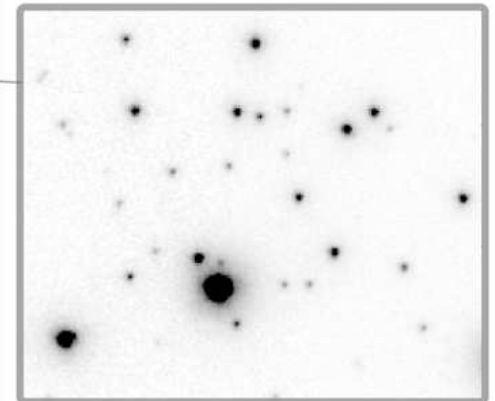
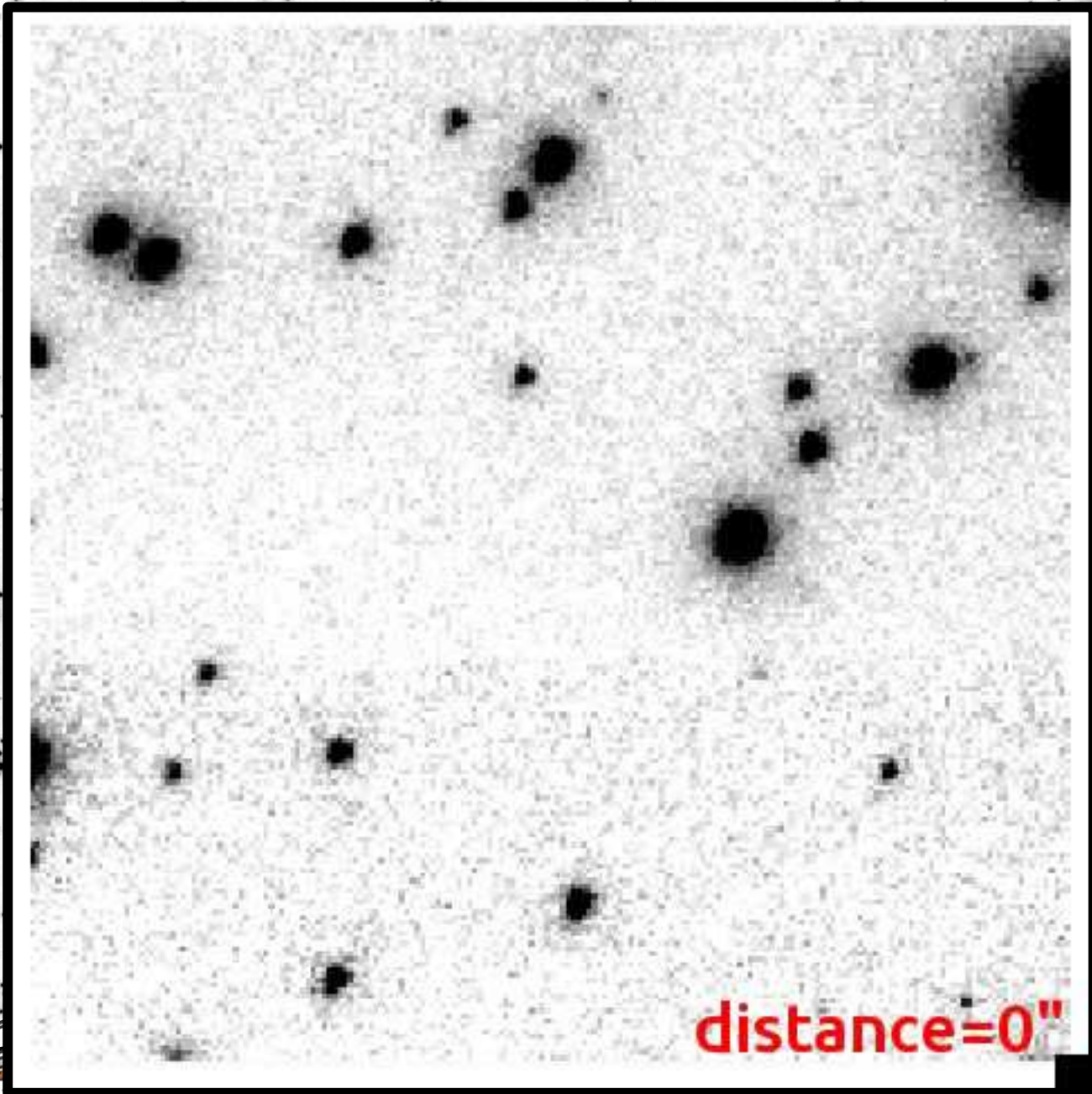
13mn exposure

Field of View 87"x87"

FWHM = 0.080"

FWHM rms = 0.002"





GeMS's Tomography Calibrations & Limitations

GeMS's Tomography Calibrations & Limitations

Tomography is easy, calibrations are difficult...

GeMS's Tomography Calibrations & Limitations

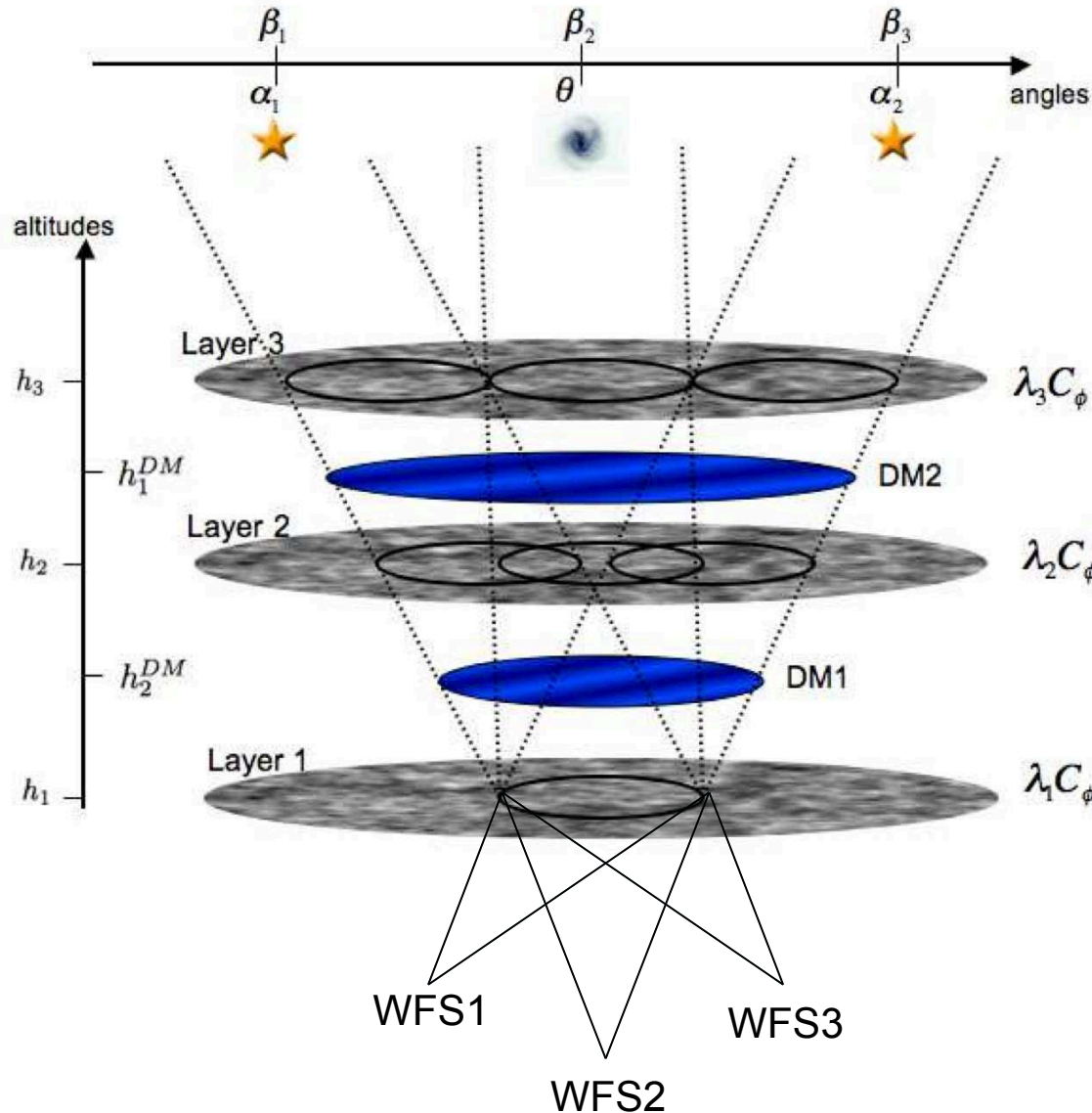
Tomography is easy, calibrations are difficult...

Differential aberrations between WFSs

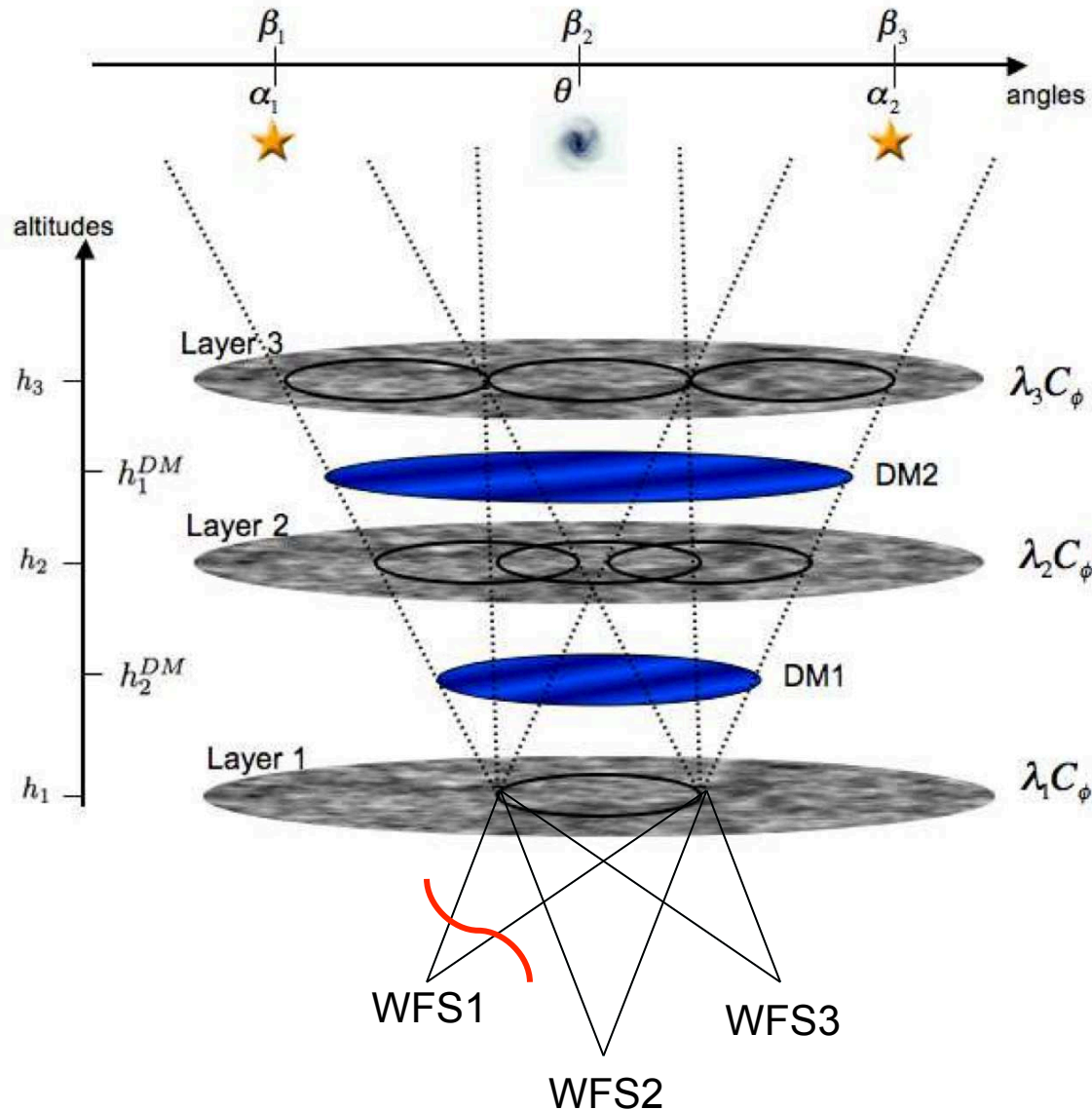
Fratricide effect

Non-Kolmogorov turbulence

Quasi-static aberrations



Impact of differential aberrations between WFSs



Impact of differential aberrations between WFSs



Origin of differential aberrations between WFSs ?

- ◆ Registration Look-Up Table
- ◆ Static aberrations - Centroiding gains
 - ◆ Laser Spots
 - ◆ Differential LGS focus
 - ◆ Non-linear effects

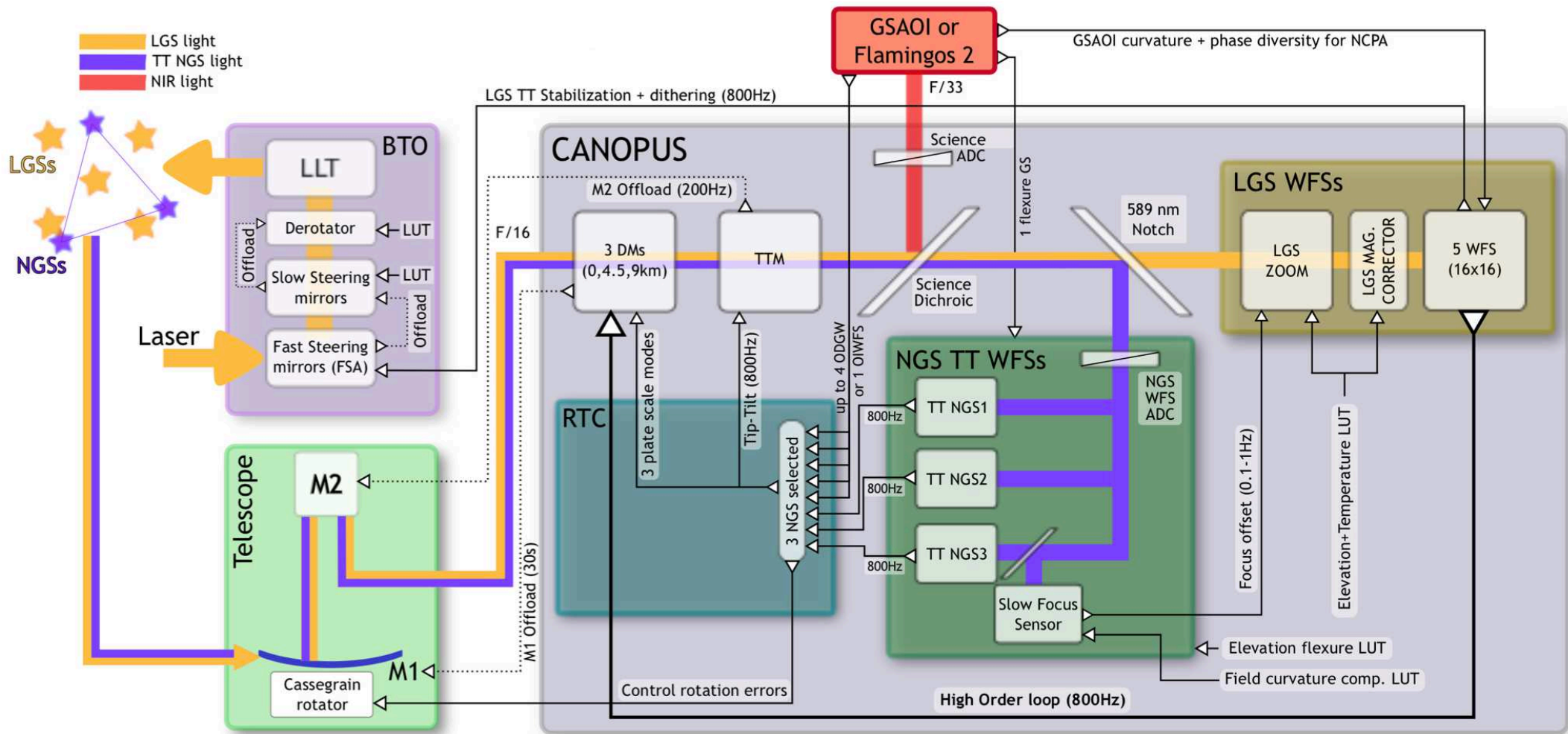


Origin of differential aberrations between WFSs ?

- ◆ **Registration Look-Up Table**
- ◆ Static aberrations - Centroiding gains
 - ◆ Laser Spots
 - ◆ Differential LGS focus
 - ◆ Non-linear effects

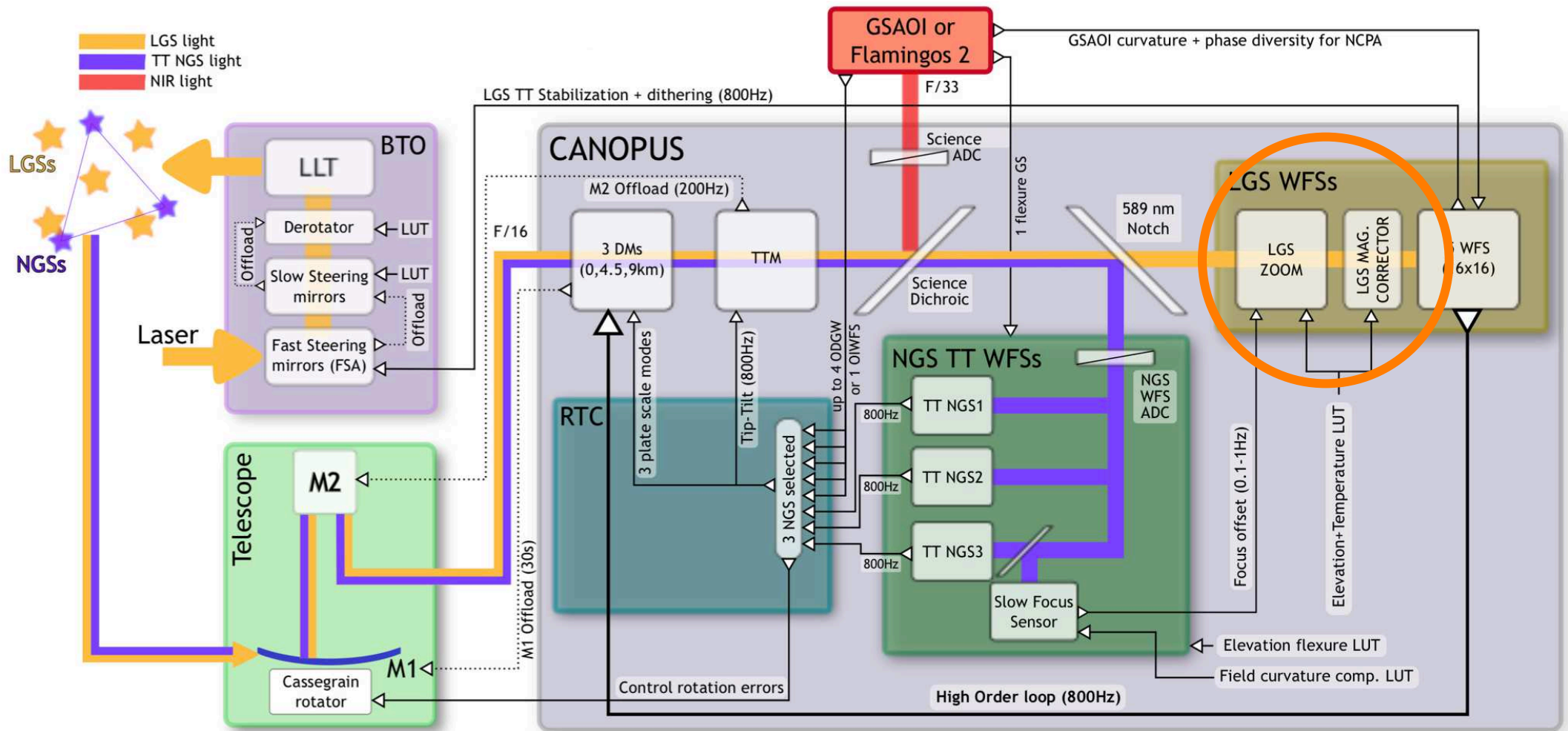


LUTs are everywhere...





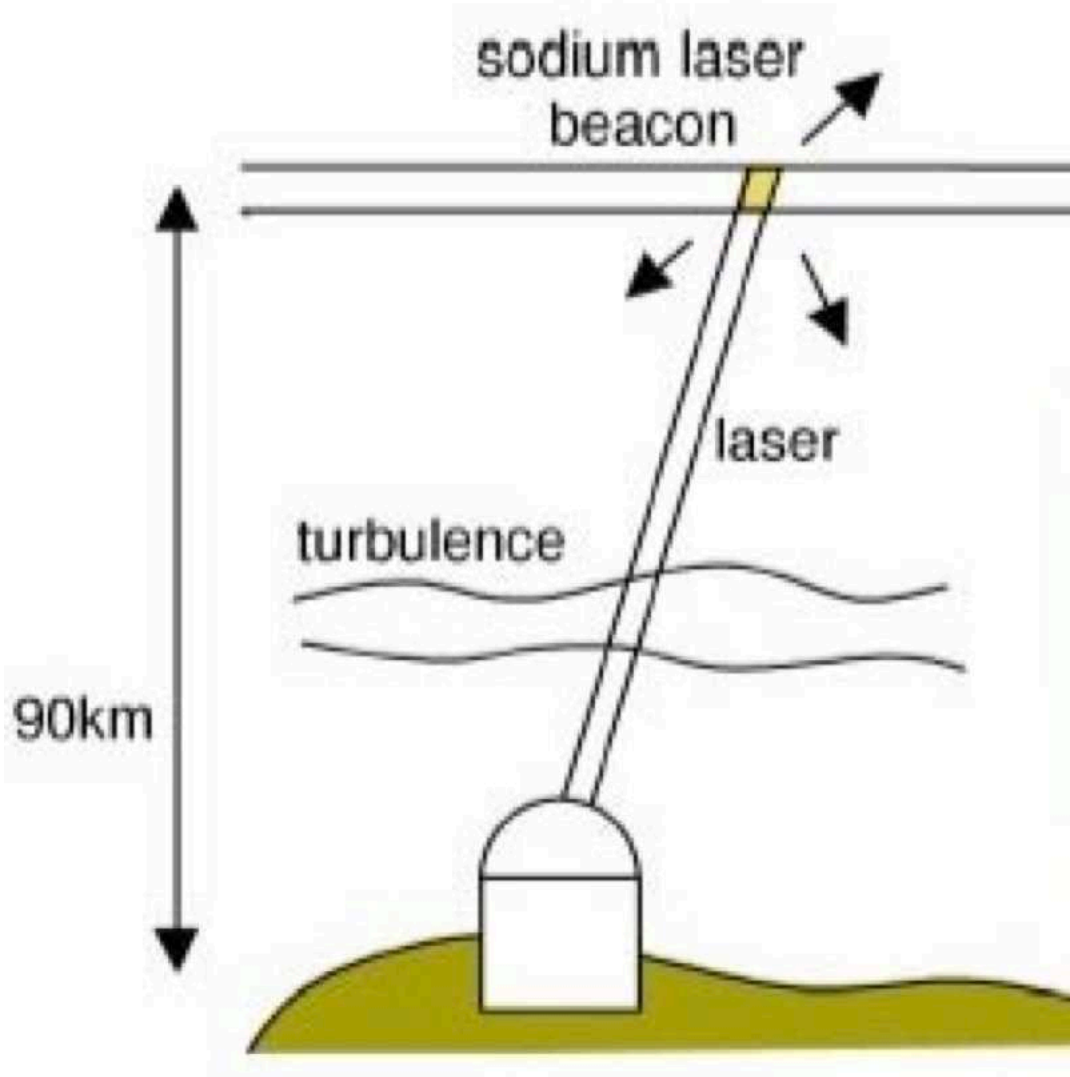
LUTs are everywhere...



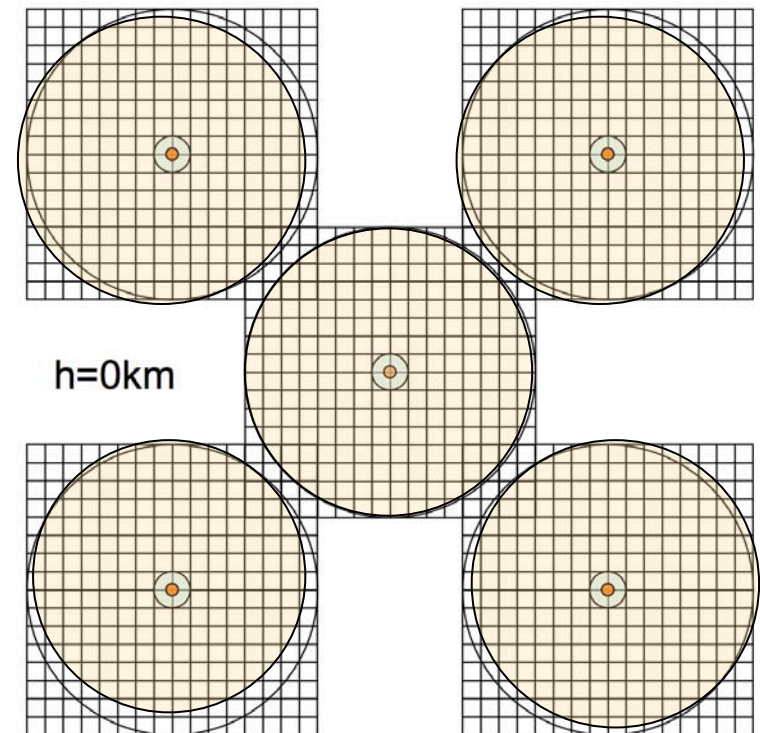
Ex: LGS WFS zoom mechanisms



LGSWFS LUT versus elevation / temperature



When elevation / temperature / flexure change, need to keep the registration and magnification right on each LGSWFS.





LGSWFS LUT versus elevation / temperature



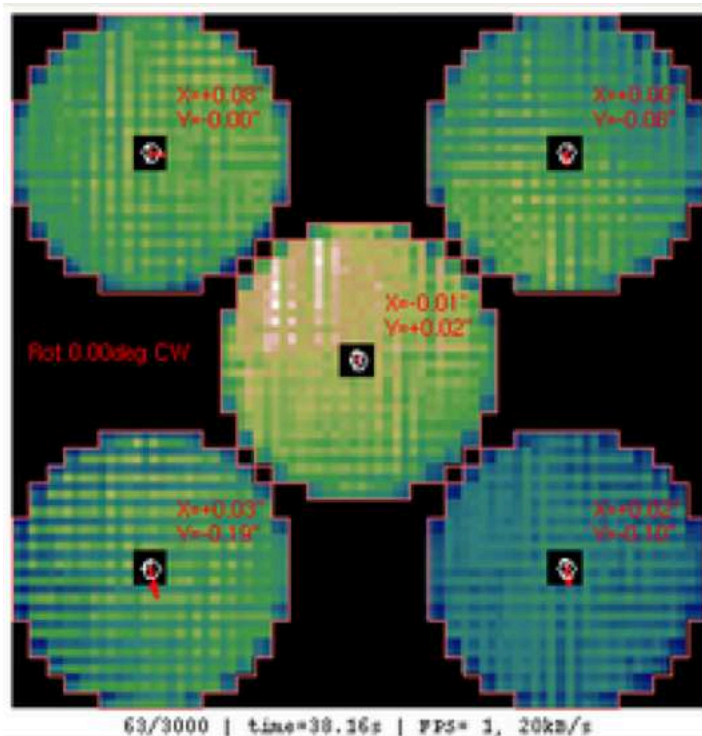
LUT is built with calibrations sources moved to different LGS range.

8 mechanisms in the LGSWFS are adjusted to keep registration / magnification right.



LGSWFS LUT versus elevation / temperature

Need to be done daily when observing.



```

+++++
Average pupil magnification error = 0.04%
Past values = (0.07 0.04 )
+++++
BUSY, waiting..
Adjusting the AOM LGS stepper LUT a0 coefficients
zoomB, current=32283, should be=32234, adjustment=49.1
zoomC, current=41104, should be=40995, adjustment=108.9
magX, current=87376, should be=87745, adjustment=-369.1
magY, current=68661, should be=67786, adjustment=875.3
pwfs1=R3, current=31313, should be=32519, adjustment=-1205.5
pwfs2=R5, current=41825, should be=42529, adjustment=-703.8
pwfs3=R4, current=49988, should be=41013, adjustment=8975.1
pwfs4=R2, current=44300, should be=43528, adjustment=771.8
Updated Model coefs written in /media/mcao-rtc/spotfind/lgs_stepper_coefs.dat
  
```

No ways to check while observing, “ Trust the LUT ”
 (Can do some on-sky checks, but “science destructive”)

Would require non-destructive, on-line calibration tools !

(Cf. ESO AOF ?)



Origin of differential aberrations between WFSs ?

- ◆ Registration Look-Up Table
 - ◆ **Static aberrations**
- ◆ Centroiding gains - Laser Spots
 - ◆ Differential LGS focus
 - ◆ Non-linear effects



No NCPA == SR of 50 (± 10)% (H-band) in the field.

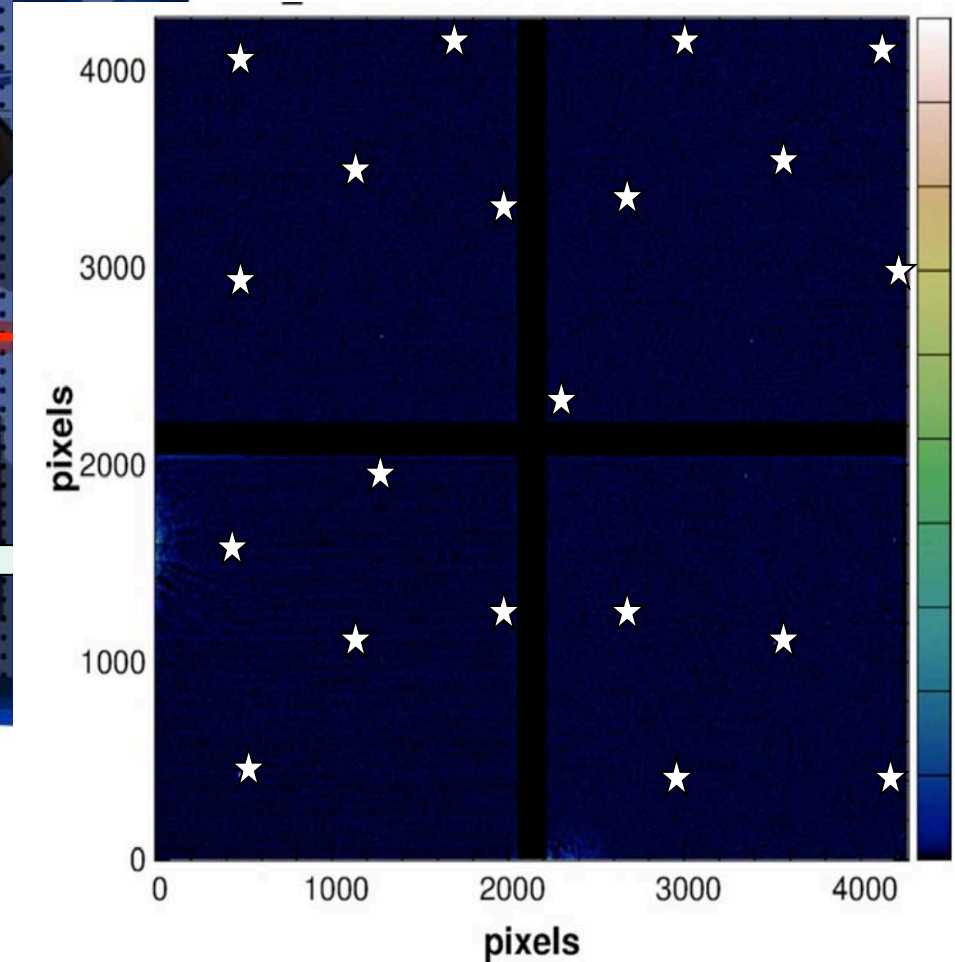


Goal:
find slope offsets that
would provide the best
image quality in the
science path.

Science
Camera

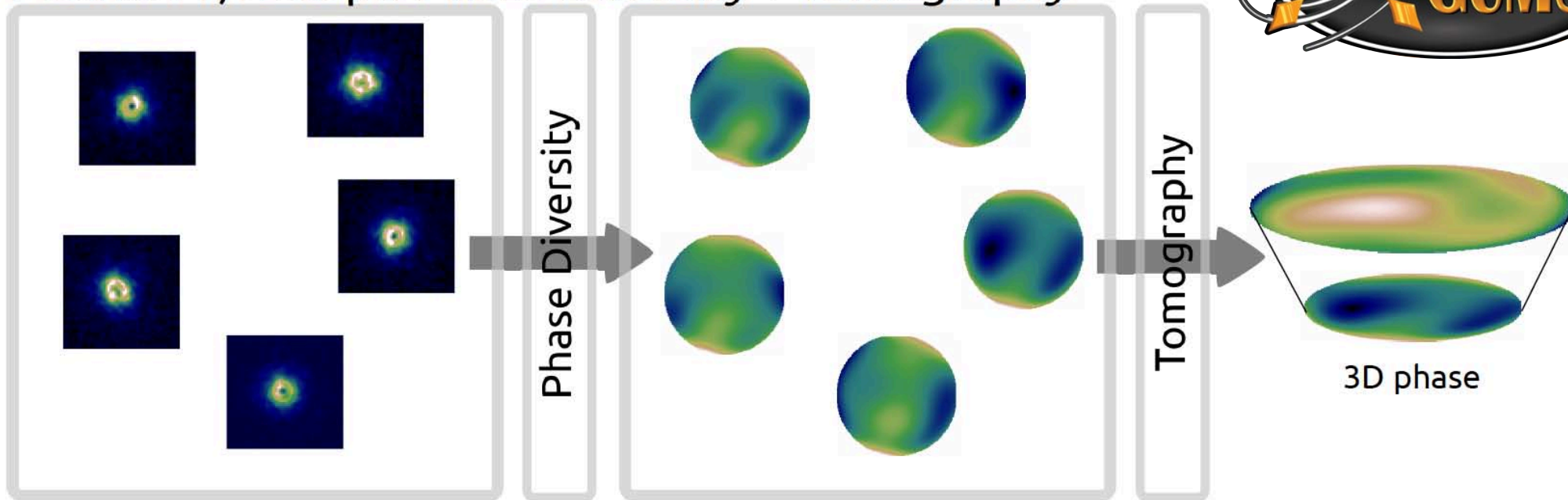


No NCPA == SR of 50 (± 10)% (H-band) in the field.

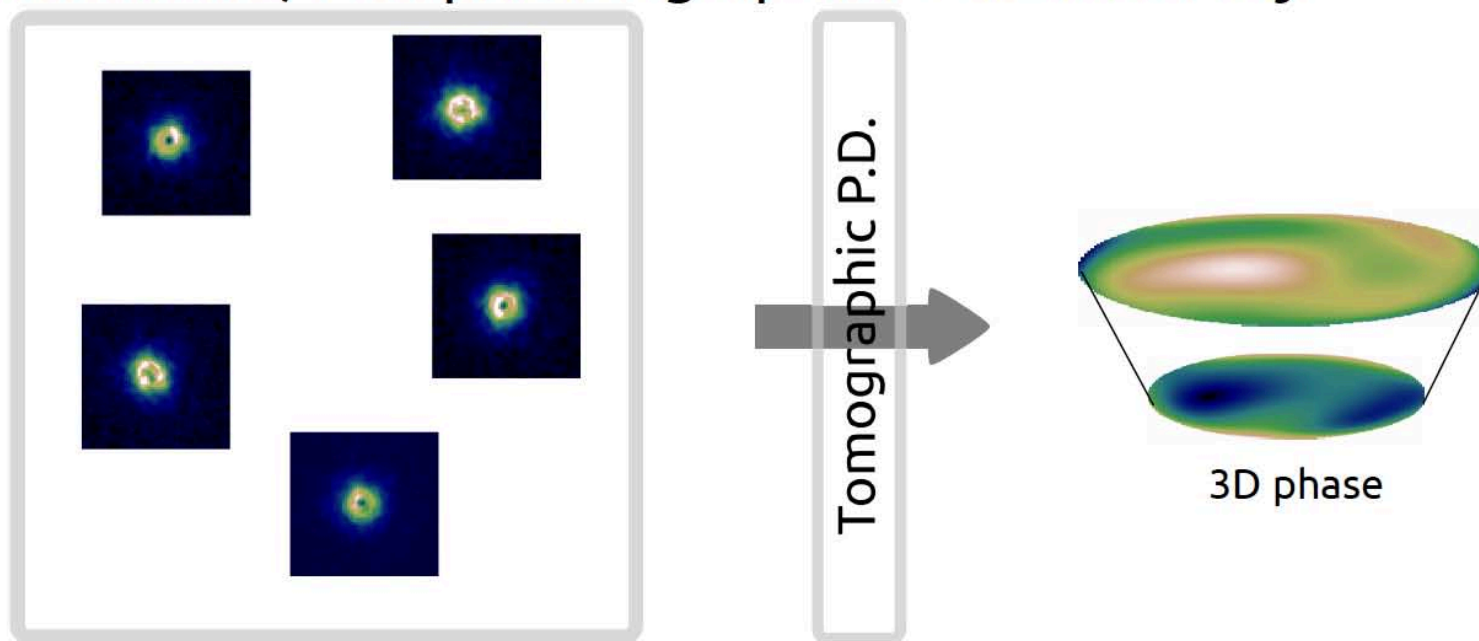




Method 1, 2 steps: Phase Diversity + Tomography



Method 2, 1 step: Tomographic Phase Diversity





No NCPA == SR of 50 (± 10)% (H-band) in the field.



Goal:
find slope offsets that
would provide the best
image quality in the
science path.

Science
Camera

=> Static differential aberrations
between WFS should be absorbed
by NCPA.



Origin of differential aberrations between WFSs ?

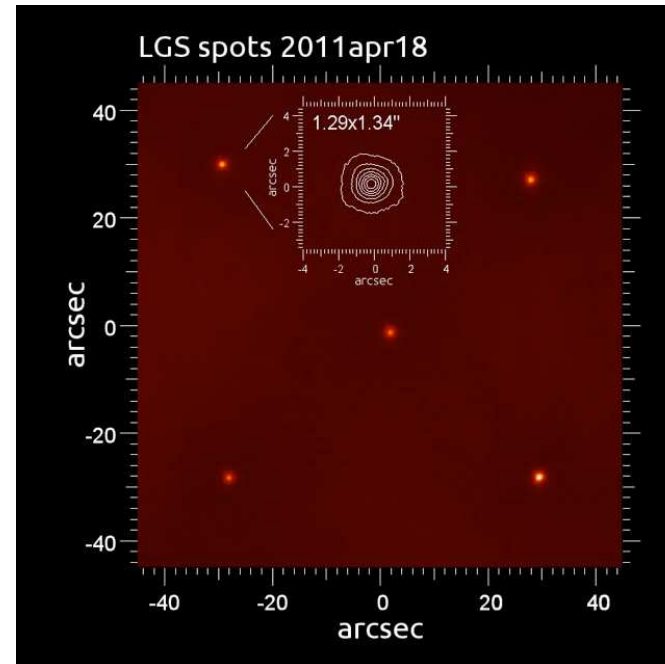
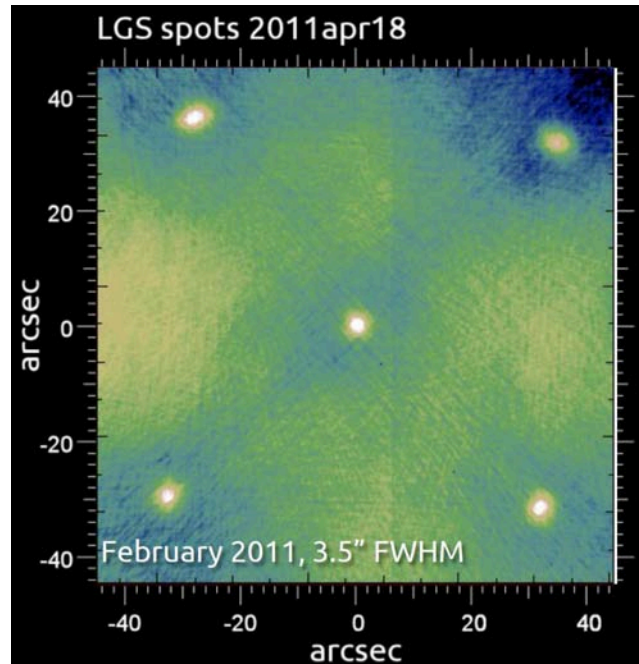
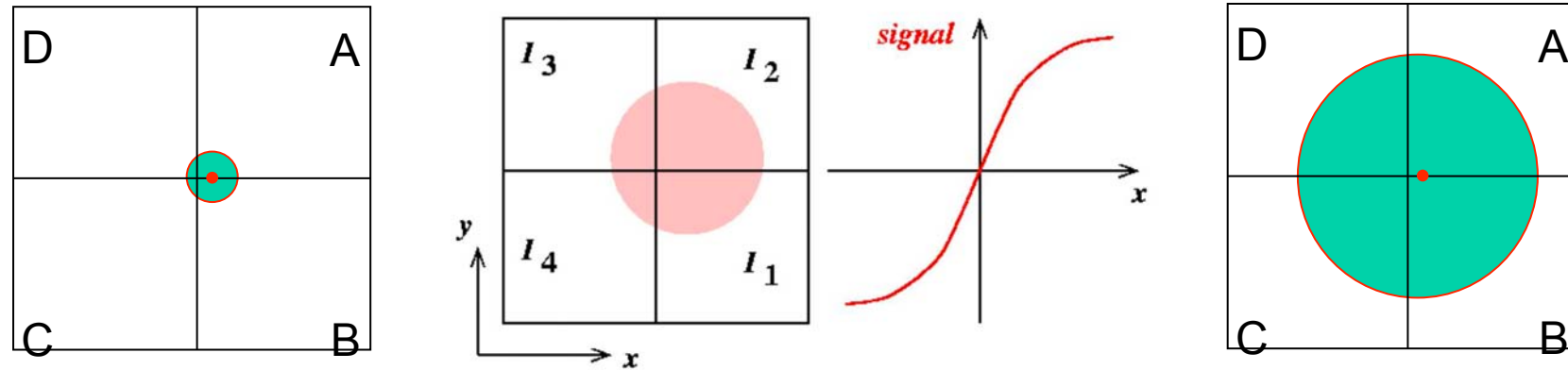
- ◆ Registration Look-Up Table
 - ◆ Static aberrations
- ◆ **Centroiding gains - Laser Spots**
 - ◆ Differential LGS focus
 - ◆ Non-linear effects



Quad-cells transfer function & centroid gain

Centroid gain depends on spot size.

Spot size changes with seeing / sodium layer characteristics

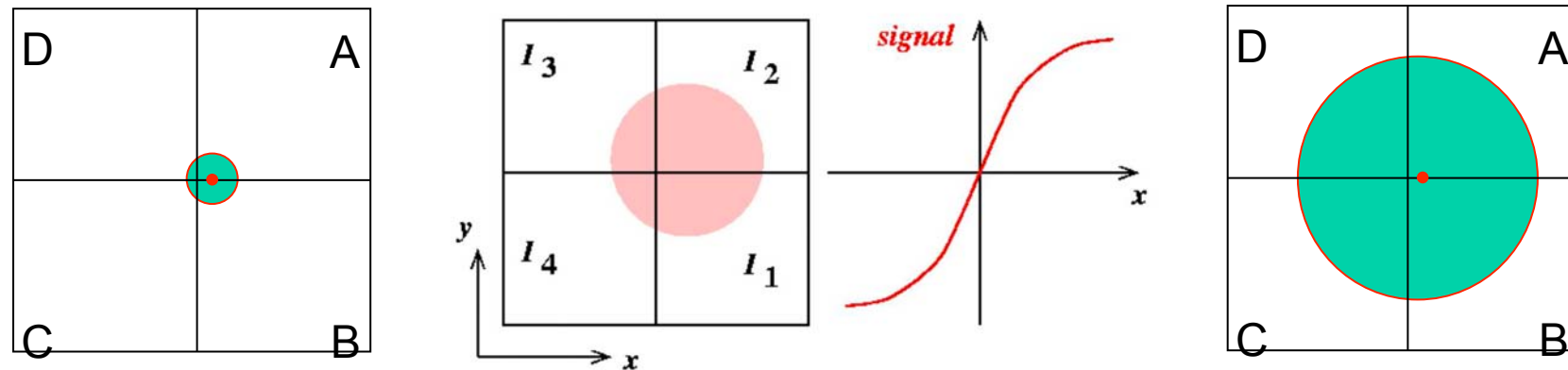




Quad-cells transfer function & centroid gain

Centroid gain depends on spot size.

Spot size changes with seeing / sodium layer characteristics



An error on the centroid gains can produce:

- ◆ Wrong loop gain in CL (minor effect) (What in OL ?)
- ◆ Wrong NCPA (major effect if NCPA are large)
- ◆ Differential aberrations between the WFSs and wrong tomography

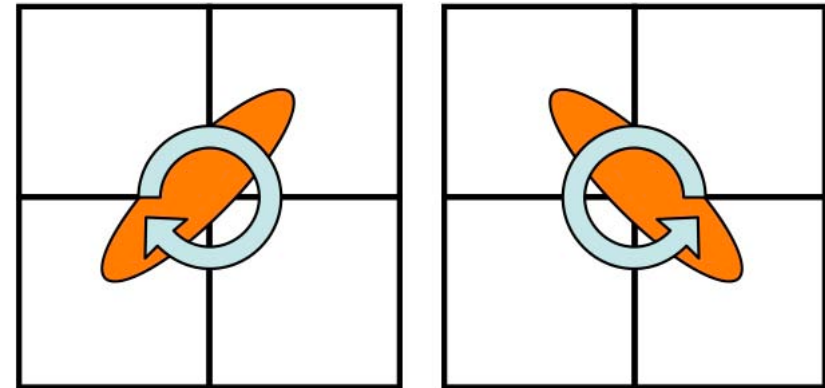
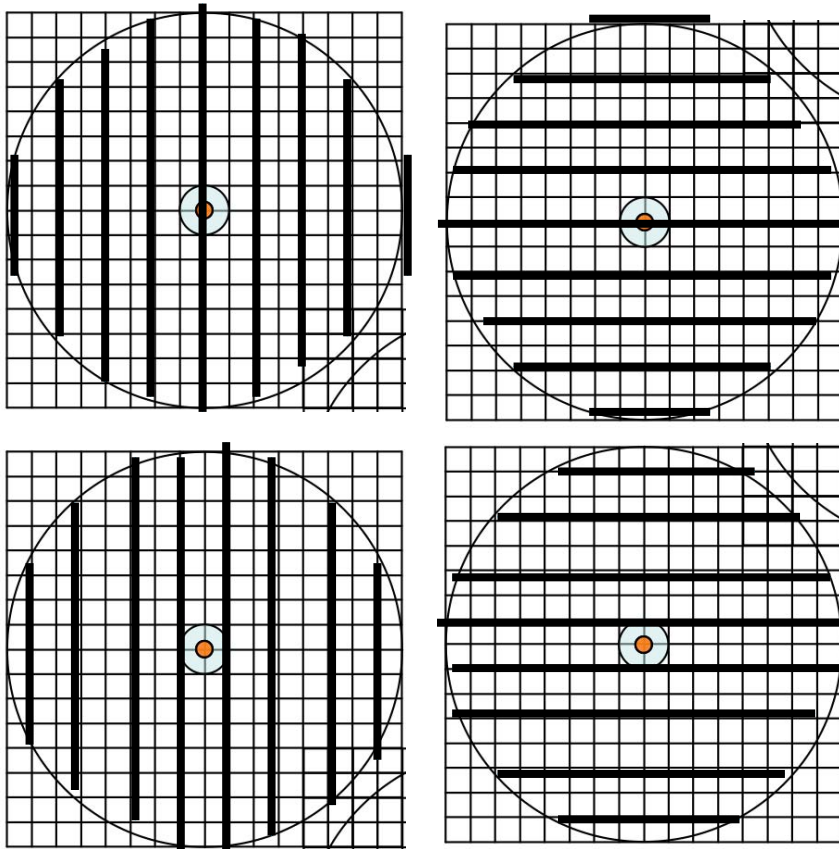
=> Centroid gains need to be calibrated on-line



Quad-cells transfer function & centroid gain

=> Centroid gains need to be calibrated on-line

Method: Apply a “sine wave” on the DM at a given frequency and do a lock-in detection.



- ◆ Insensitive to vibrations
- ◆ Not (really) seen by the WFSs, so not corrected
- ◆ Small amplitude required (20nm rms)
- ◆ Would create satellite spot on the images, but lost in noise.

Seems to be working, but no direct way to cross-check results

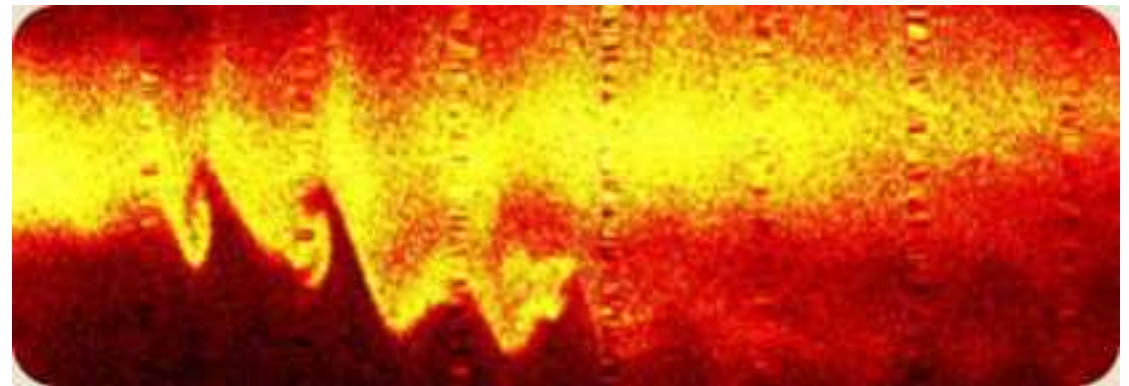
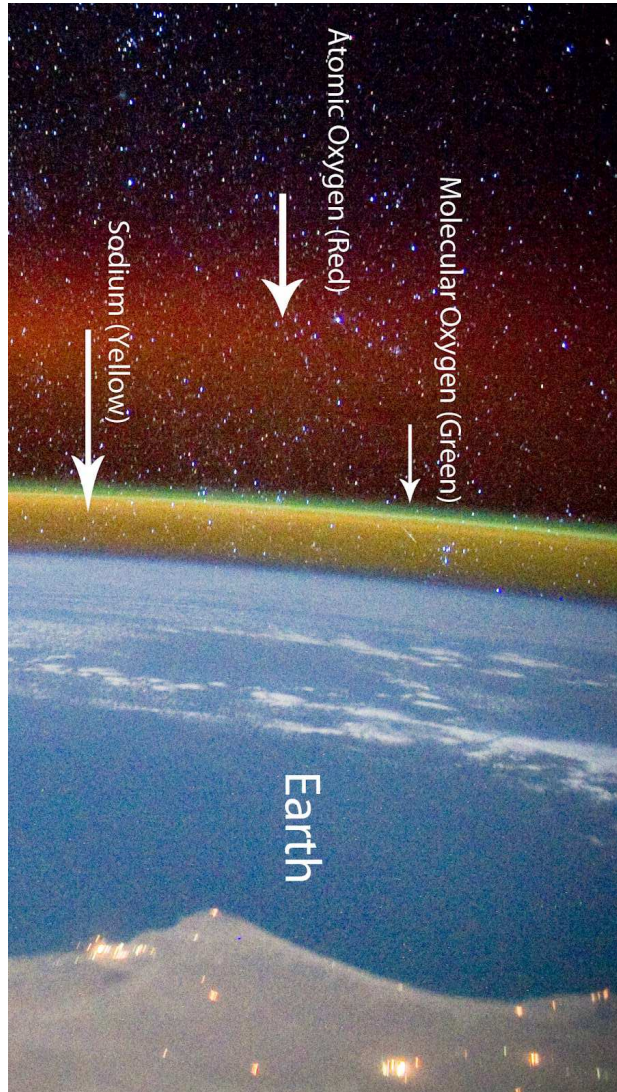


Origin of differential aberrations between WFSs ?

- ◆ Registration Look-Up Table
 - ◆ Static aberrations
- ◆ Centroiding gains - Laser Spots
 - ◆ **Differential LGS focus**
 - ◆ Non-linear effects

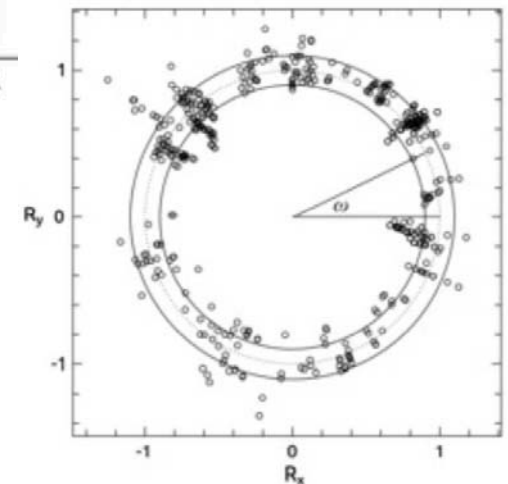
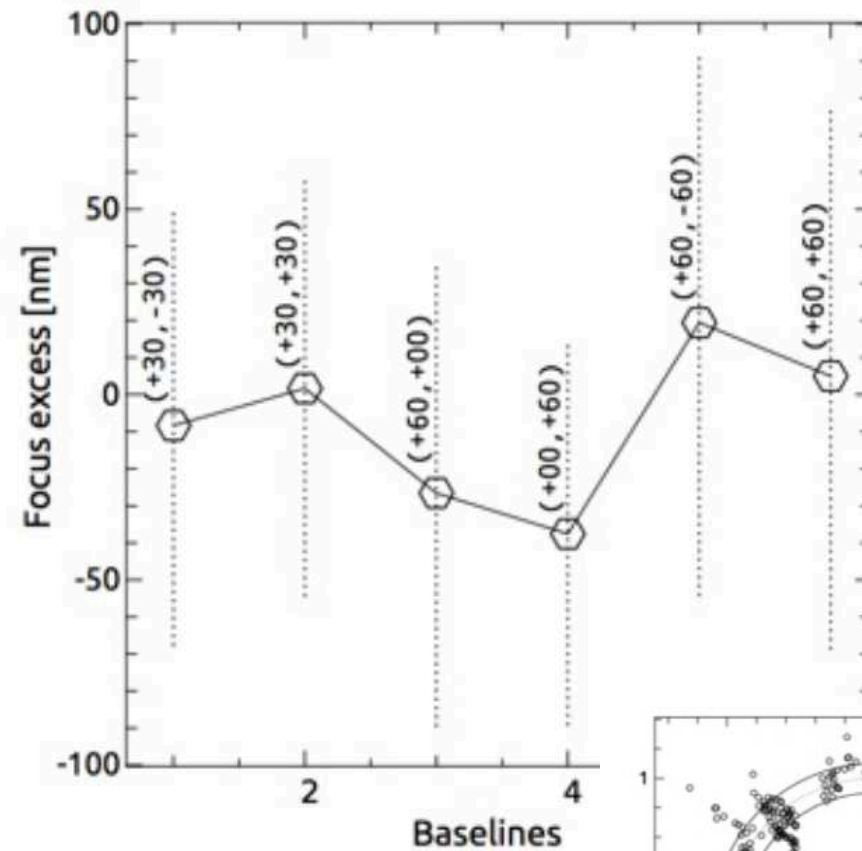
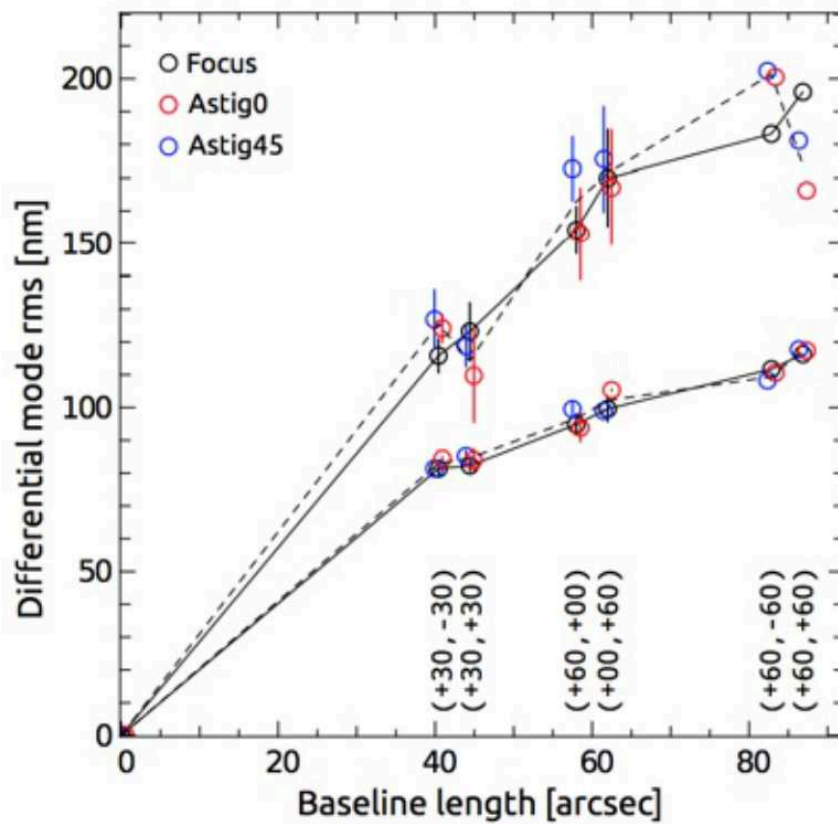


Differential focus introduced by Na-layer transversal variations





Differential focus introduced by Na-layer transversal variations



For 8m, differential focus does not seem to be an issue.
But large error bars.
Could be few hundreds of nm for 30-m telescopes

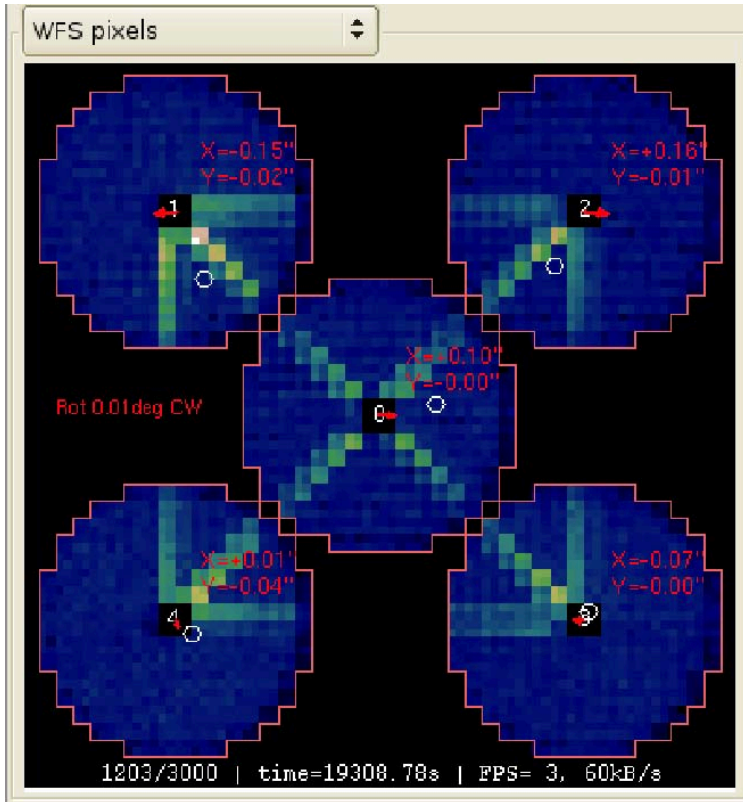


Origin of differential aberrations between WFSs ?

- ◆ Registration Look-Up Table
 - ◆ Static aberrations
- ◆ Centroiding gains - Laser Spots
 - ◆ Differential LGS focus
 - ◆ **Non-linear effects**

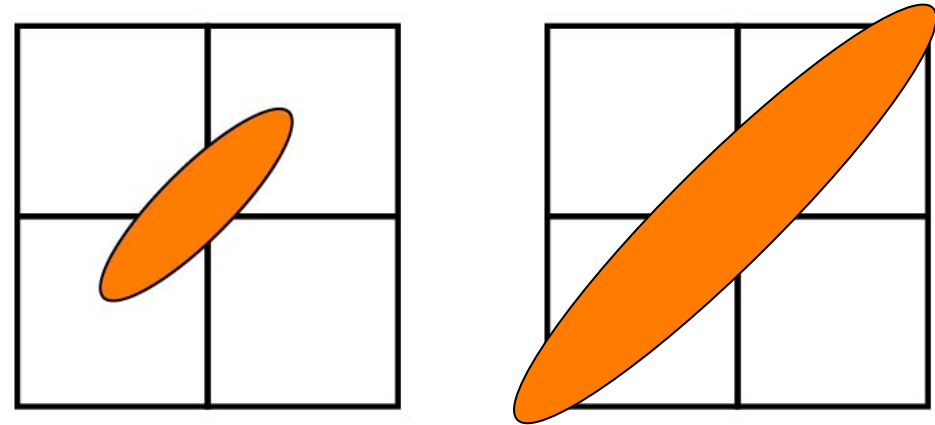


Non-linear effects



Lasers not properly centered

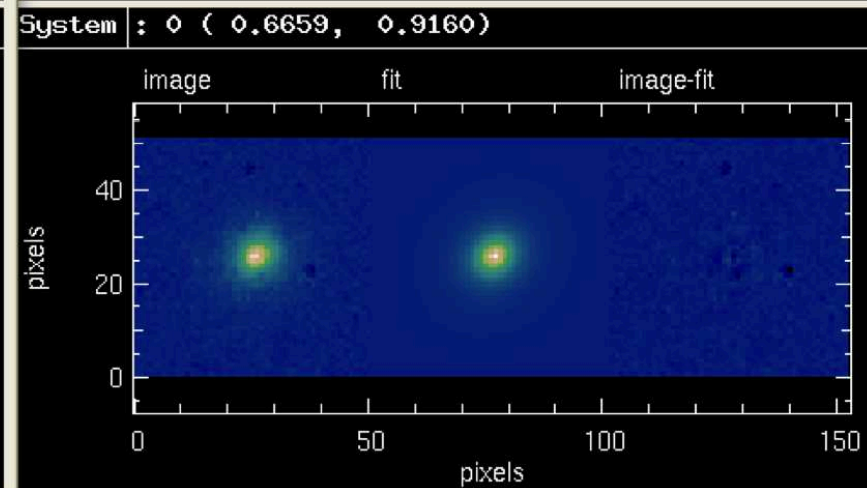
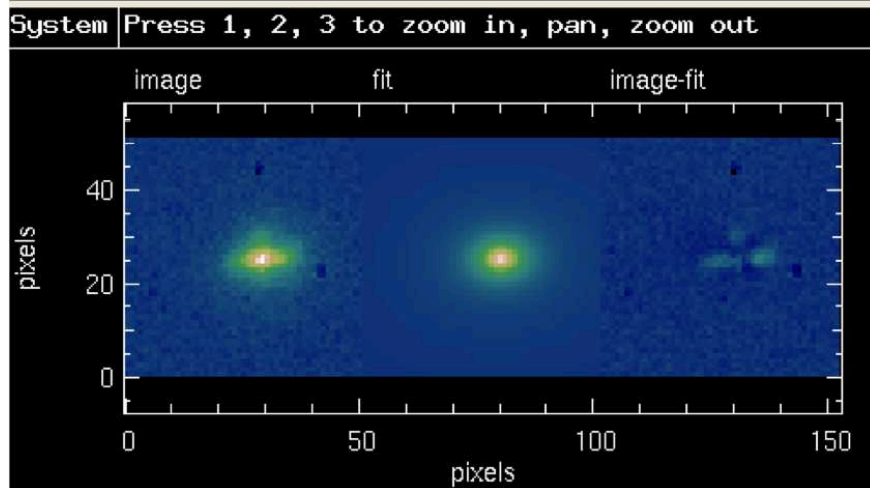
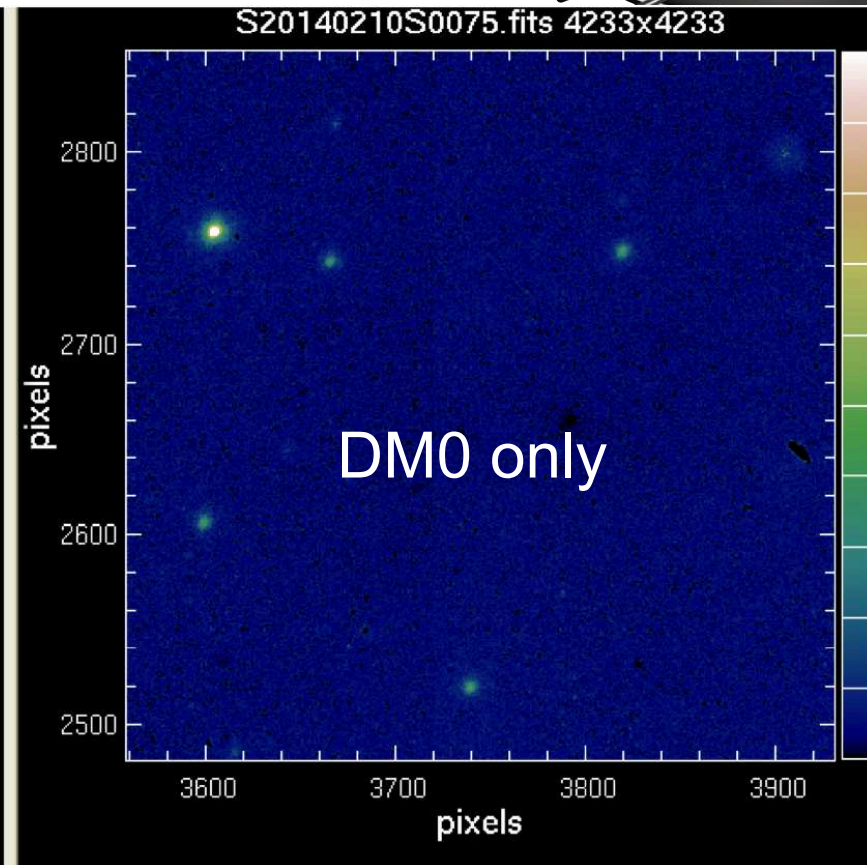
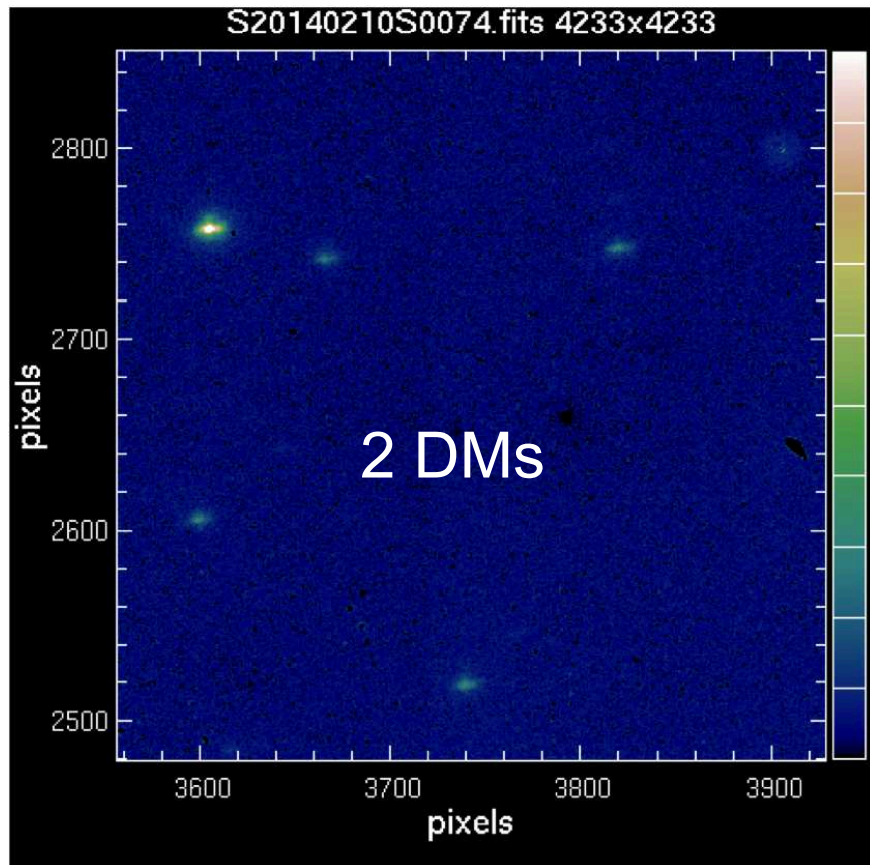
LGS spot Clipping ?



Field stop Vignetting ?



And telescope field aberrations !!



GeMS's Tomography Calibrations & Limitations

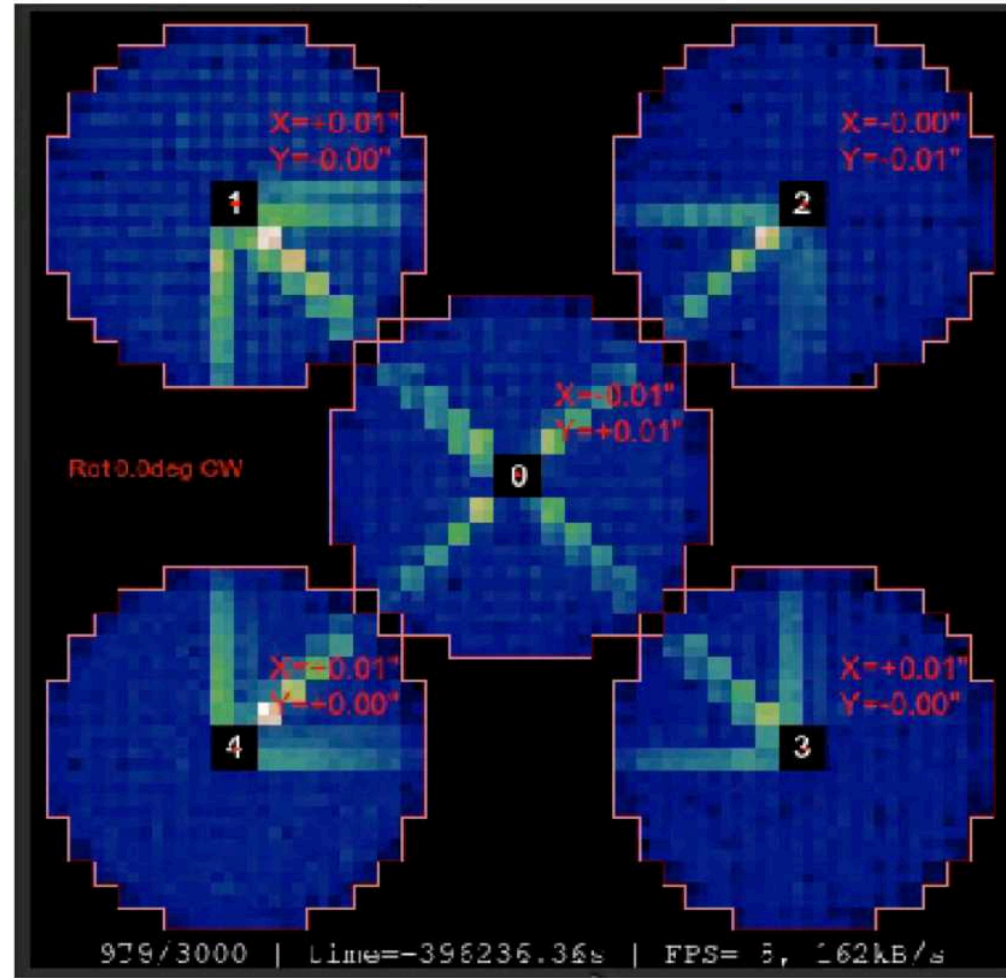
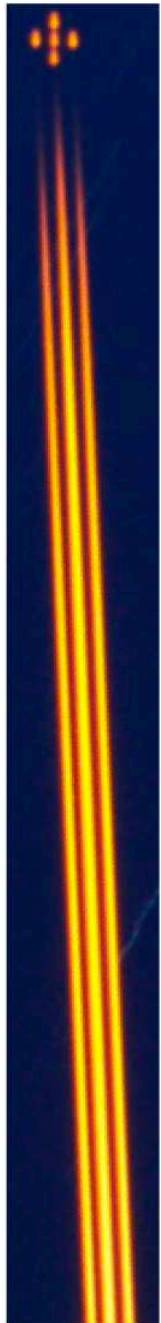
Tomography is easy, calibrations are difficult...

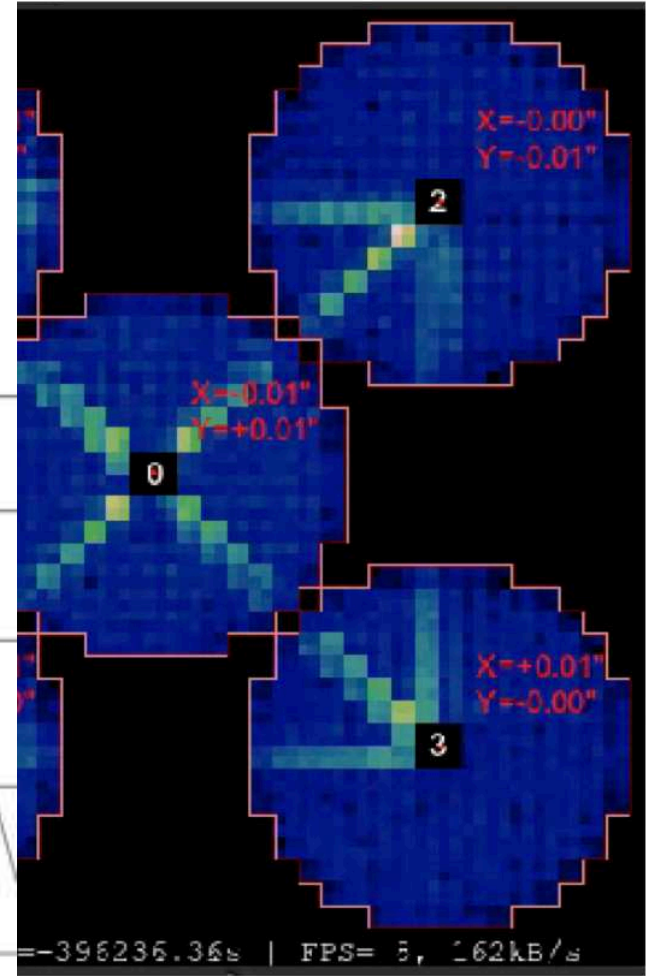
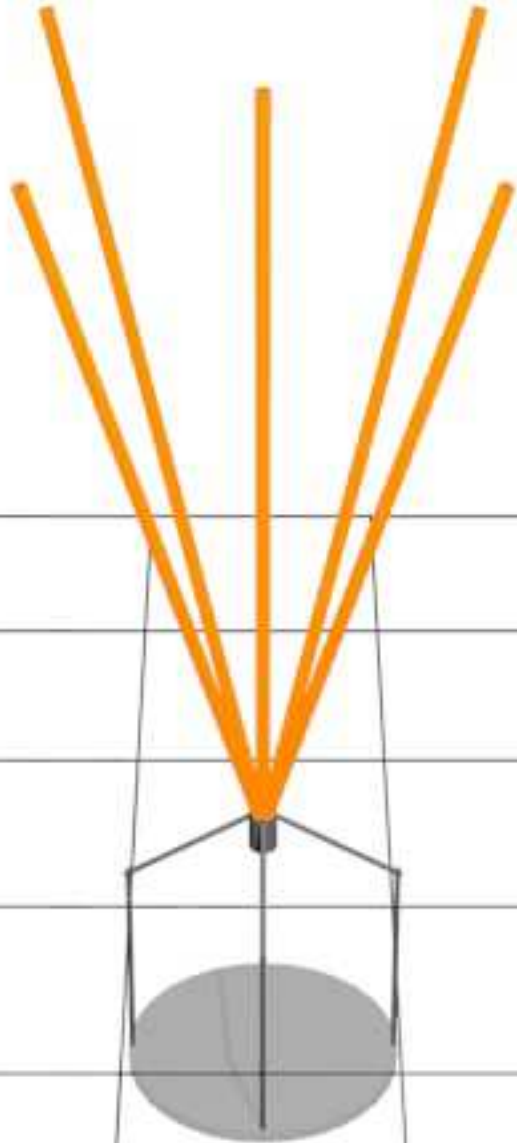
Differential aberrations between WFSs

Fratricide effect

Non-Kolmogorov turbulence

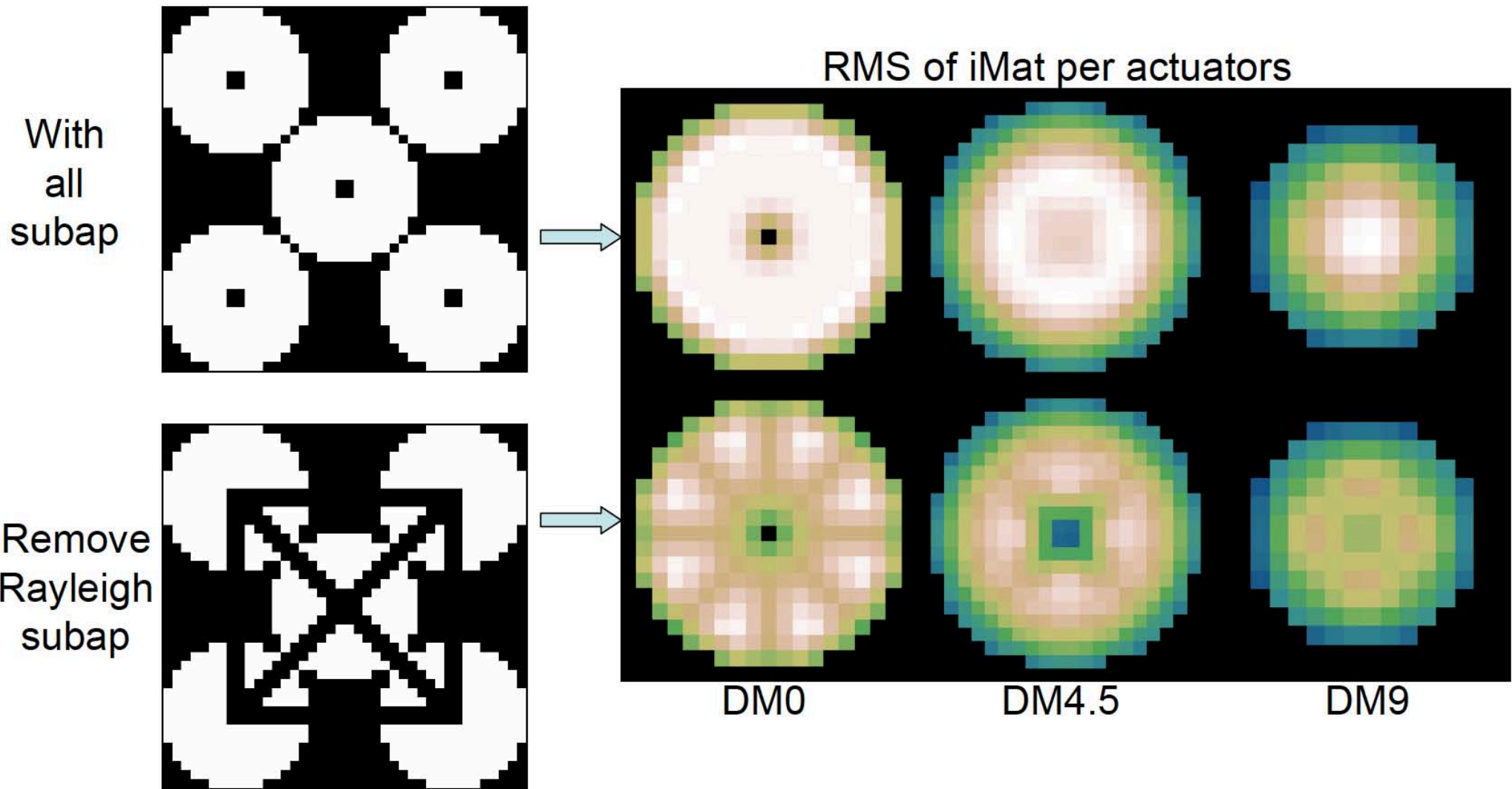
Quasi-static aberrations



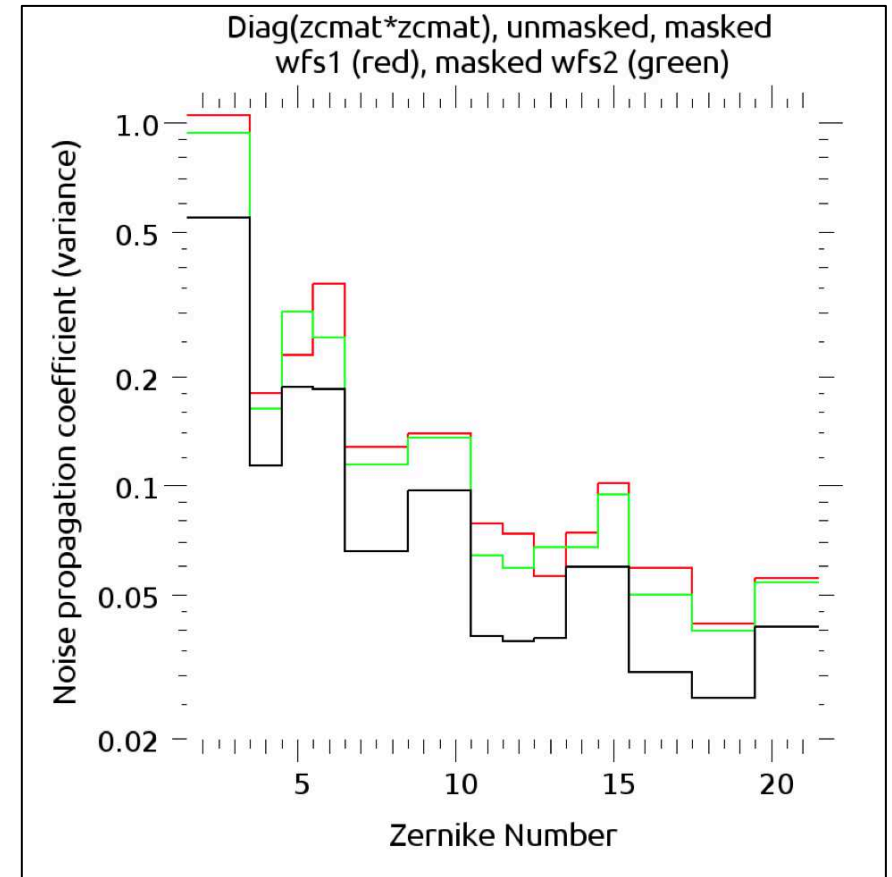
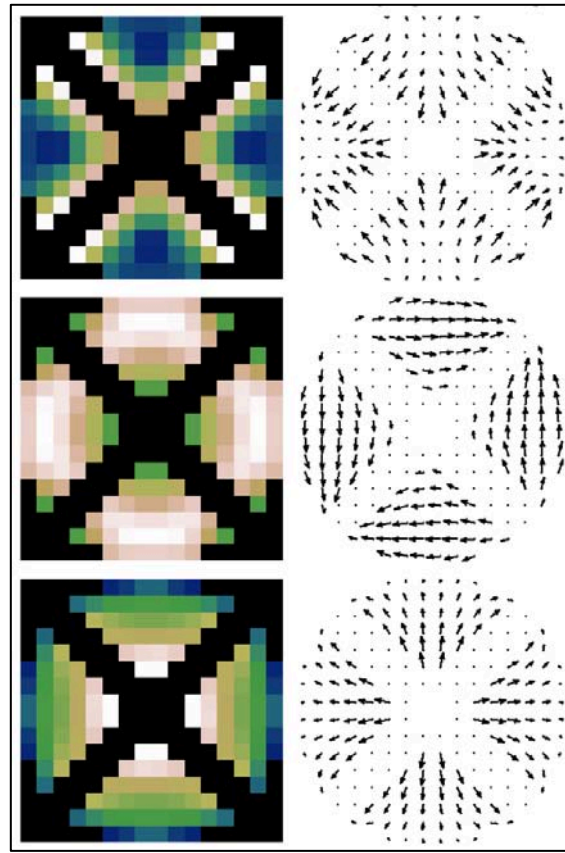
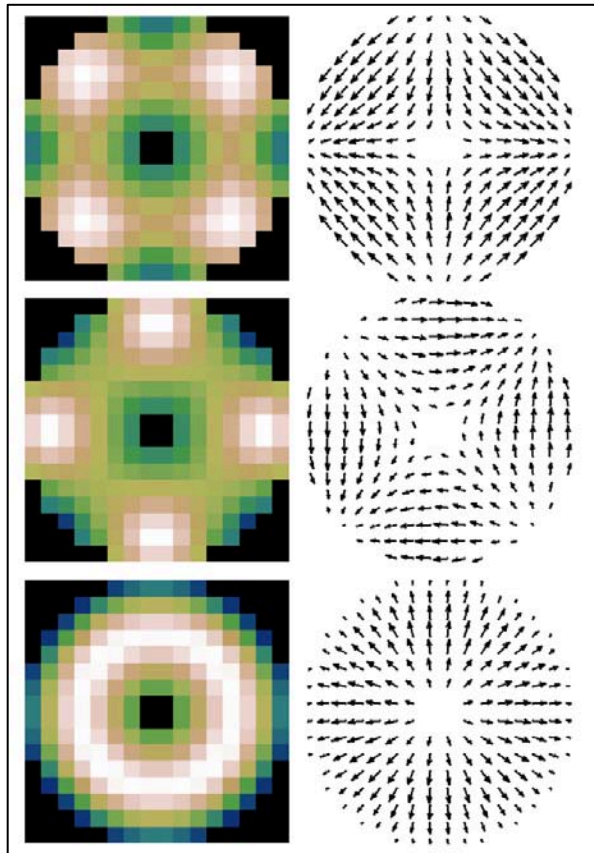


Fratricide in multi-laser AO
Idea: Benoit Neichel & Francois Rigaut
Realisation: Francois Rigaut

224 subapertures lost (~20% of the subapertures !)

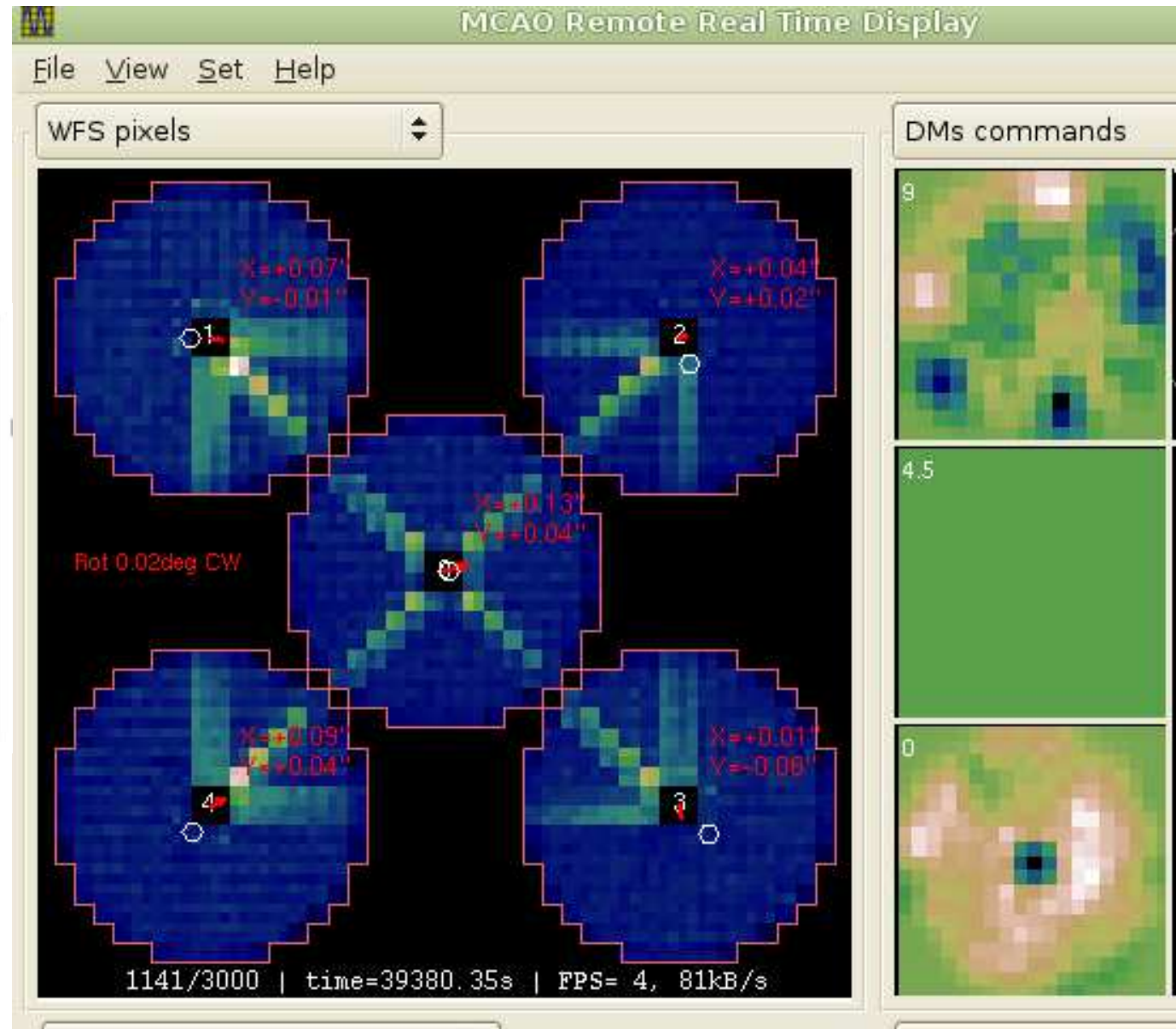


Fratricide Effect





Impact of "Fratricide Leaks"



GeMS's Tomography Calibrations & Limitations

Tomography is easy, calibrations are difficult...

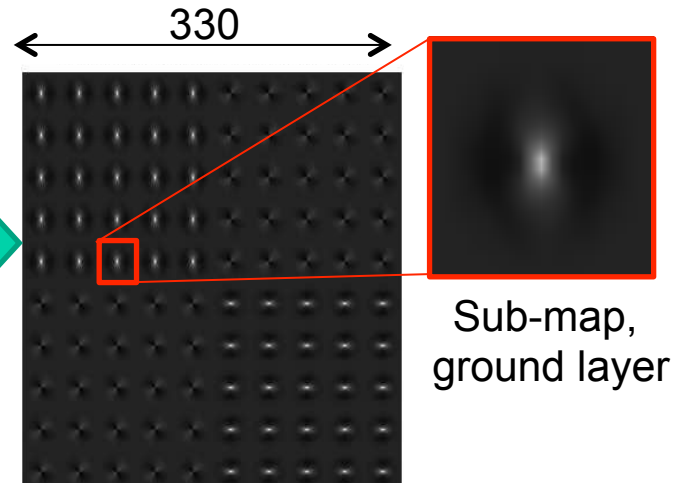
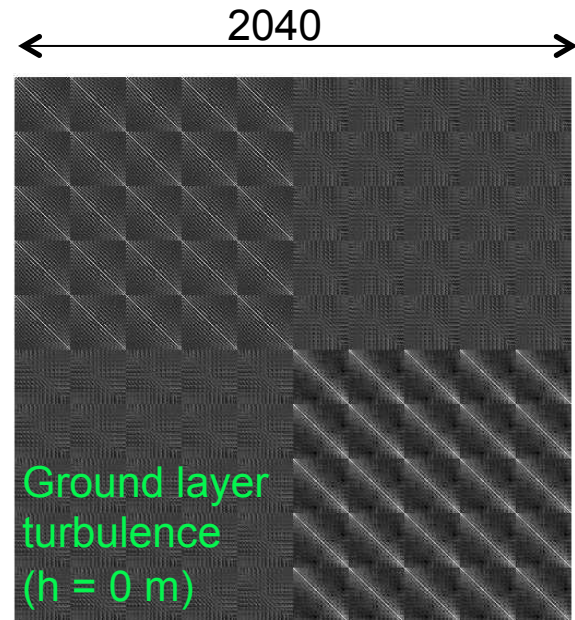
Differential aberrations between WFSs

Fratricide effect

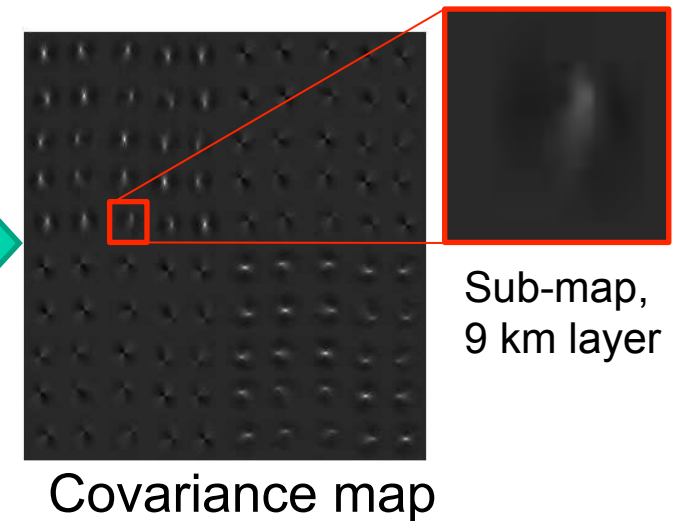
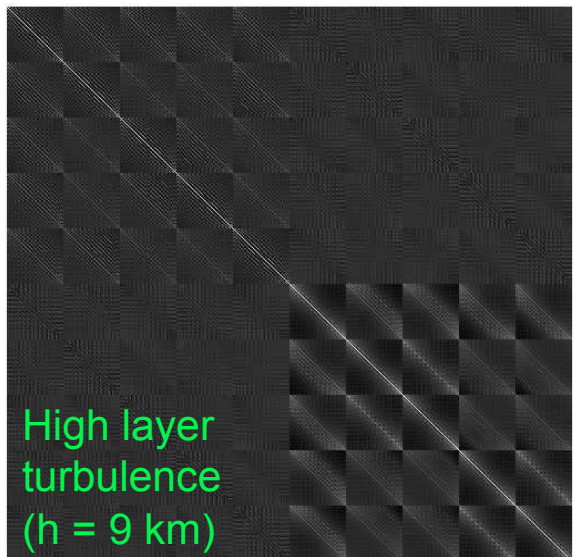
Non-Kolmogorov turbulence

Quasi-static aberrations

GeMS' SLODAR



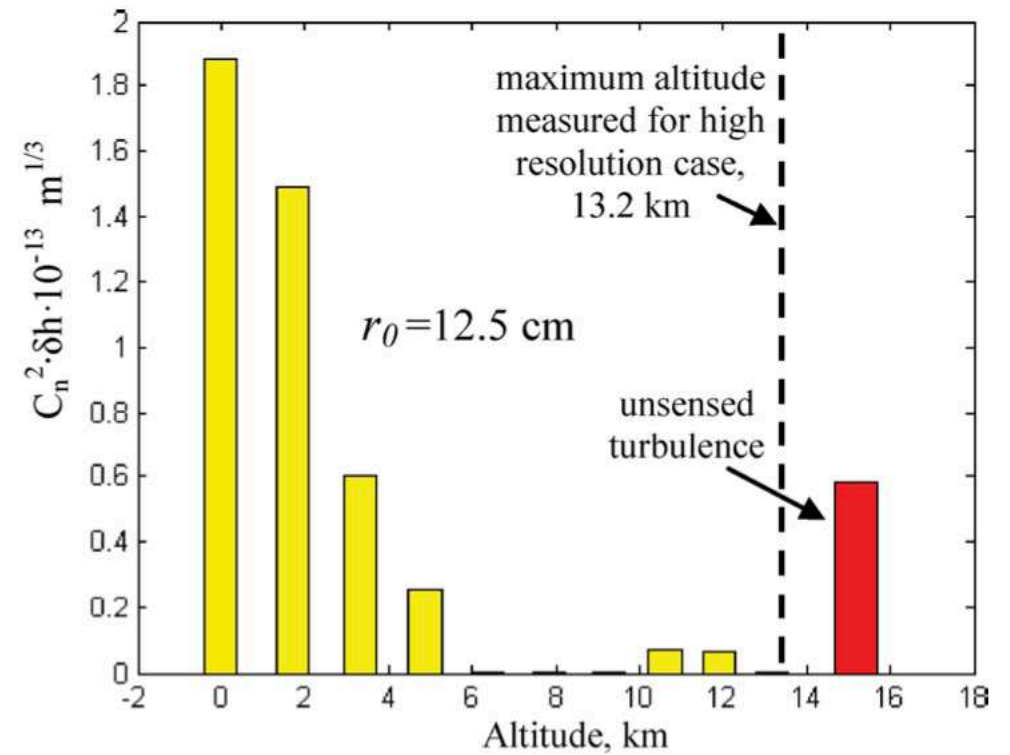
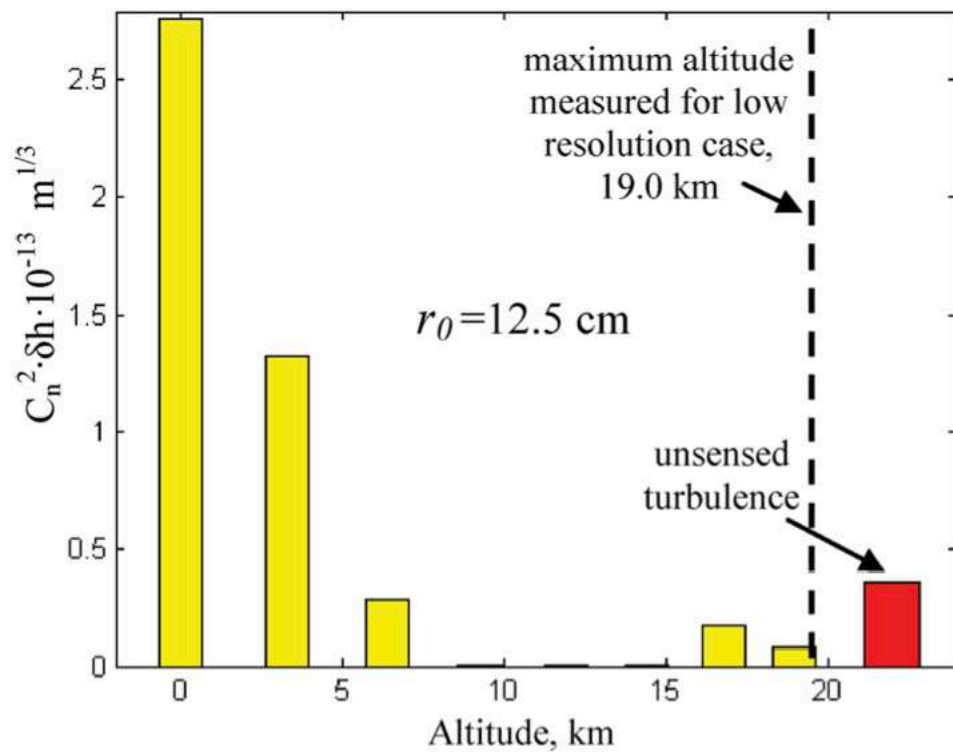
Theoretical covariance maps are built from realistic simulations (yorick/yao model of GeMS)



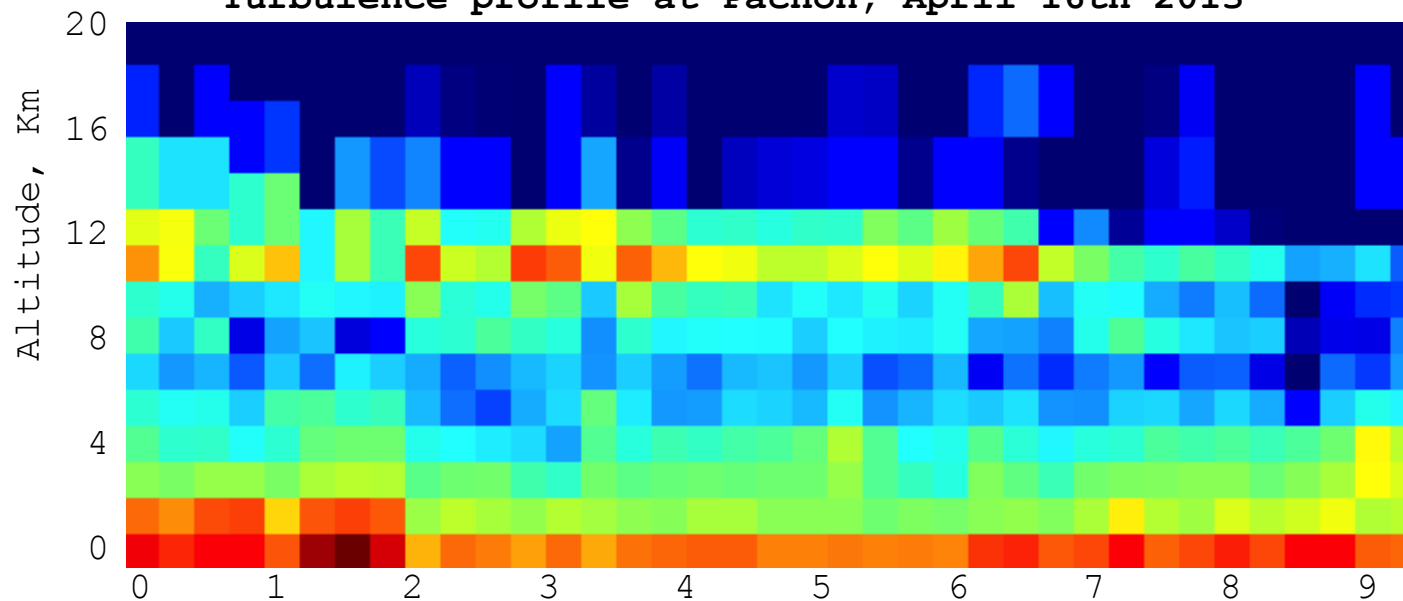
Profile is retrieved by fitting the data with the theoretical maps

GeMS' SLODAR

Some examples of on-sky data:



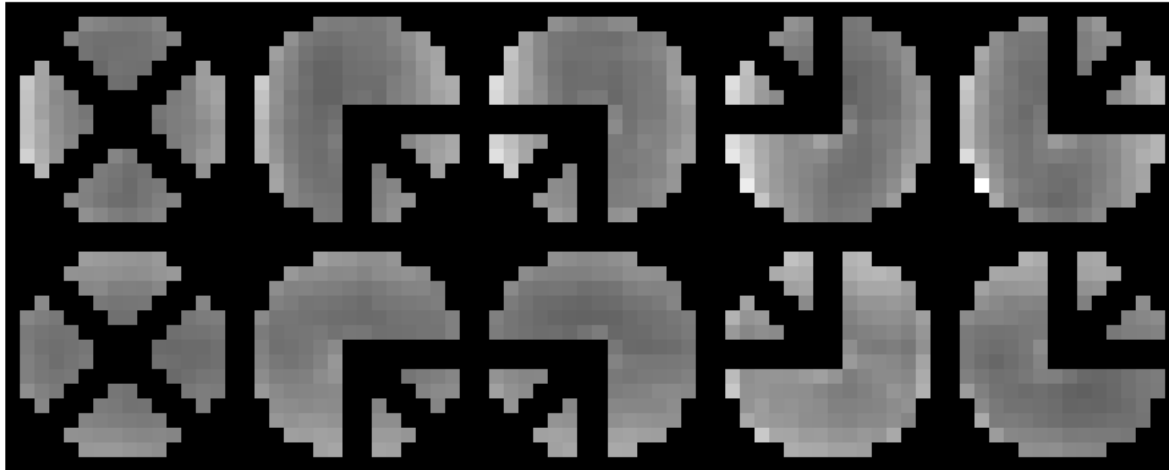
Turbulence profile at Pachón, April 16th 2013



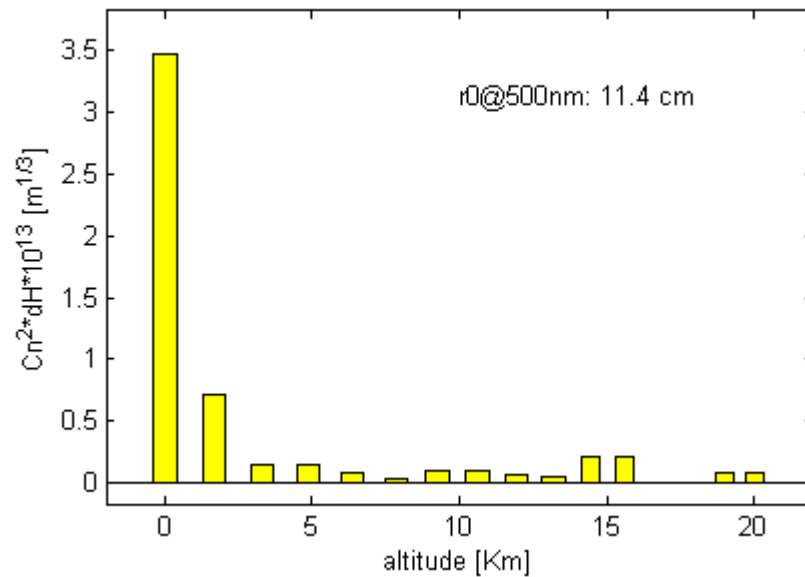
Limitations of the method: presence of strong dome seeing

Limitations of the method: presence of strong dome seeing

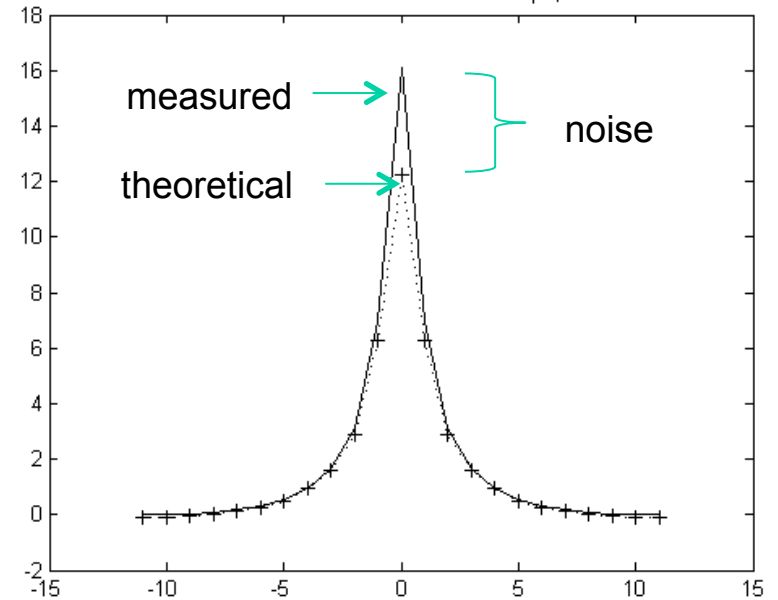
Variance of valid subapertures, X (top); Y (bottom)



Slodar Profiler

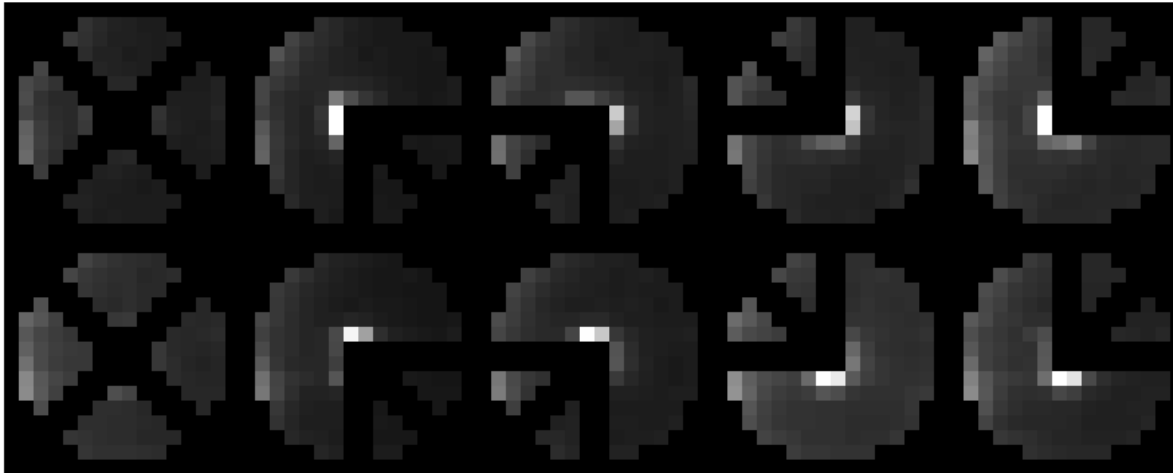


Central slice of Theo. & Meas. Cov Submaps, X direction

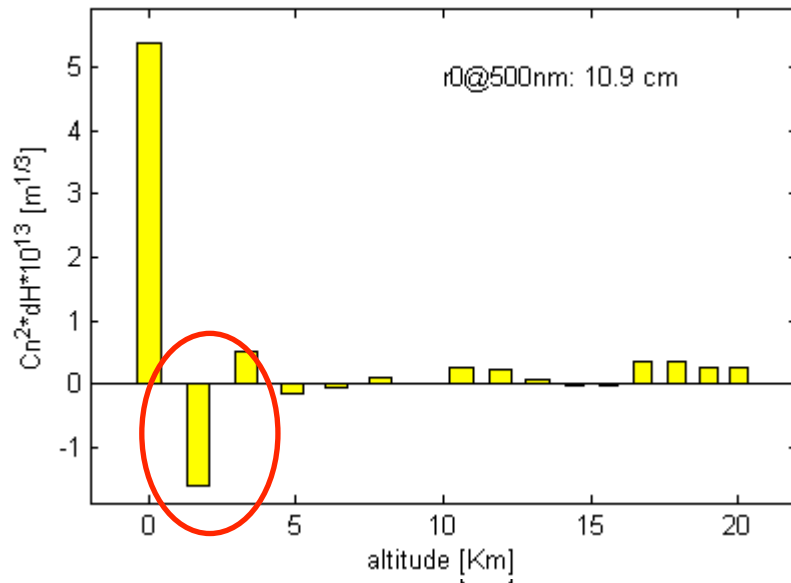


Limitations of the method: presence of strong dome seeing

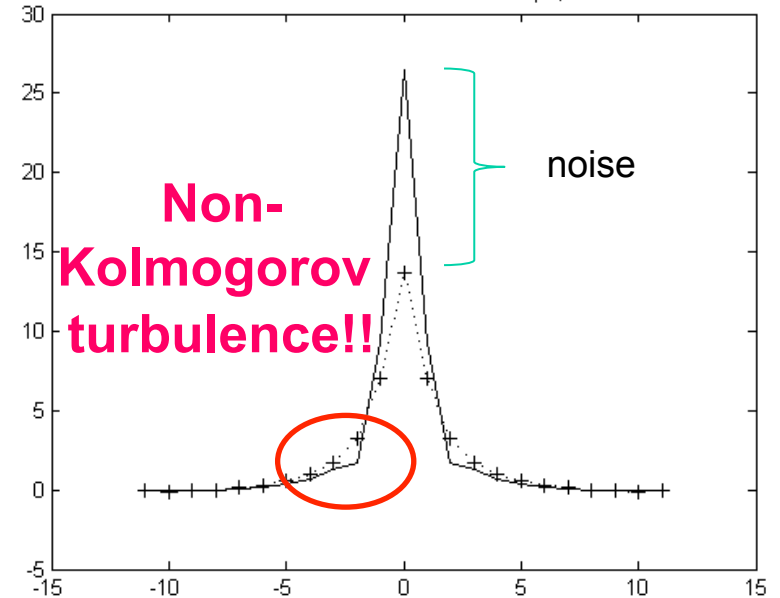
Variance of valid subapertures, X (top); Y (bottom)



Slodar Profiler



Central slice of Theo. & Meas. Cov Submaps, X direction



Non-Kolmogorov (or non stationary) turbulence does exist !

What is the impact on tomographic performance ?

However:

- ◆ Wind speed and direction can be predicted and measured.
- ◆ Frozen Flow assumption holds for long enough for predictive reconstructors.

[Guesalaga et al. – MNRAS – 2014]

GeMS's Tomography Calibrations & Limitations

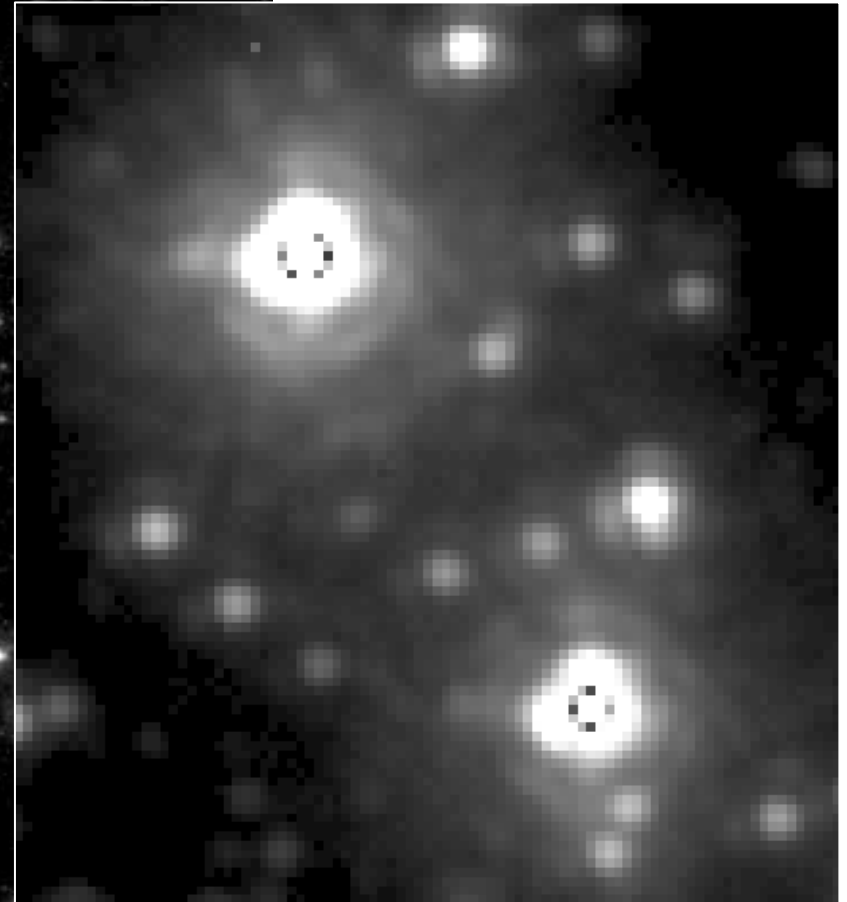
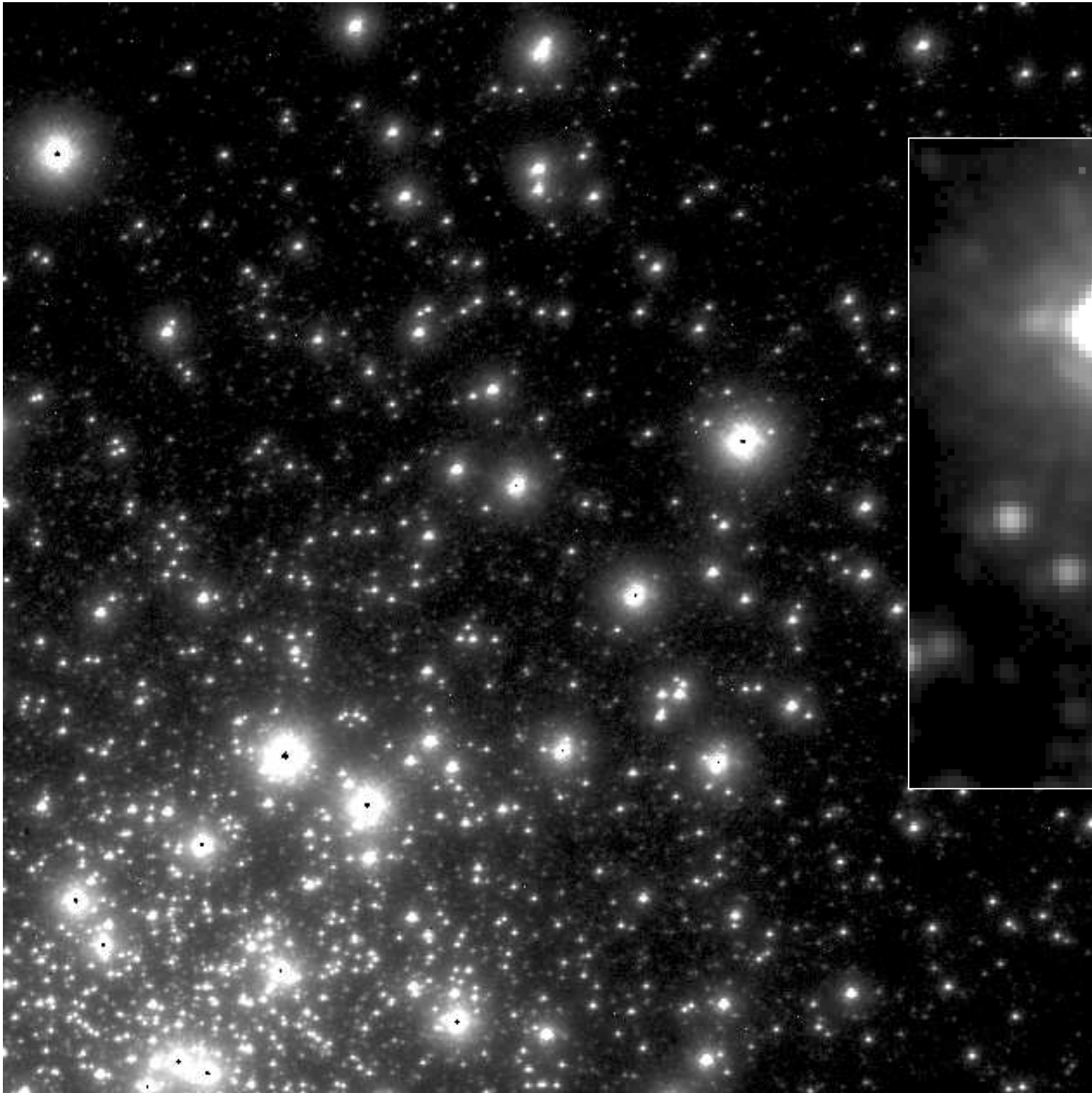
Tomography is easy, calibrations are difficult...

Differential aberrations between WFSs

Fratricide effect

Non-Kolmogorov turbulence

Quasi-static aberrations



Cf. CANARY

Science with MCAO

WFAO is opening new opportunities for a large range of science cases

3 Fields:

OMC1 – North

OMC1 – Center

OMC1 – South-East

Filters:

Mol. Hydrogen (H2) - 2.122 μm (orange)

[Fe II] - 1.644 μm (blue)

Ks continuum - 2.093 μm (white)

Exposure Time per field:

H2 = 12min

[Fe II] = 10min

Ks continuum = 10min

<FWHM> :

H2 = 90mas

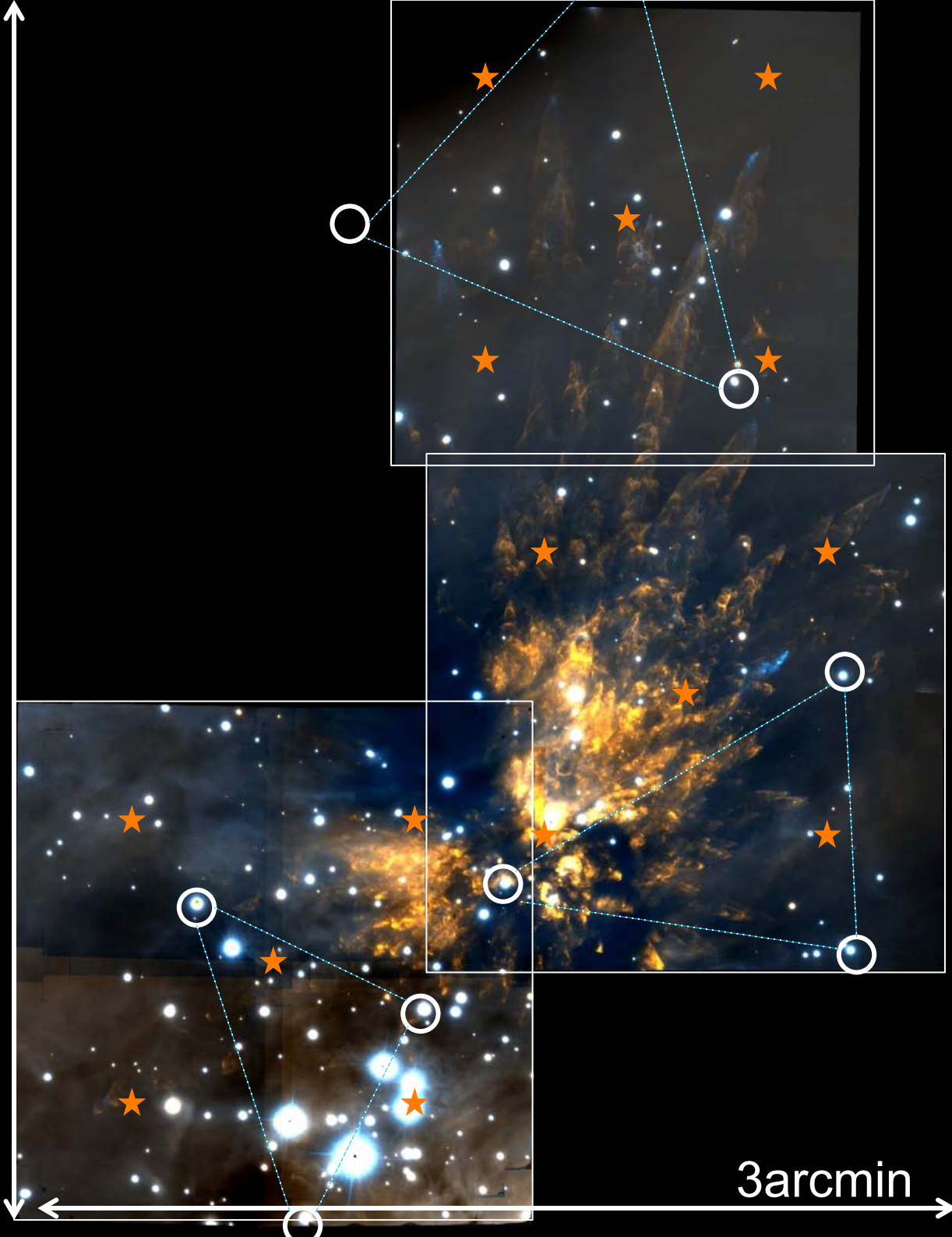
[Fe II] = 100mas

Ks continuum = 90mas

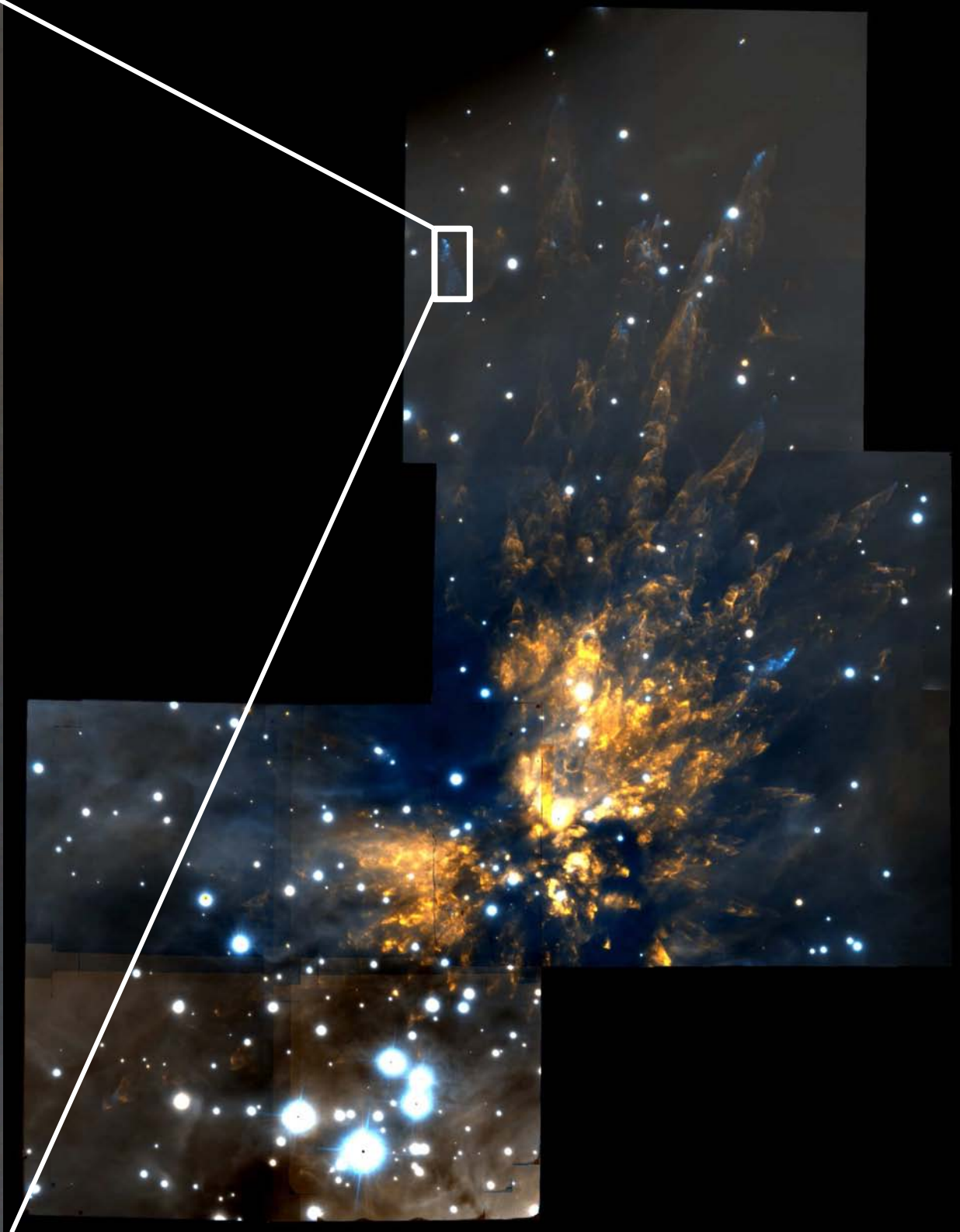
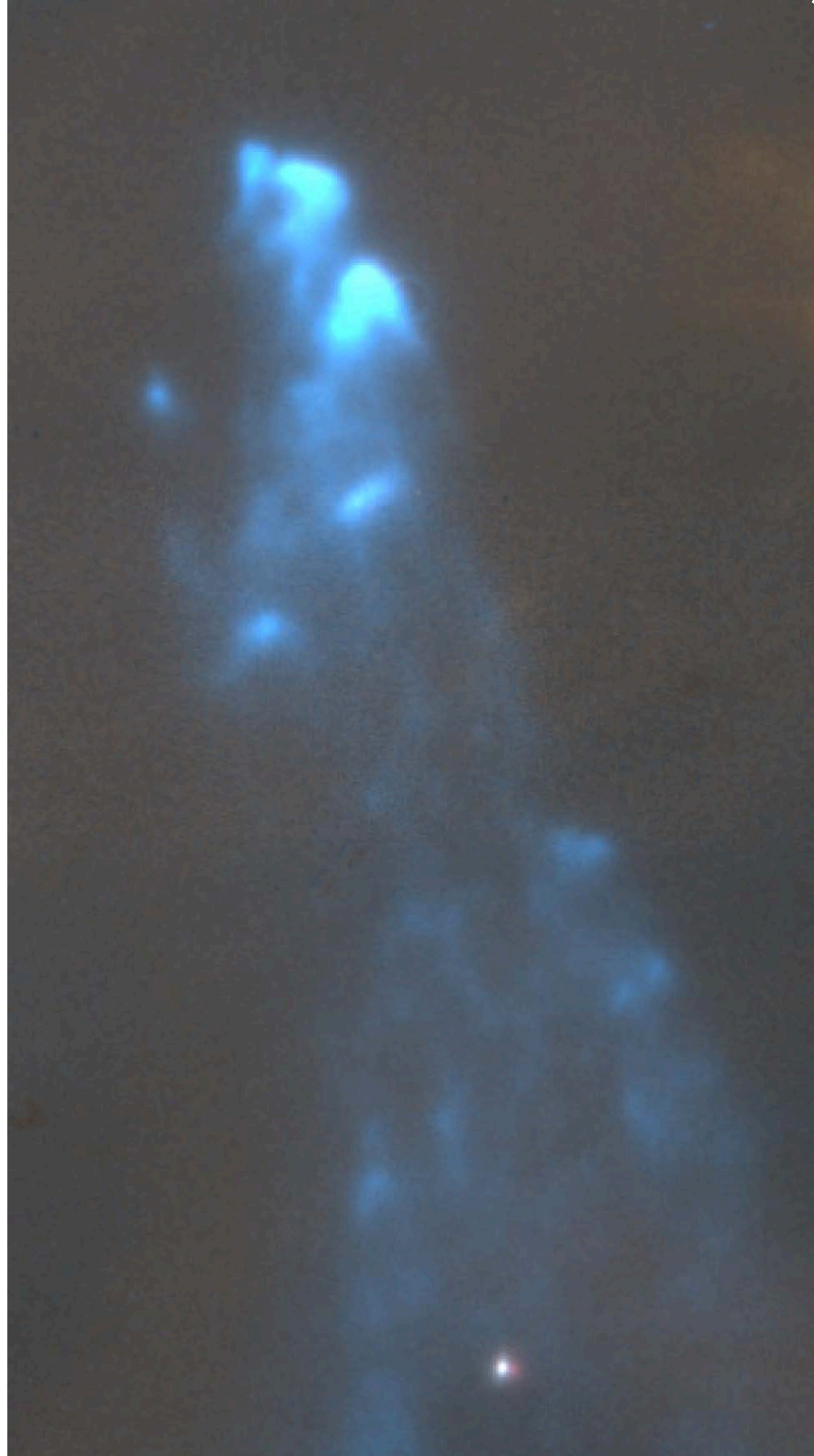
Natural seeing:

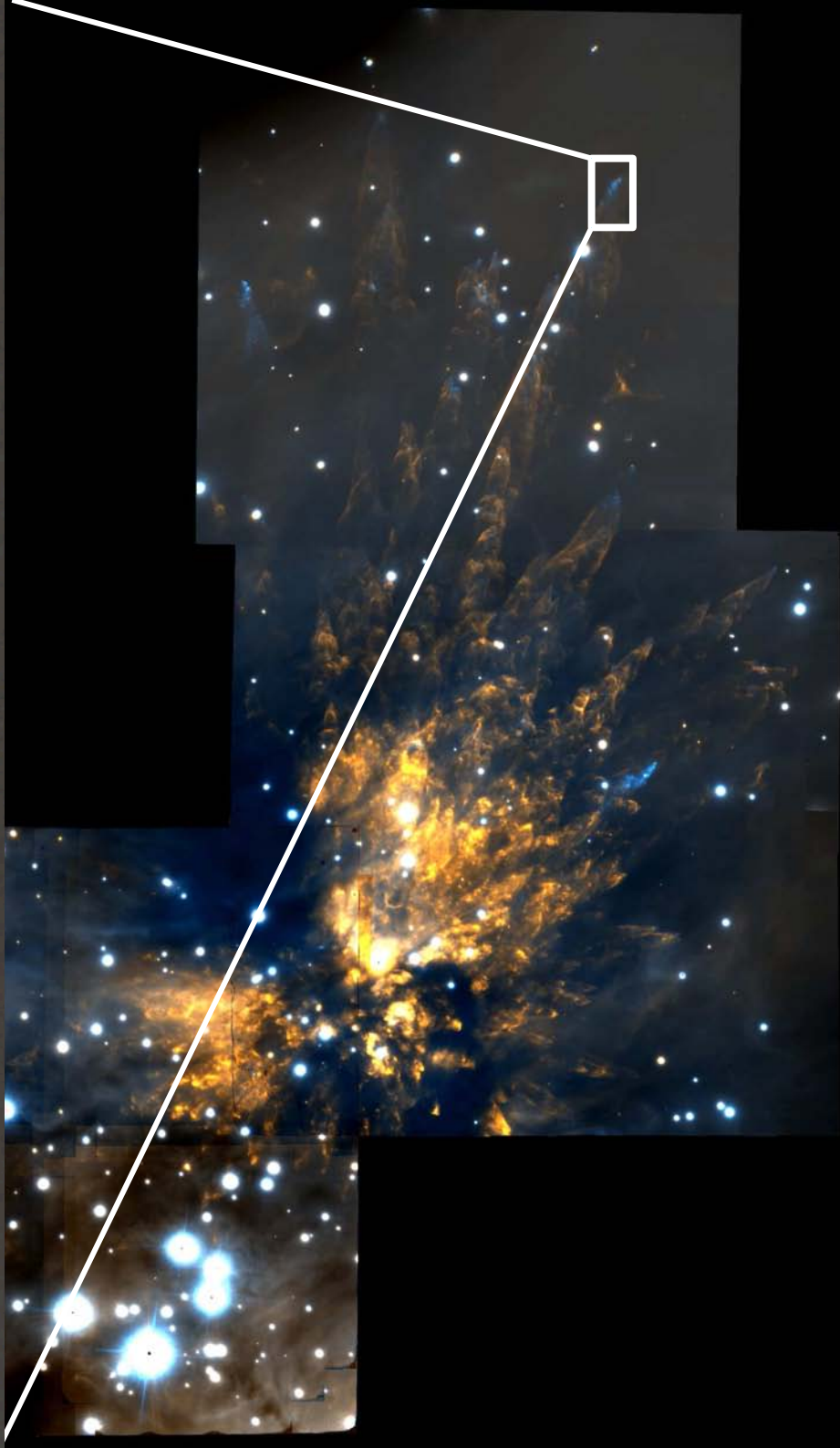
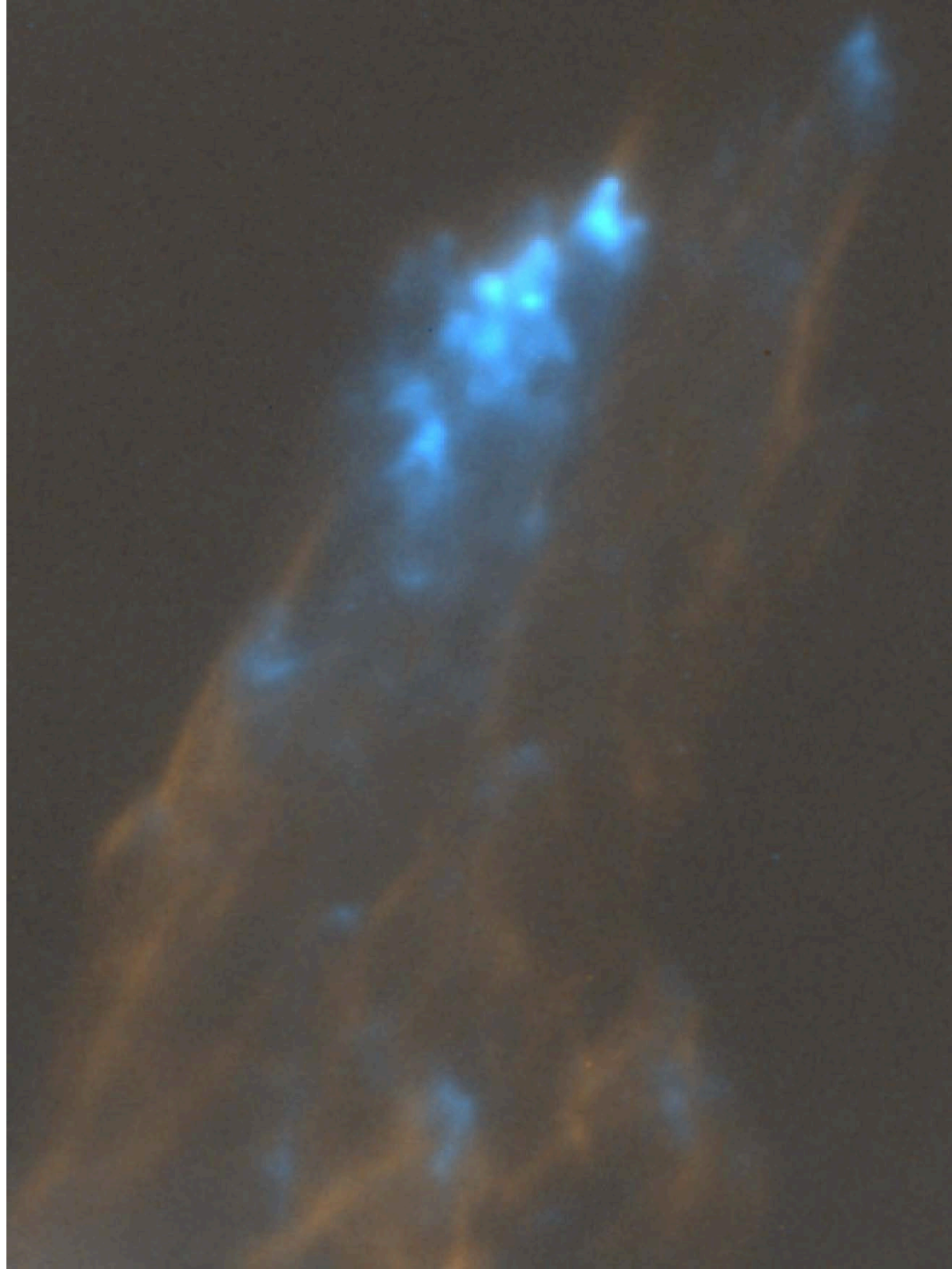
0.6" to 1.1" @ 550nm

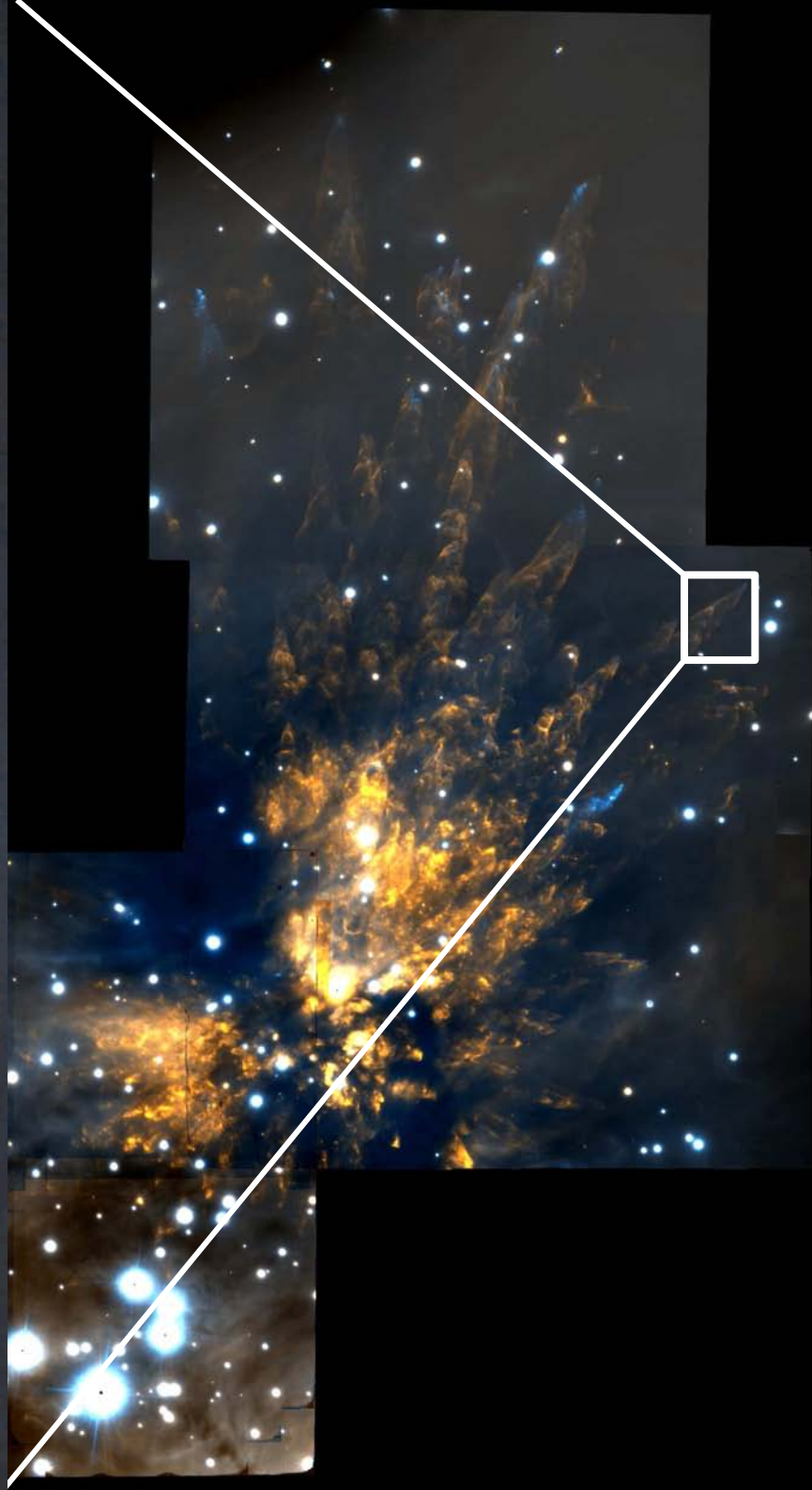
3.9arcmin

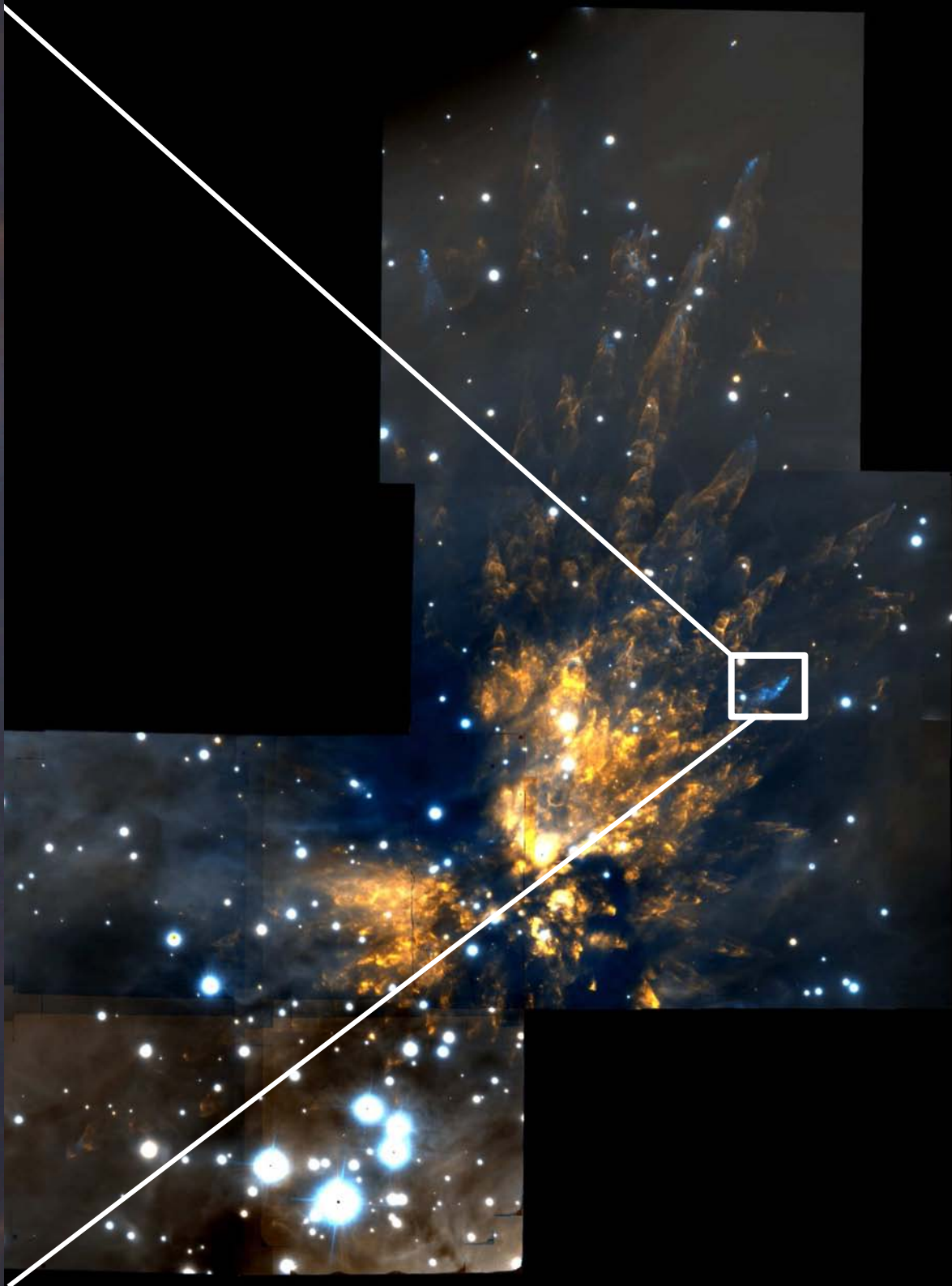


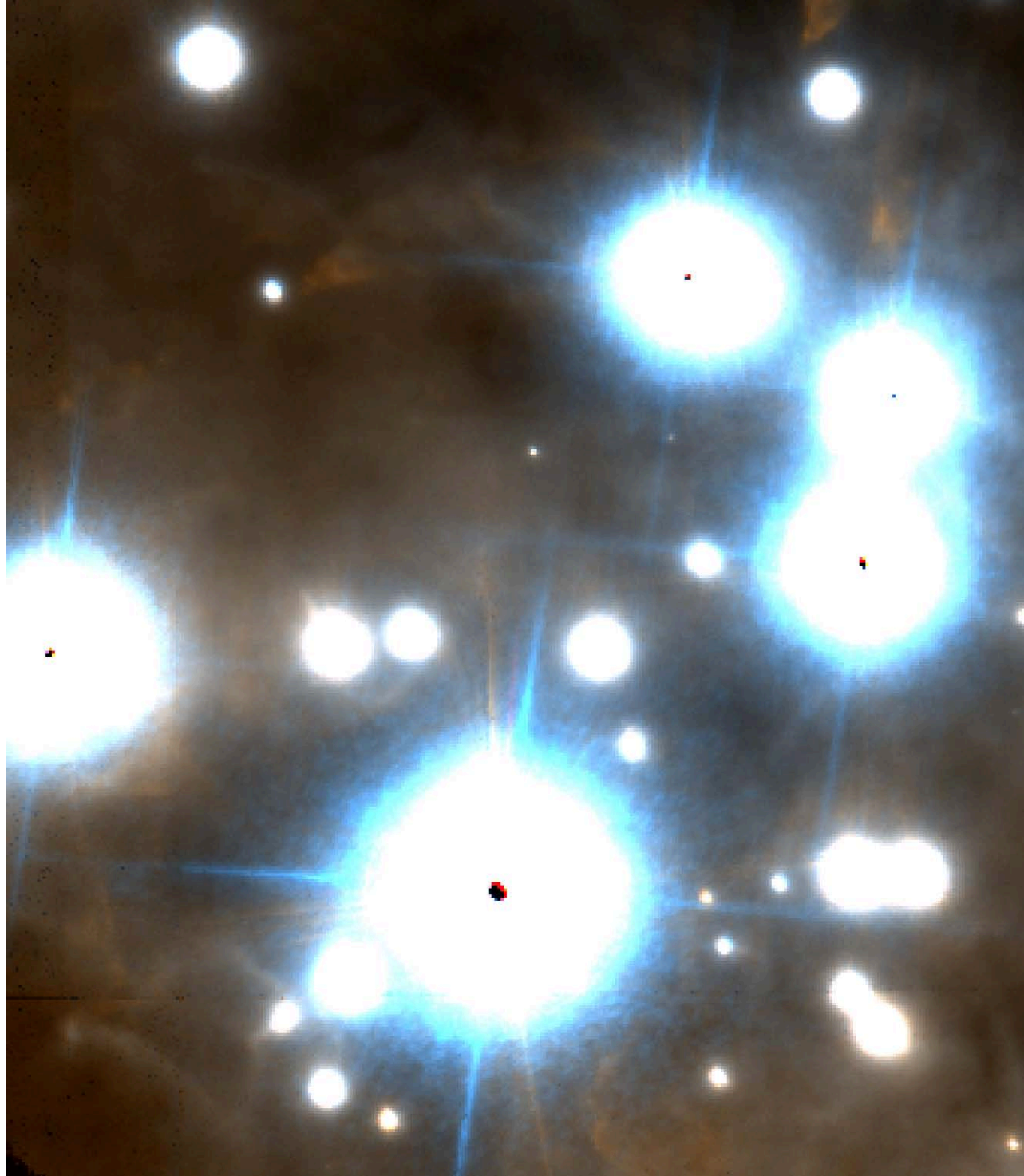
3arcmin





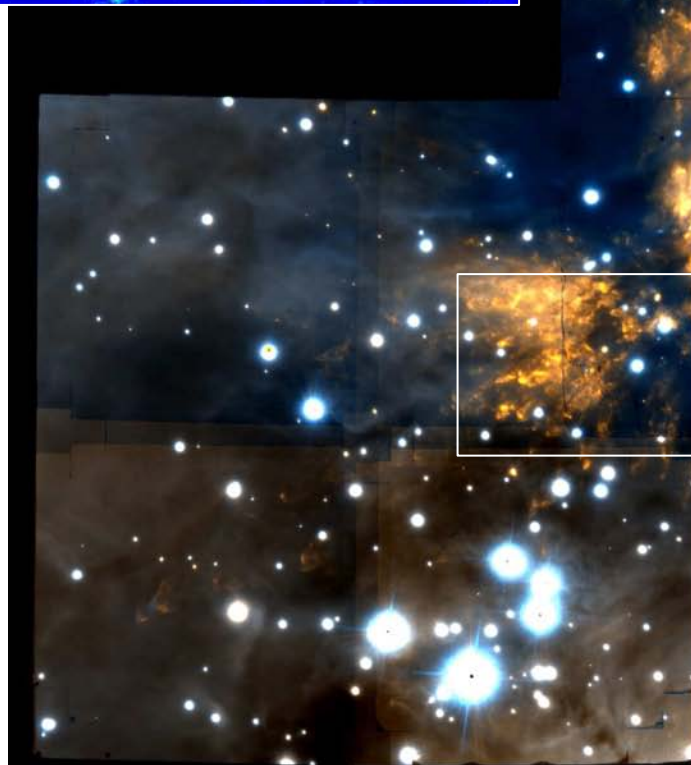
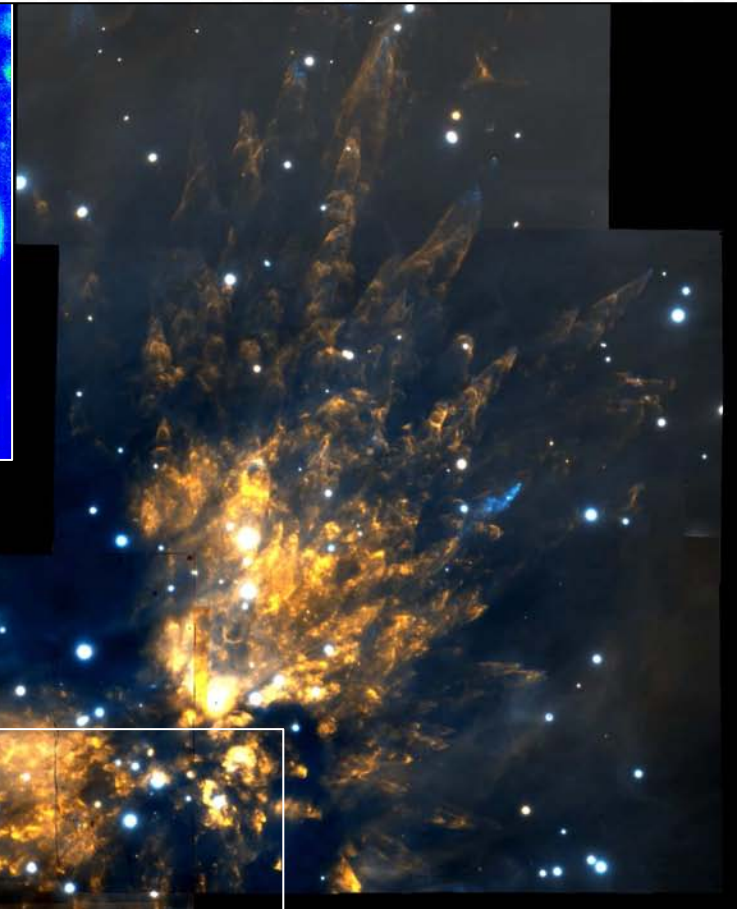
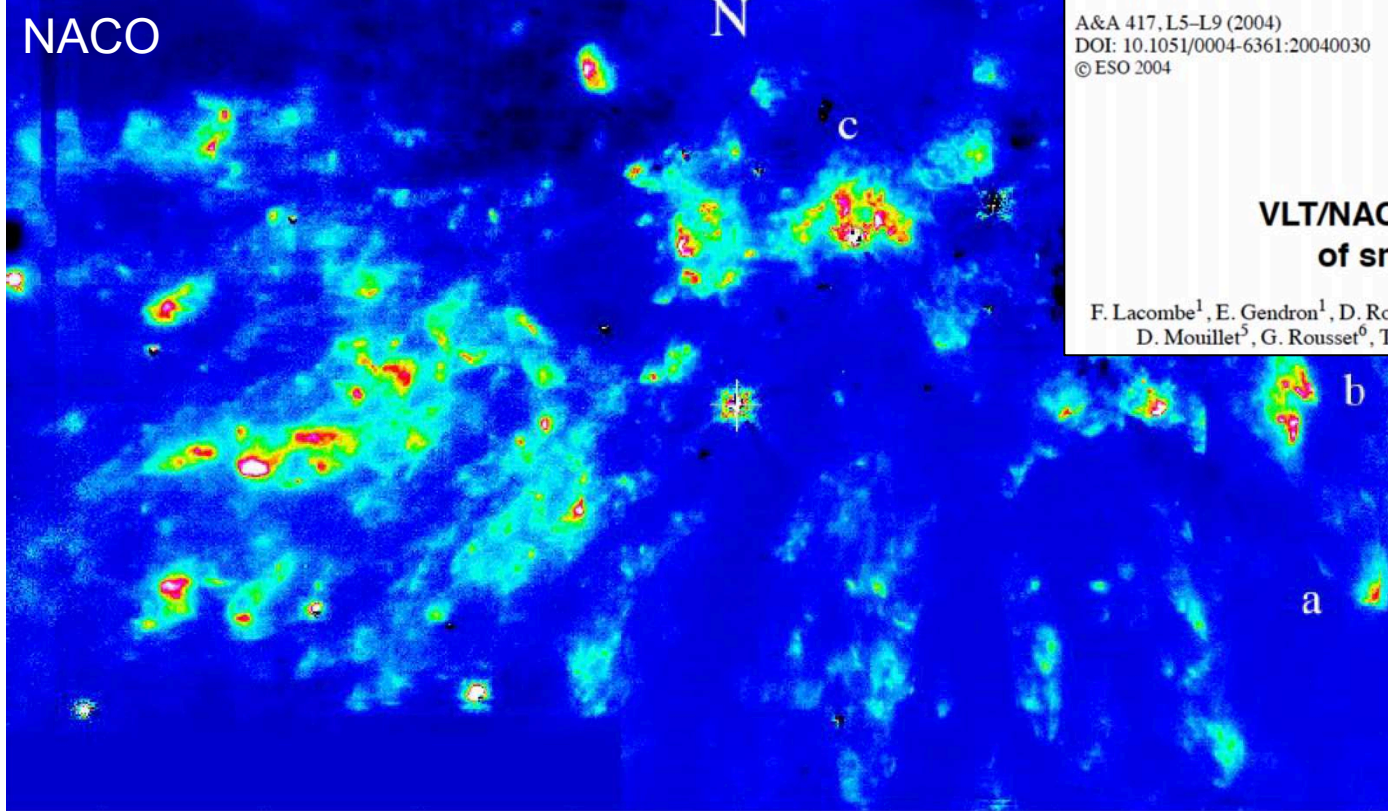


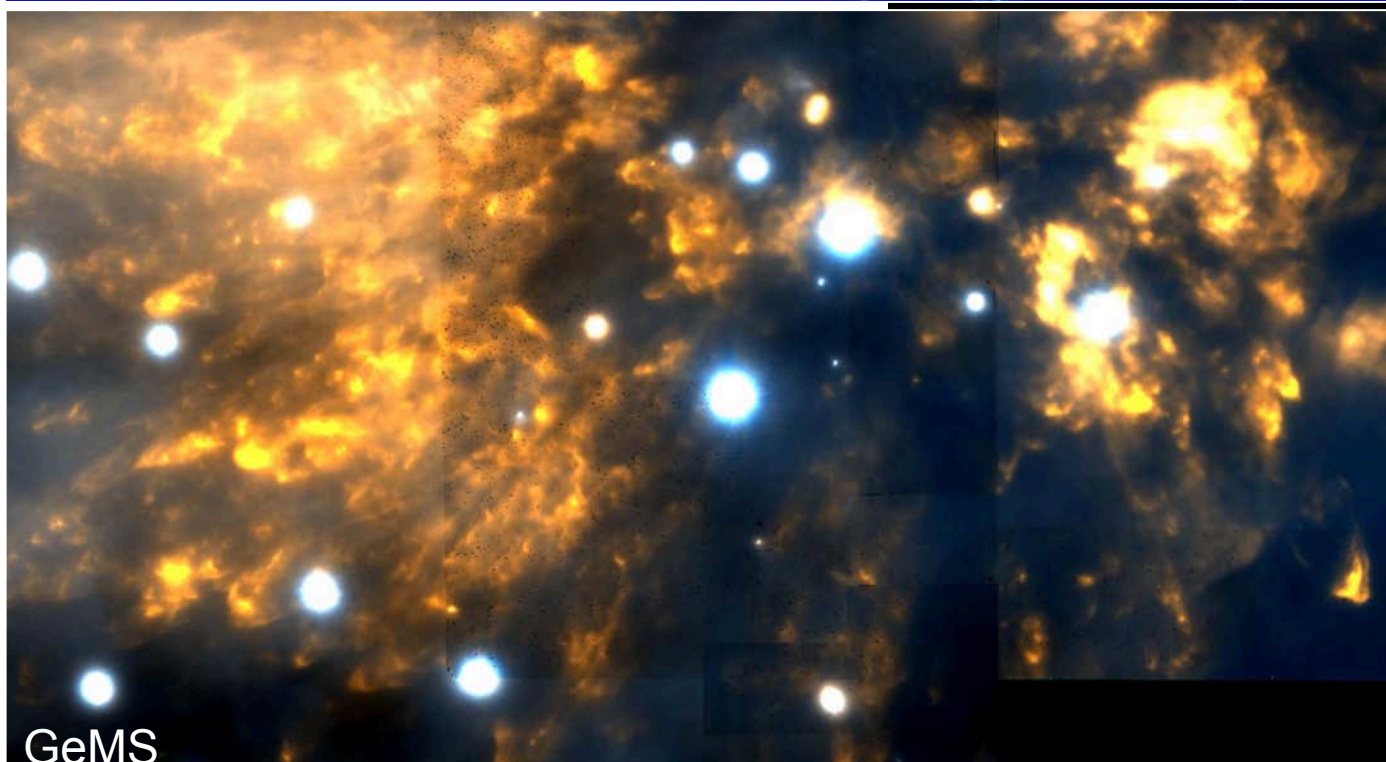
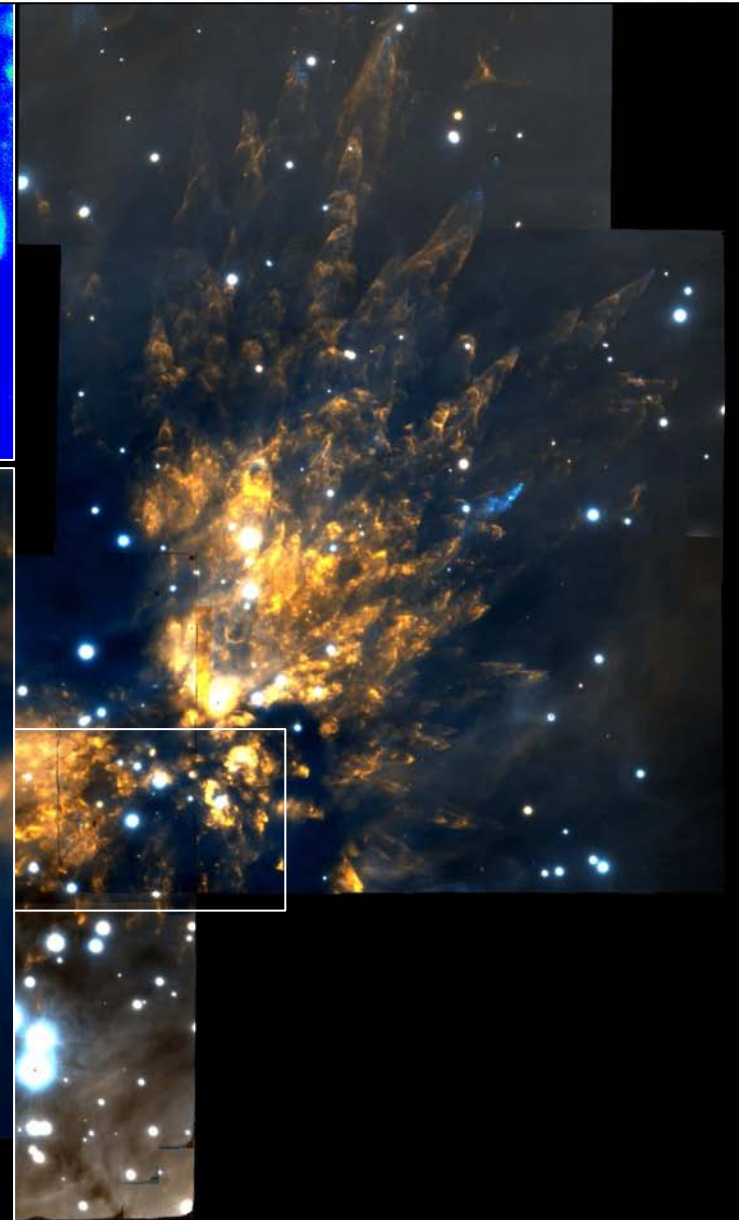
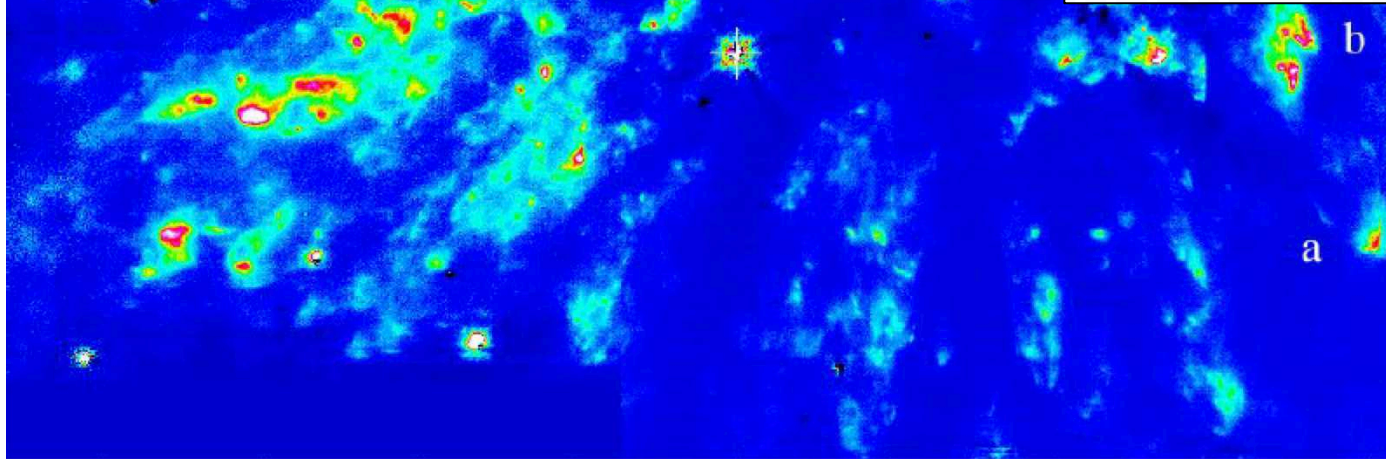


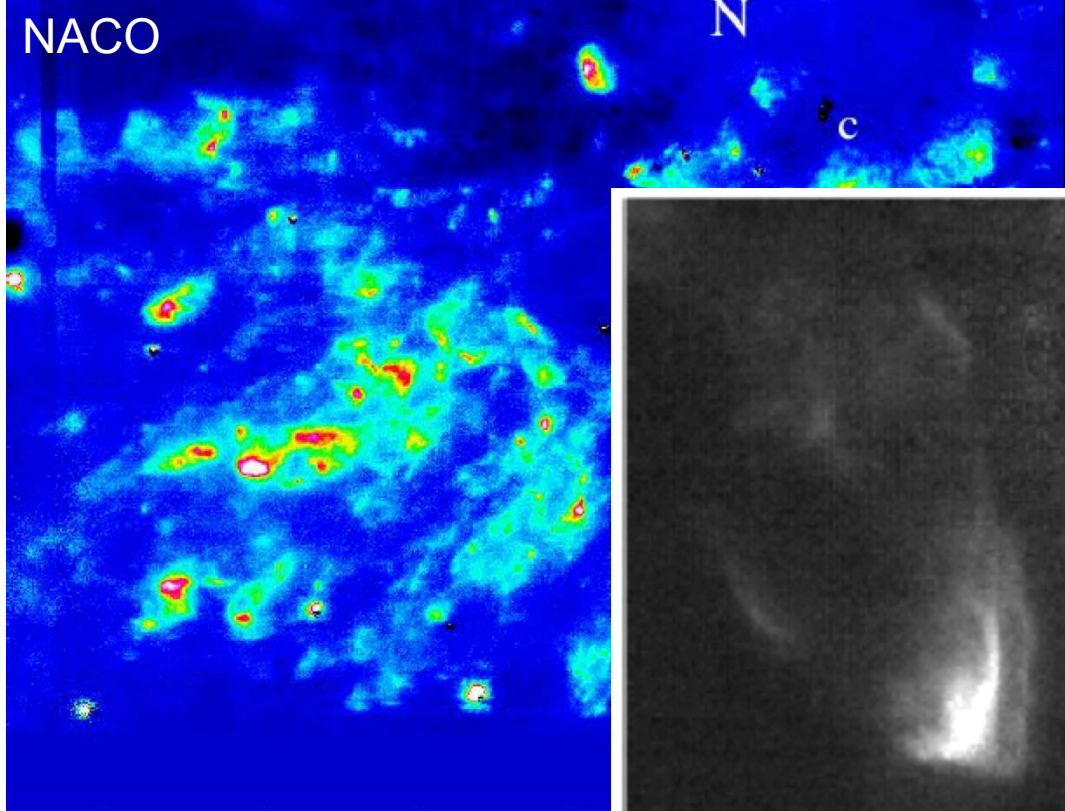


**VLT/NACO infrared adaptive optics images
of small scale structures in OMC1***

F. Lacombe¹, E. Gendron¹, D. Rouan¹, Y. Clénet¹, D. Field², J. L. Lemaire^{3,4}, M. Gustafsson², A.-M. Lagrange⁵,
D. Mouillet⁵, G. Rousset⁶, T. Fusco⁶, L. Rousset-Rouvière⁶, B. Servan^{7,†}, C. Marlot¹, and P. Feautrier⁵

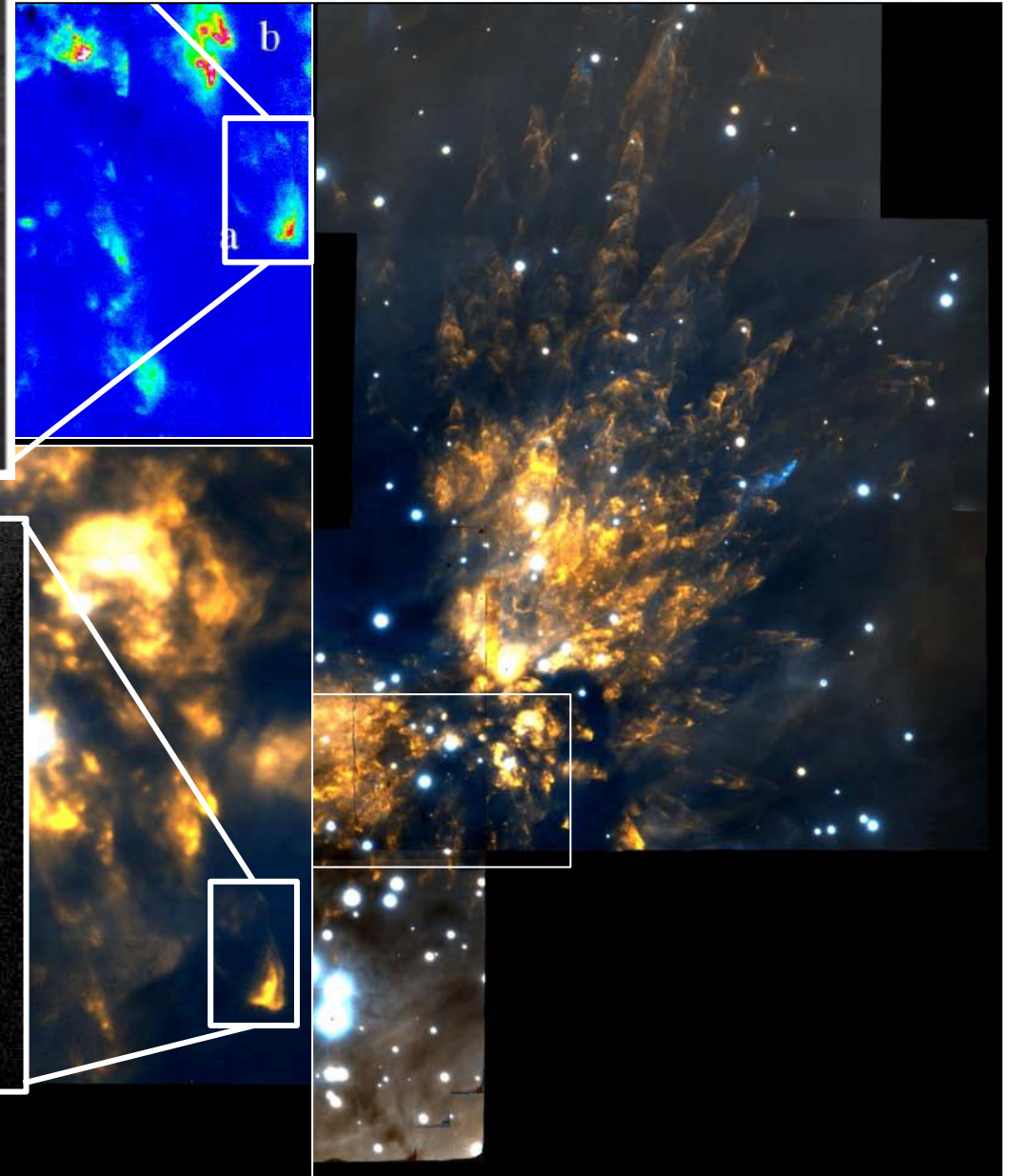
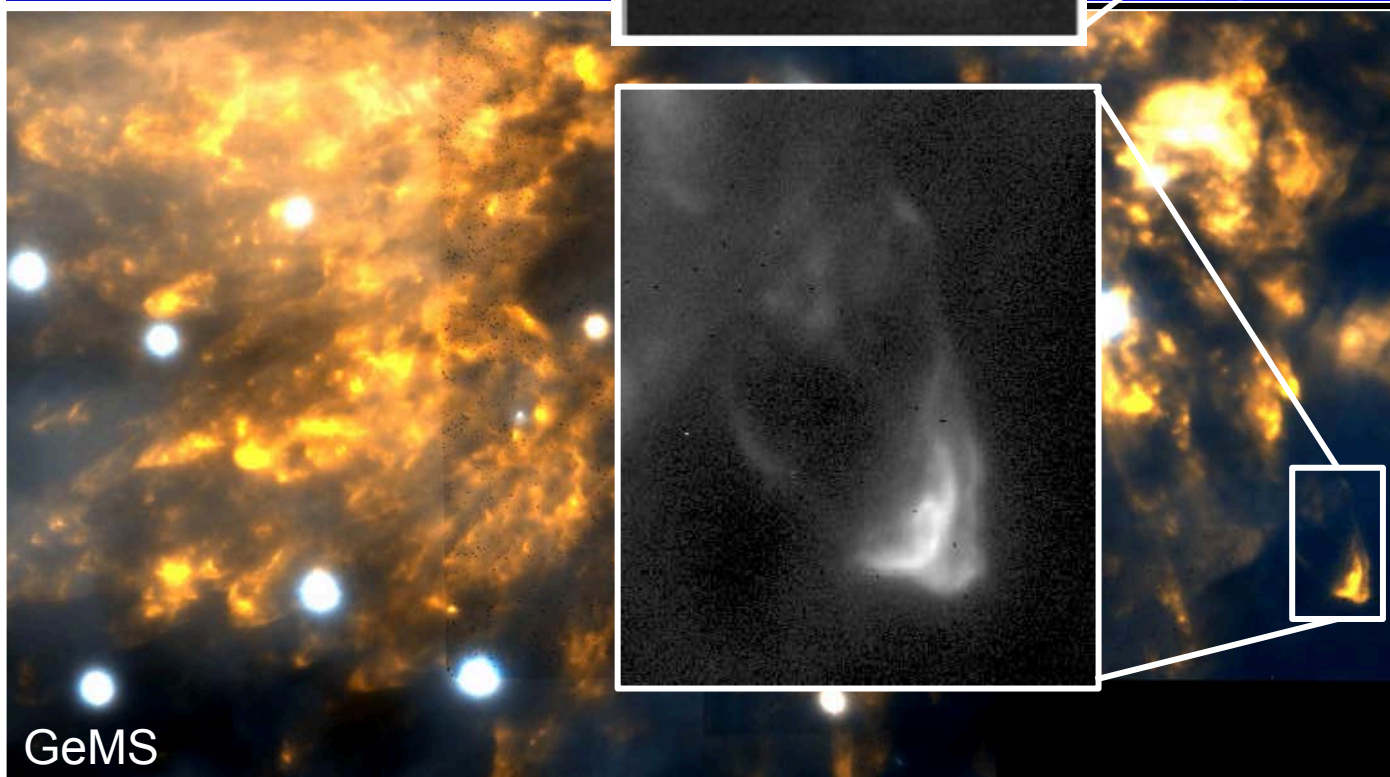


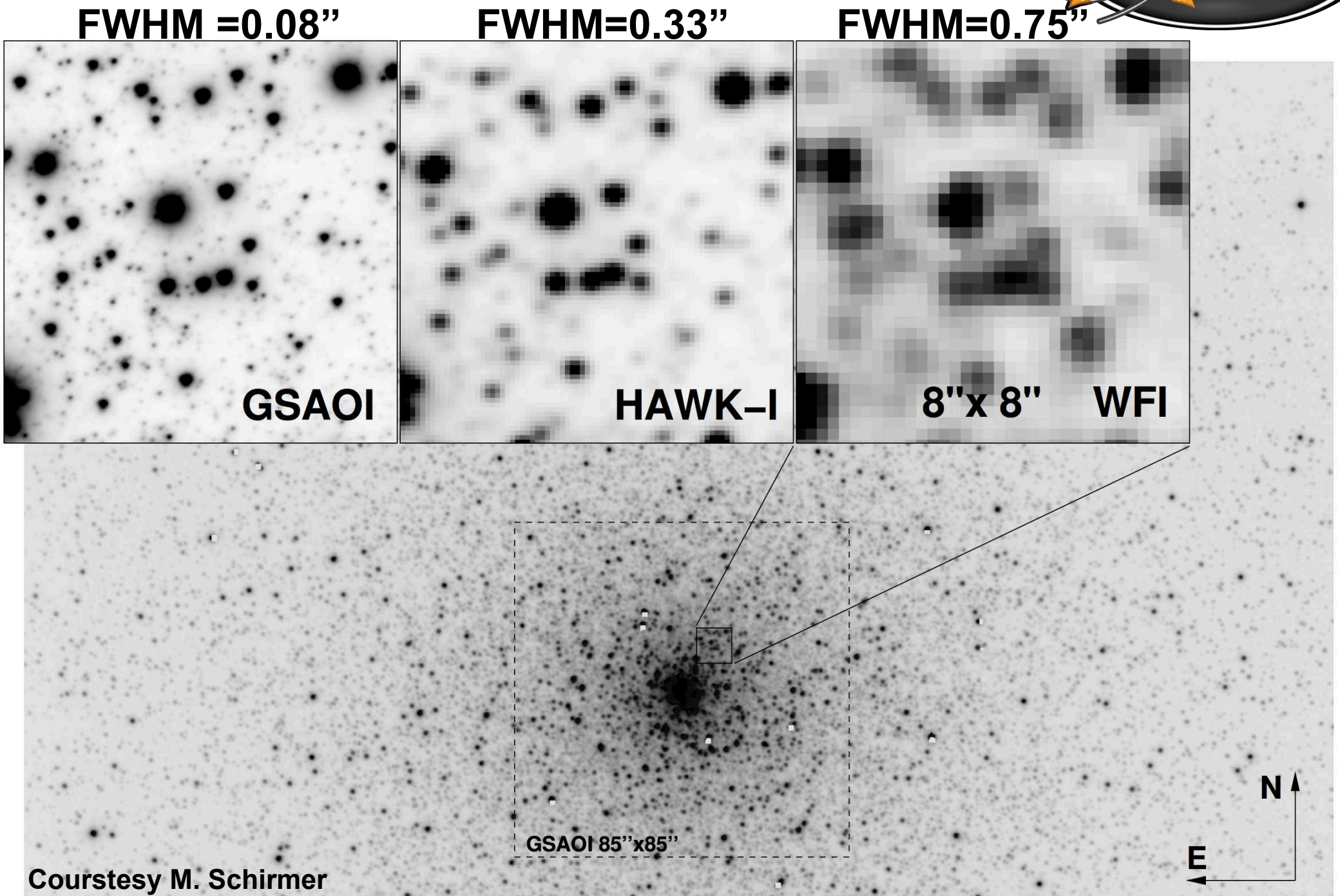
VLT/NACO infrared adaptive optics images
of small scale structures in OMC1[★]F. Lacombe¹, E. Gendron¹, D. Rouan¹, Y. Clénet¹, D. Field², J. L. Lemaire^{3,4}, M. Gustafsson², A.-M. Lagrange⁵,
D. Mouillet⁵, G. Rousset⁶, T. Fusco⁶, L. Rousset-Rouvière⁶, B. Servan^{7,i}, C. Marlot¹, and P. Feautrier⁵

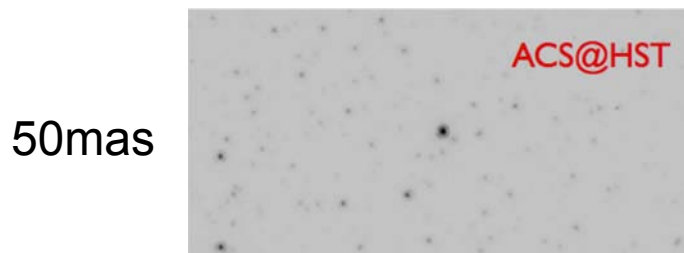
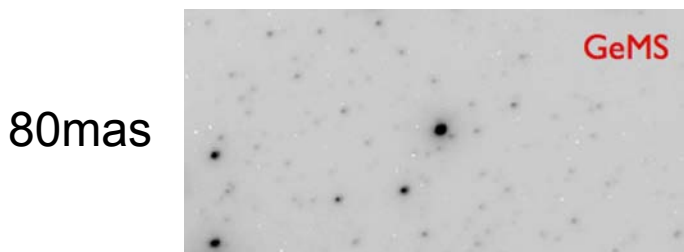
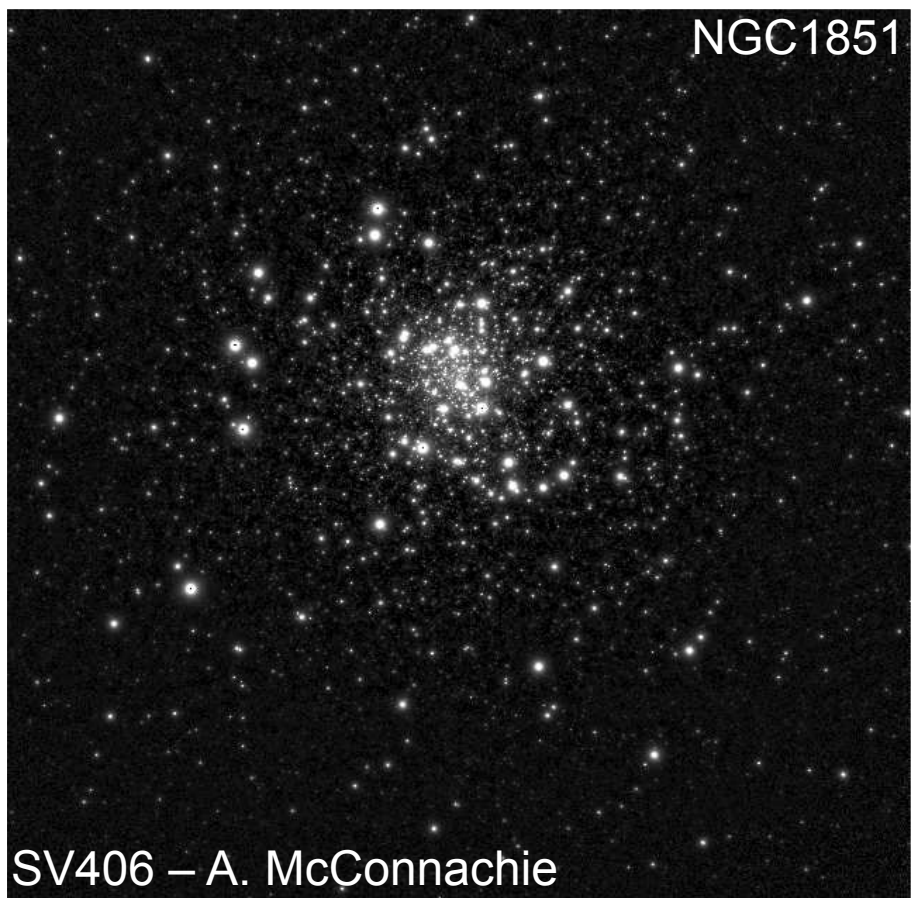


VLT/NACO infrared adaptive optics images of small scale structures in OMC1[★]

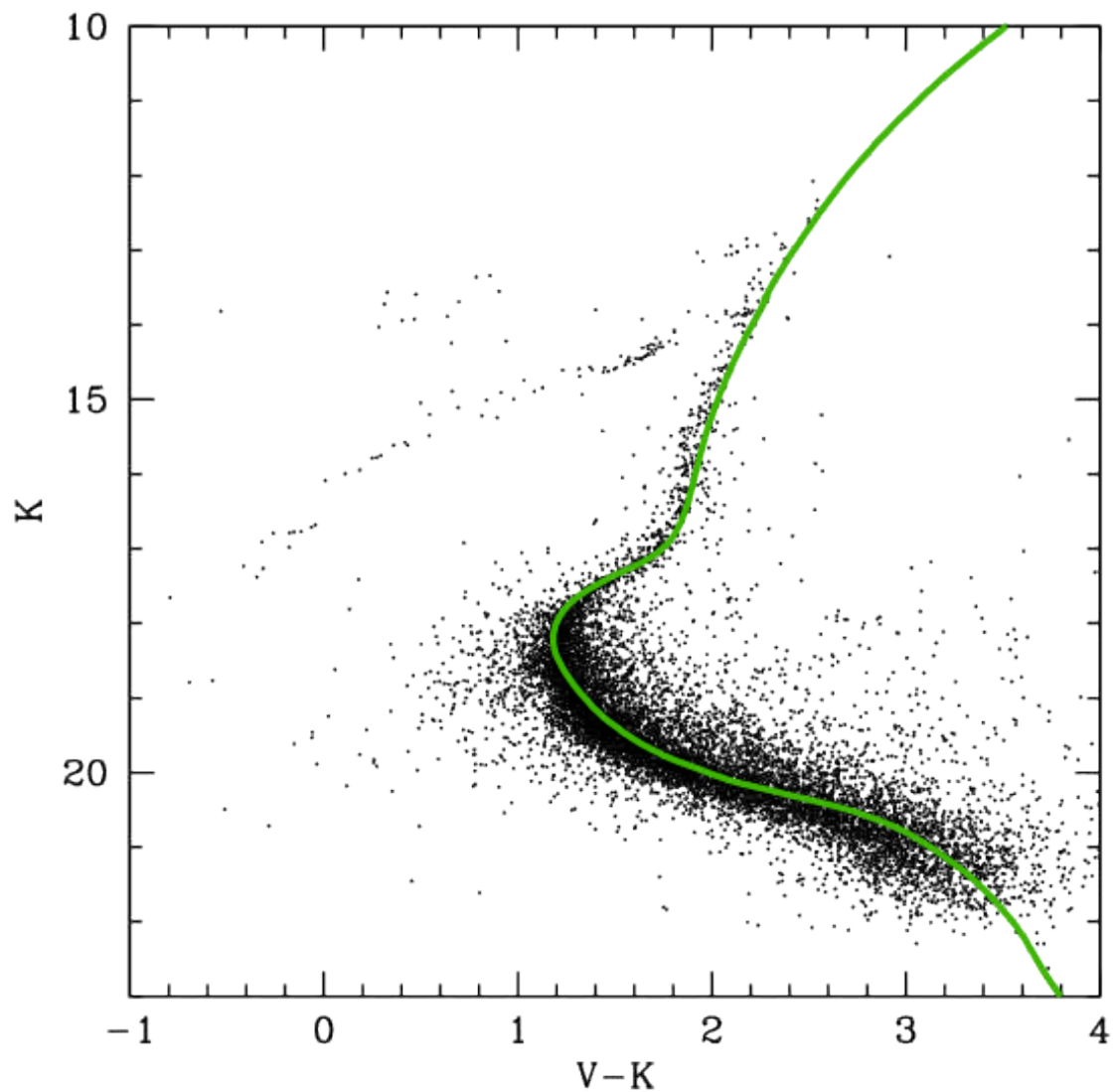
F. Lacombe¹, E. Gendron¹, D. Rouan¹, Y. Clénet¹, D. Field², J. L. Lemaire^{3,4}, M. Gustafsson², A.-M. Lagrange⁵,
 D. Mouillet⁵, G. Rousset⁶, T. Fusco⁶, L. Rousset-Rouvière⁶, B. Servan^{7,i}, C. Marlot¹, and P. Feautrier⁵





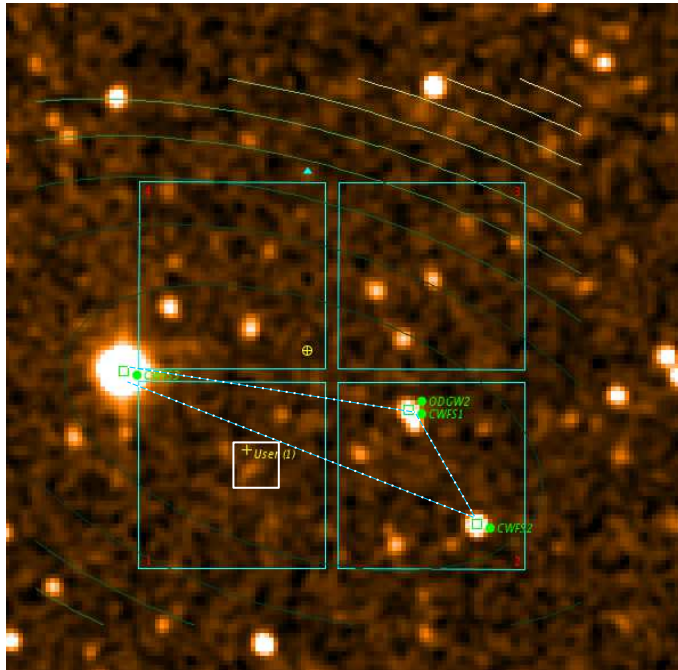


ISOCHRONES from Dotter et al. 2007 WEBSITE
Z=0.001 age=10Gyrs



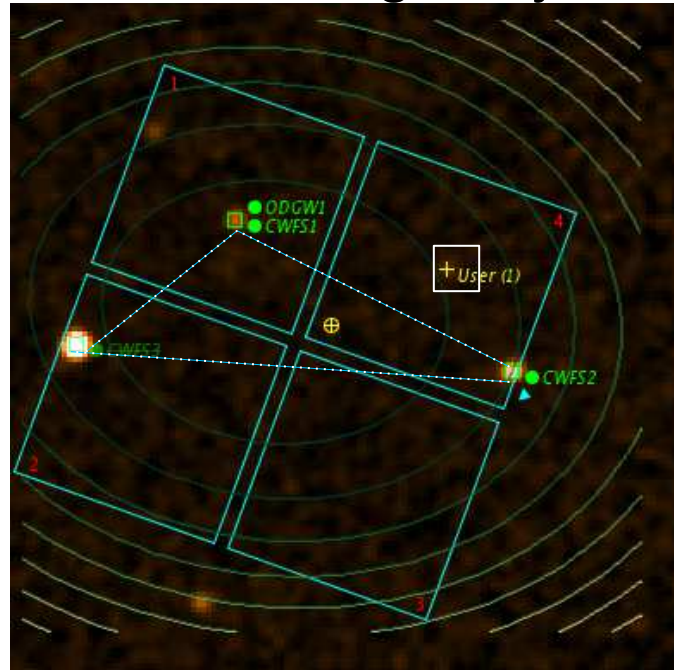


Pulsar



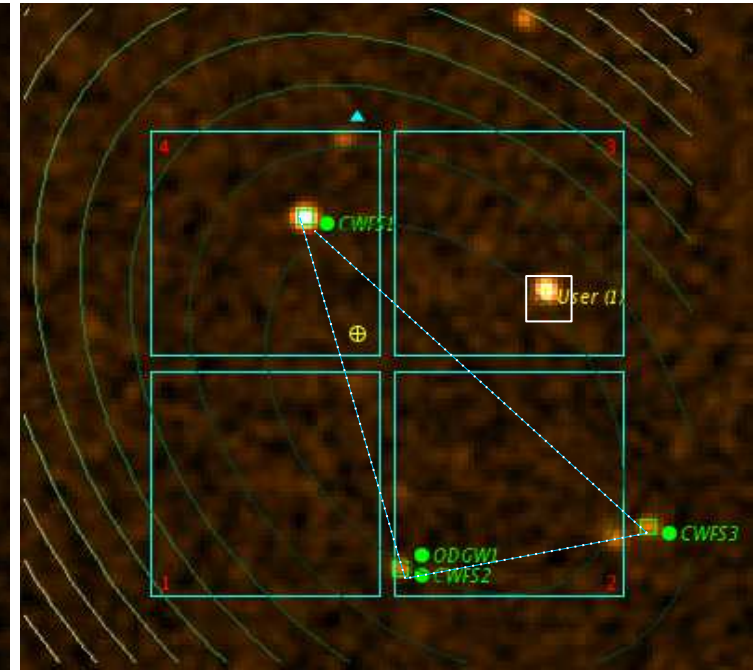
SV412 – R. Mennickent

Isolated galaxy



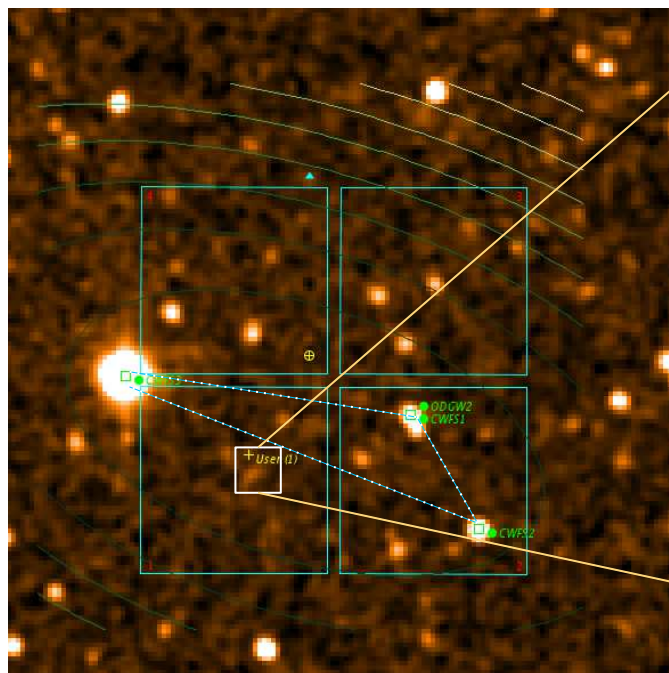
SV411 – P. McGregor

Quasar



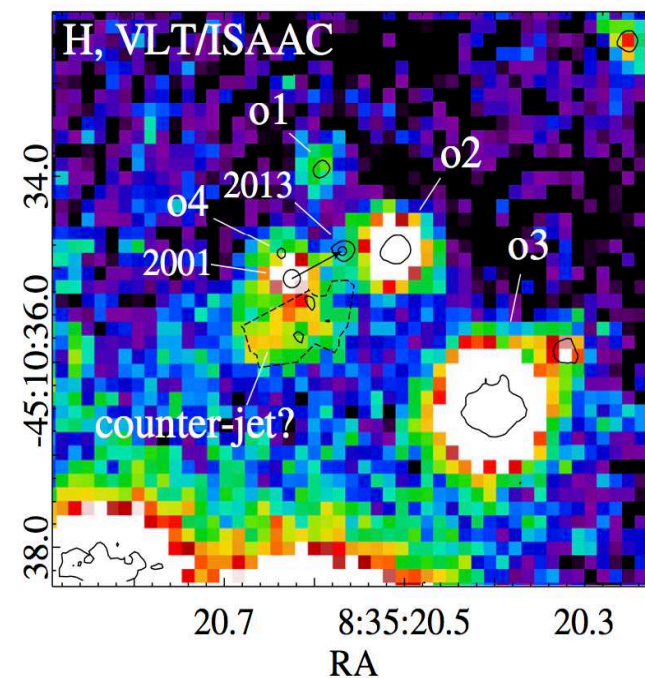
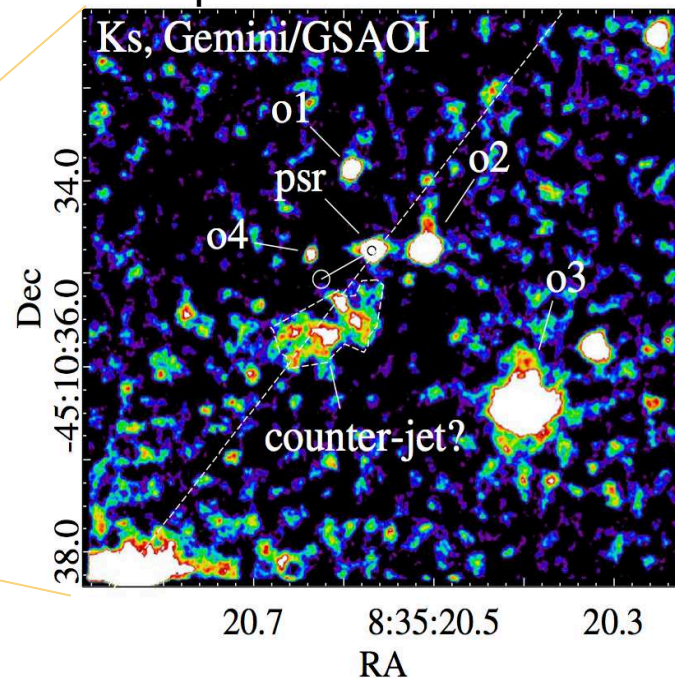
SV409 – D. Flyod

Pulsar



SV412 – R. Mennickent

Filter = Ks
FWHM = 80mas
Exposure time = 1900s



The Vela pulsar and its likely counter-jet in the K_s band *

D. Zyuzin,^{1†} Yu. Shibano^{1,2}, R. E. Mennickent,³ A. Danilenko¹ and S. Zharikov⁴

¹Ioffe Physical Technical Institute, Politekhnicheskaya 26, St. Petersburg, 194021, Russia

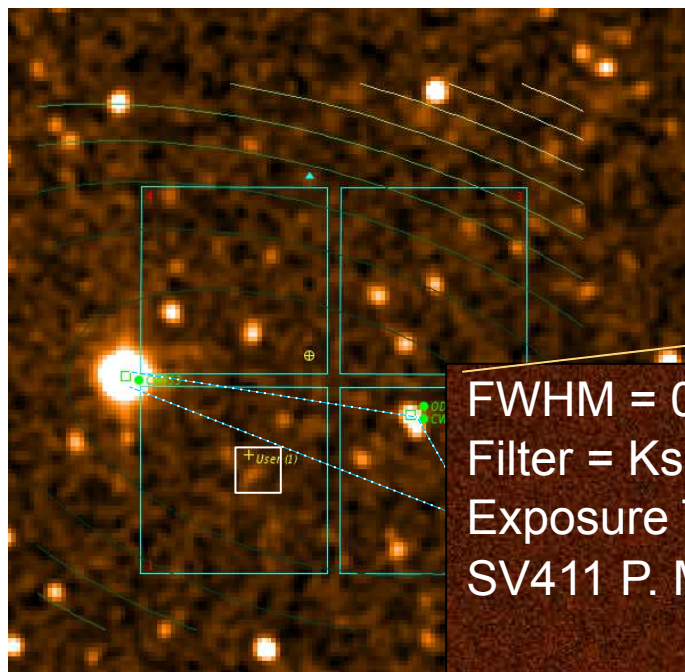
²St. Petersburg State Polytechnical Univ., Politekhnicheskaya 29, St. Petersburg, 195251, Russia

⁴Department of Astronomy, Universidad de Concepcion, Casilla 160-C, Concepcion, Chile

⁴Observatorio Astronómico Nacional SPM, Instituto de Astronomía, UNAM, Ensenada, BC, Mexico



Pulsar

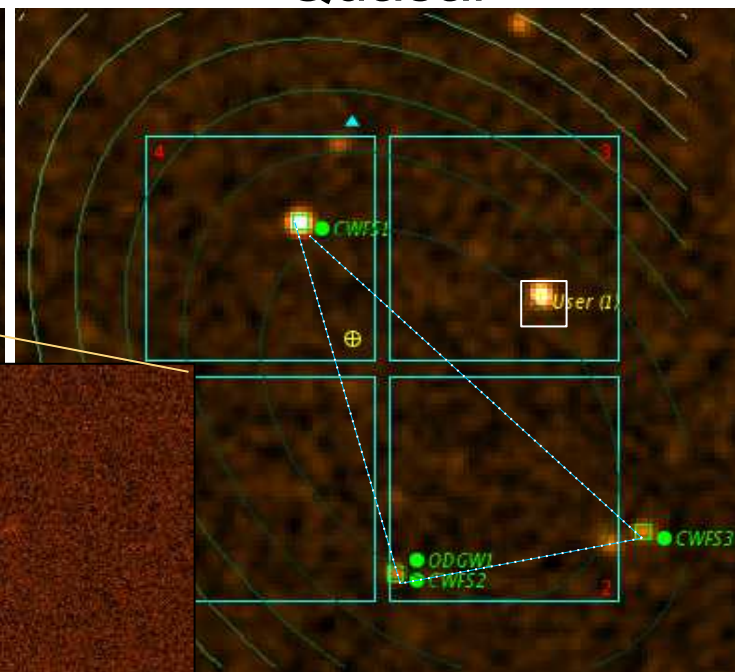


SV412 – R. Menten

Isolated galaxy

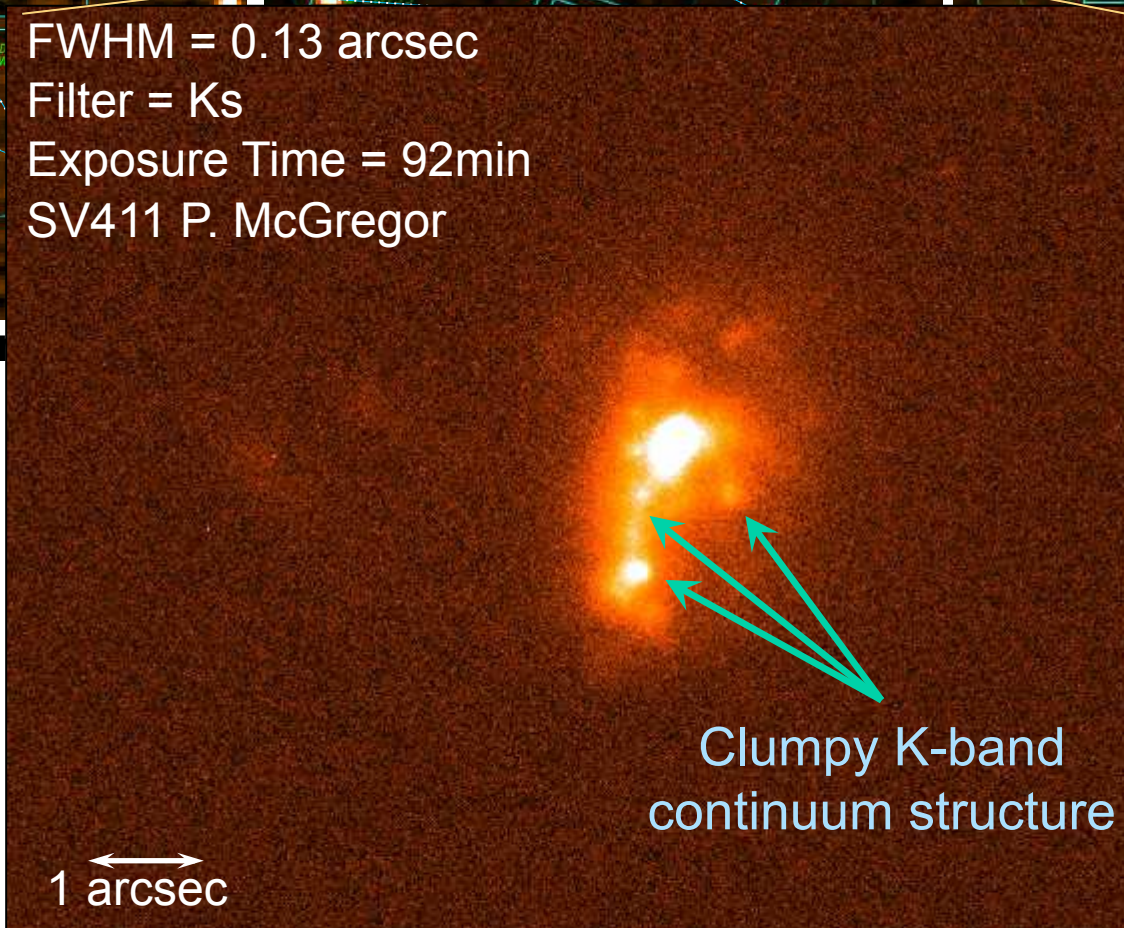


Quasar



SV409 – D. Flyod

FWHM = 0.13 arcsec
Filter = Ks
Exposure Time = 92min
SV411 P. McGregor



Clumpy K-band
continuum structure

1 arcsec

Abell 780 – $z \sim 0.1$



SV403

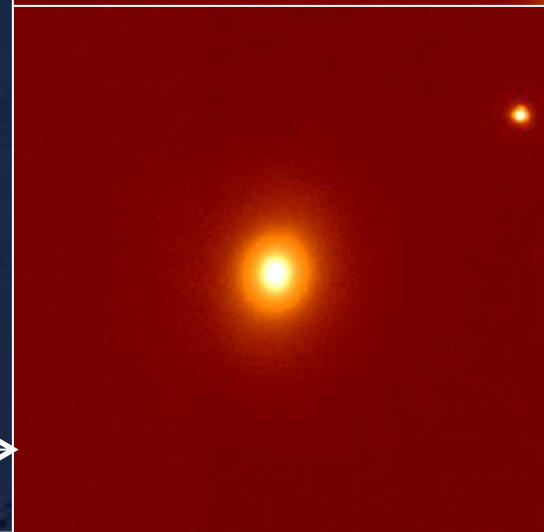
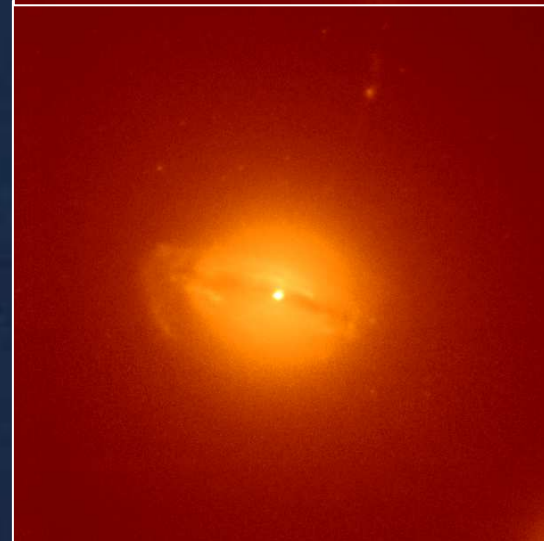
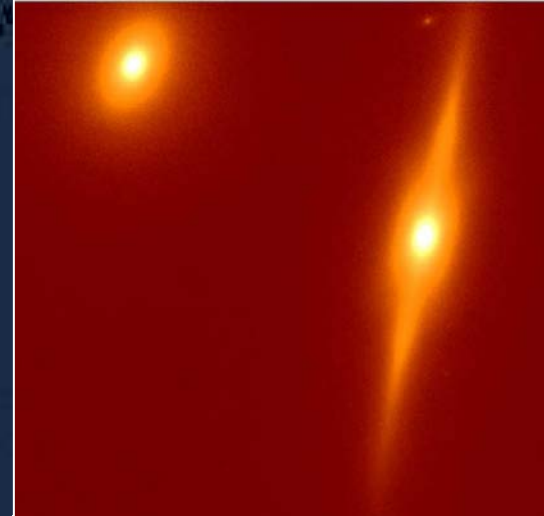
R. Carrasco & I. Trujillo

Filter = Ks

1h on-source

$\langle \text{FWHM} \rangle = 77 \text{mas}$

2 NGS only

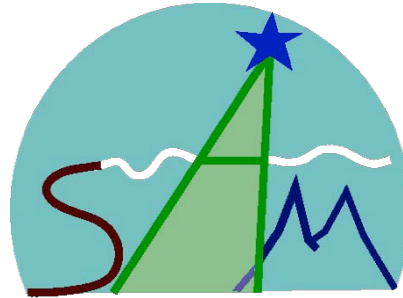


← 85" ~ 150kpc →

New challenges for WFAO



Current WFAO science instruments:



SOAR Adaptive Module

Current WFAO demonstrators:

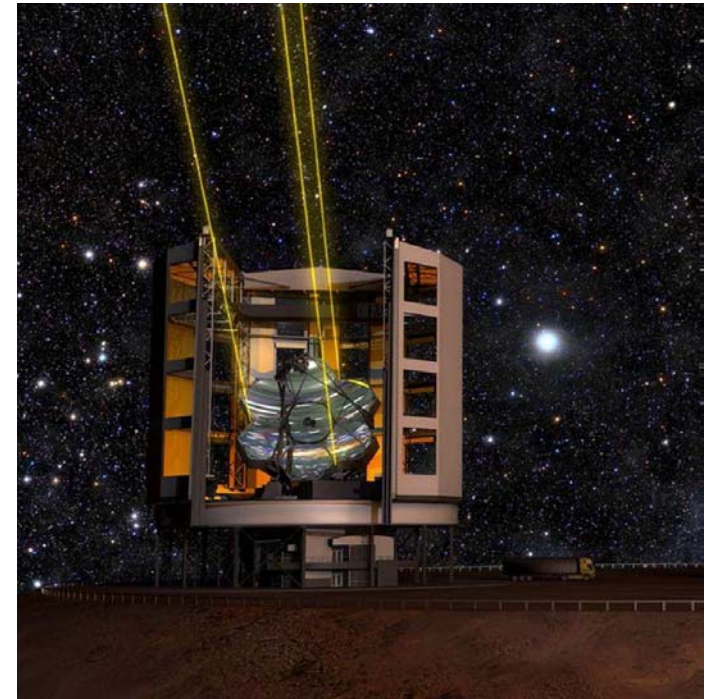


Near future WFAO science instruments:

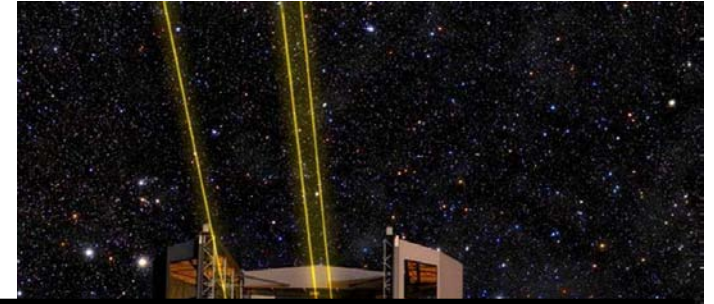


AO Facility
2015

All the ELTs are based on multi-LGS WFAO systems



All the ELTs are based on multi-LGS WFAO systems



Slide from Norbert Hubin (head of ESO AO group), conference AO4ELT 2013

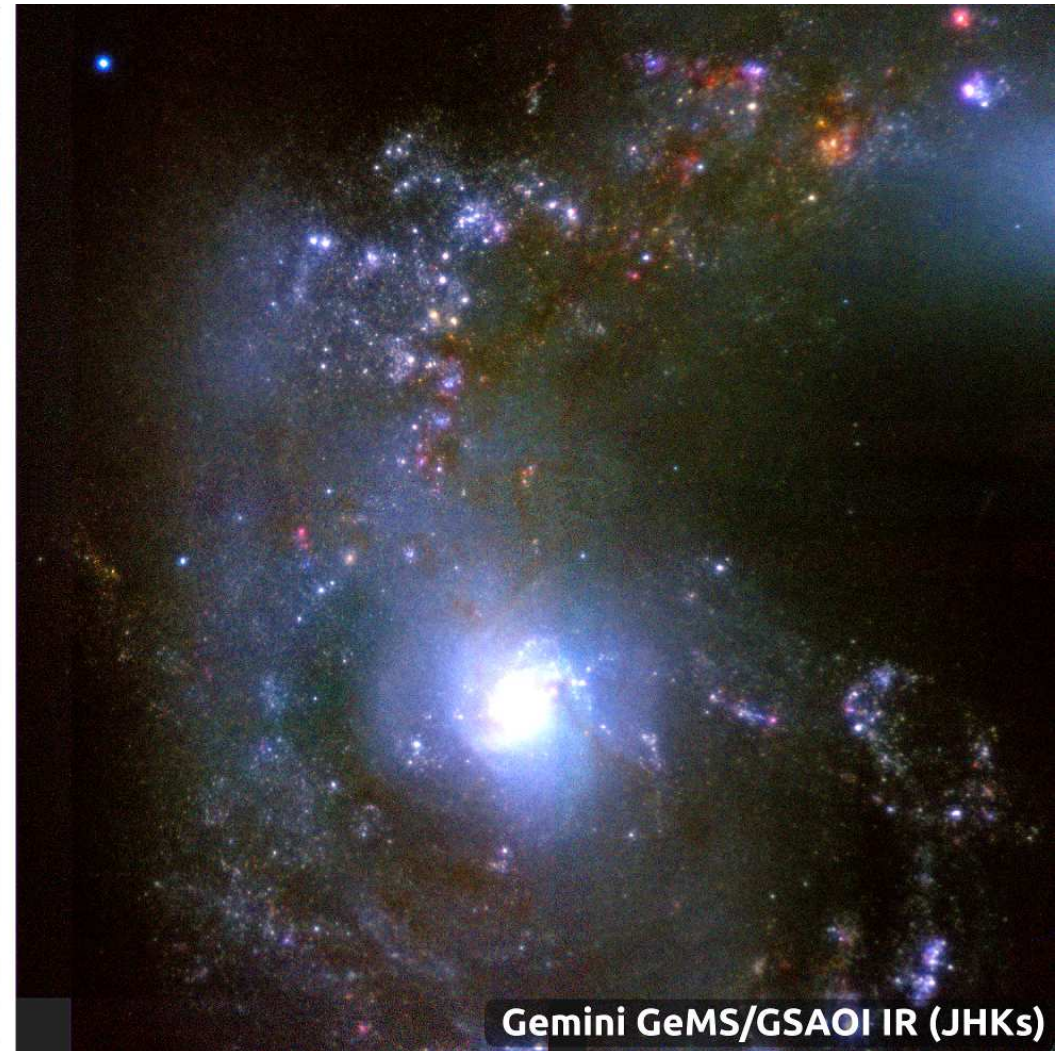
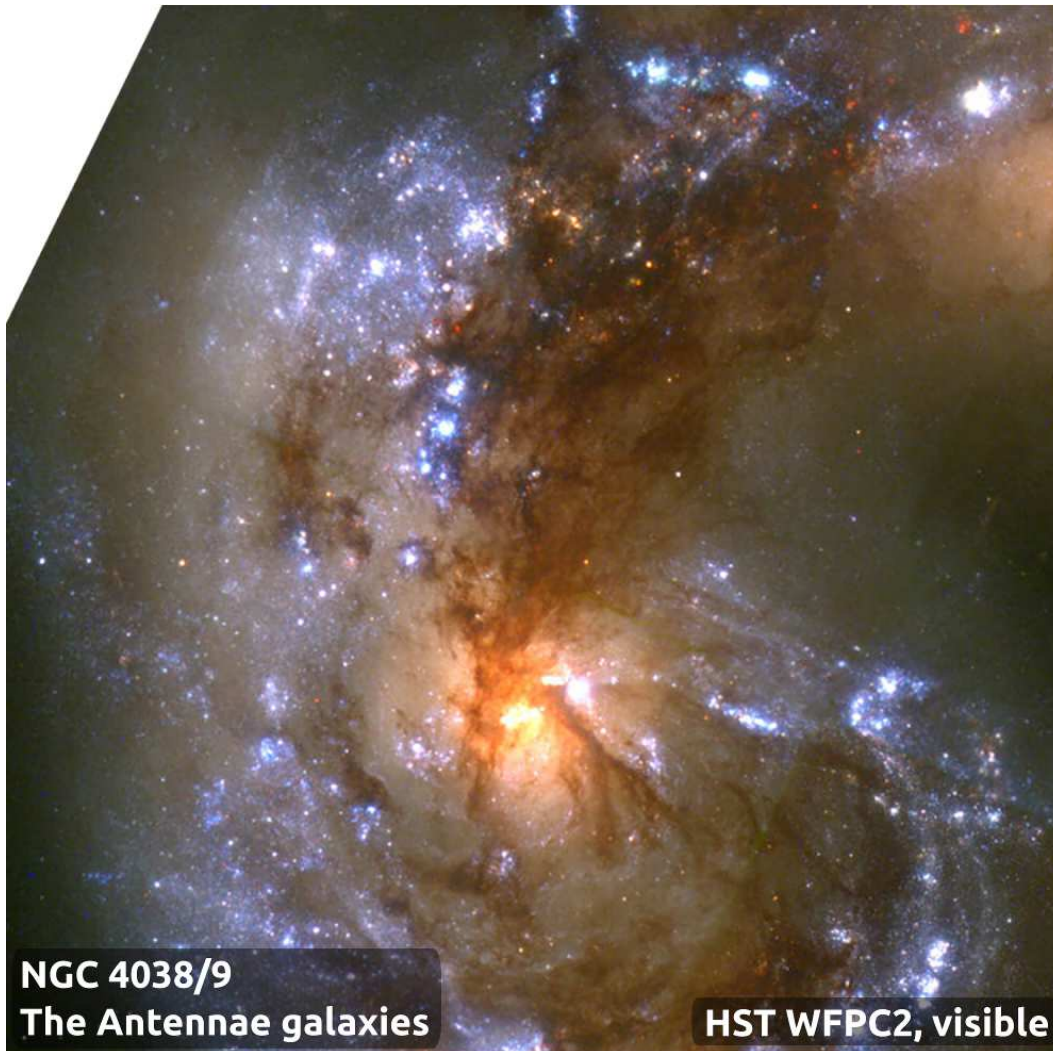
Global vision & walking before running

- All AO systems for E-ELT are challenging & costly:
 - Many new concepts are still in demonstration phase or have not been fully operated on smaller telescopes for science → **Pathfinders**
 - Technologies required are often one step behind → **Dev. needed**
 - Operation, Control & calibration strategies are still being figured out → crucial effective operation of AO system for science → **Pathfinders**



Conclusions

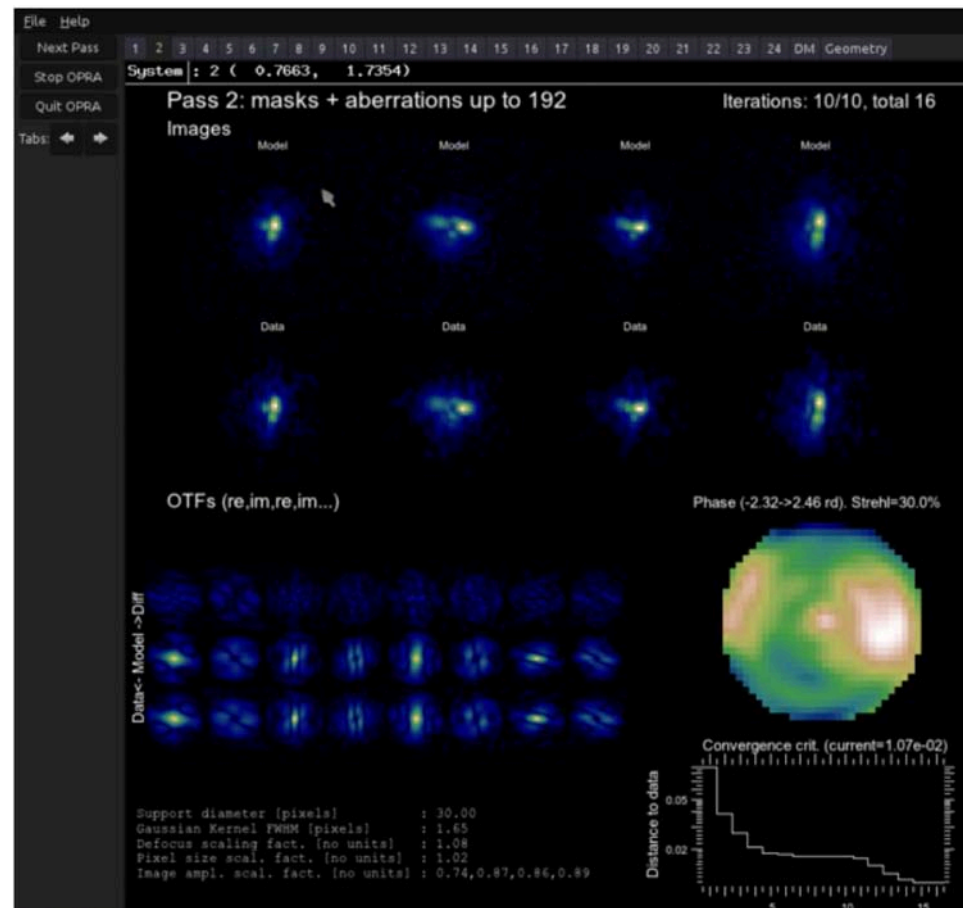
WFAO is opening new opportunities for a large range of science cases

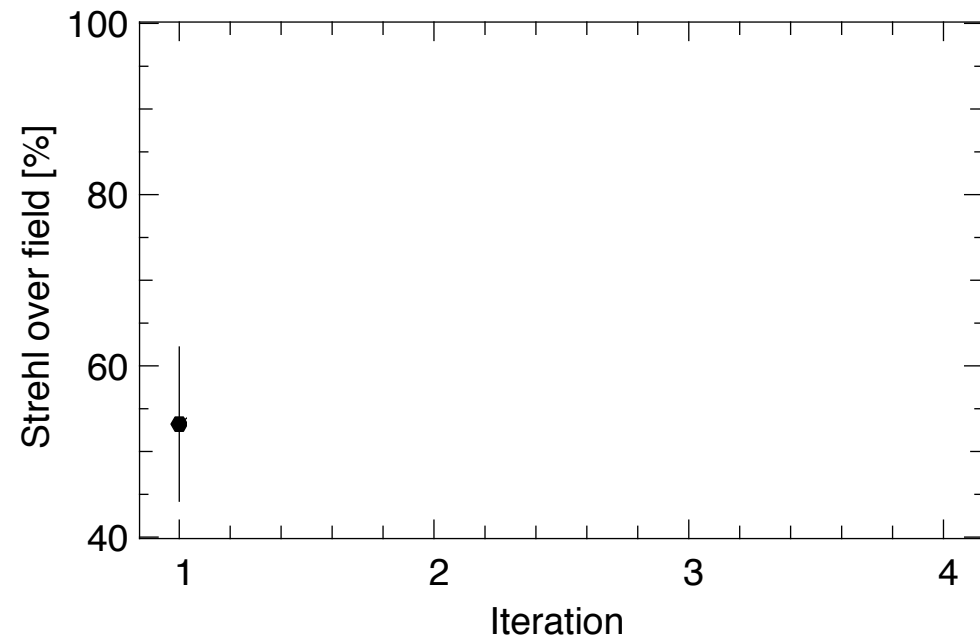
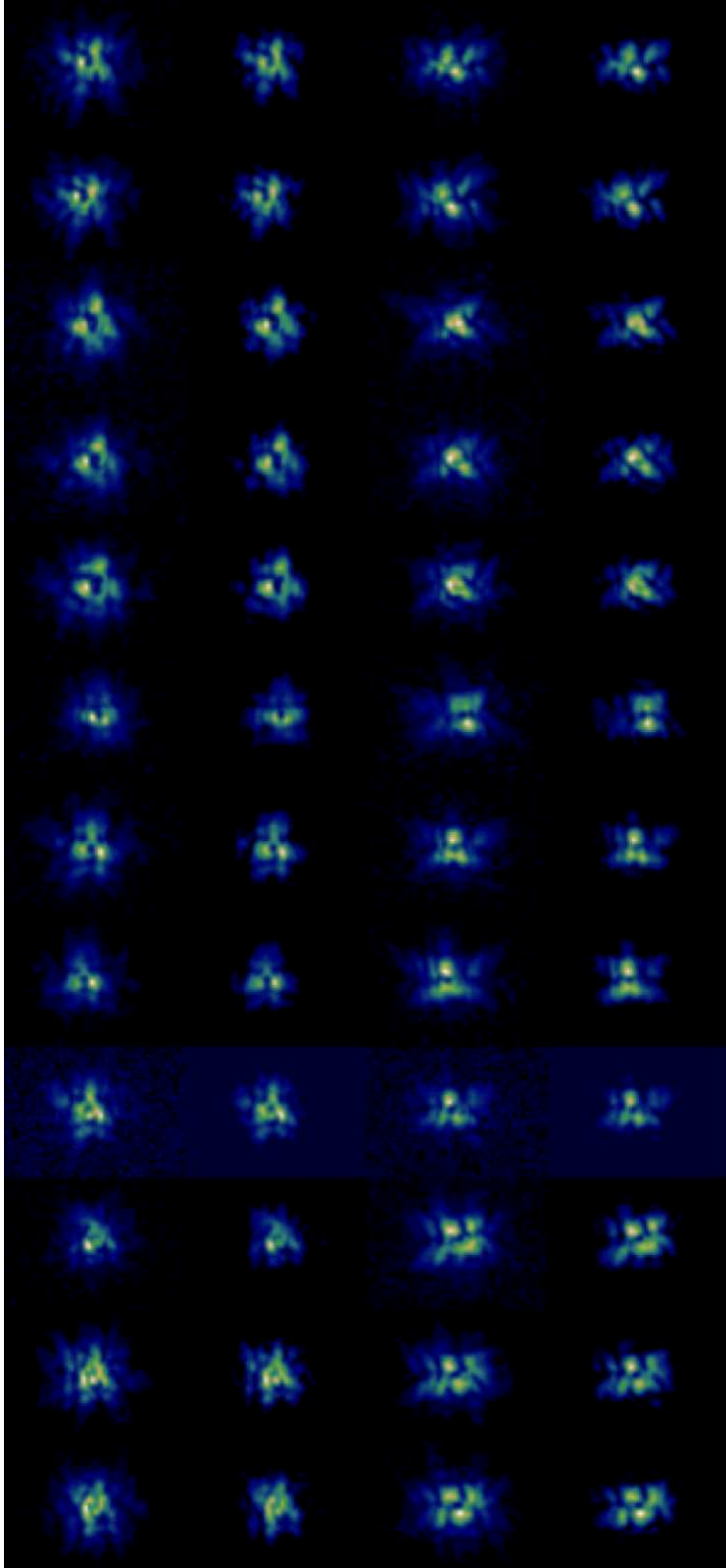


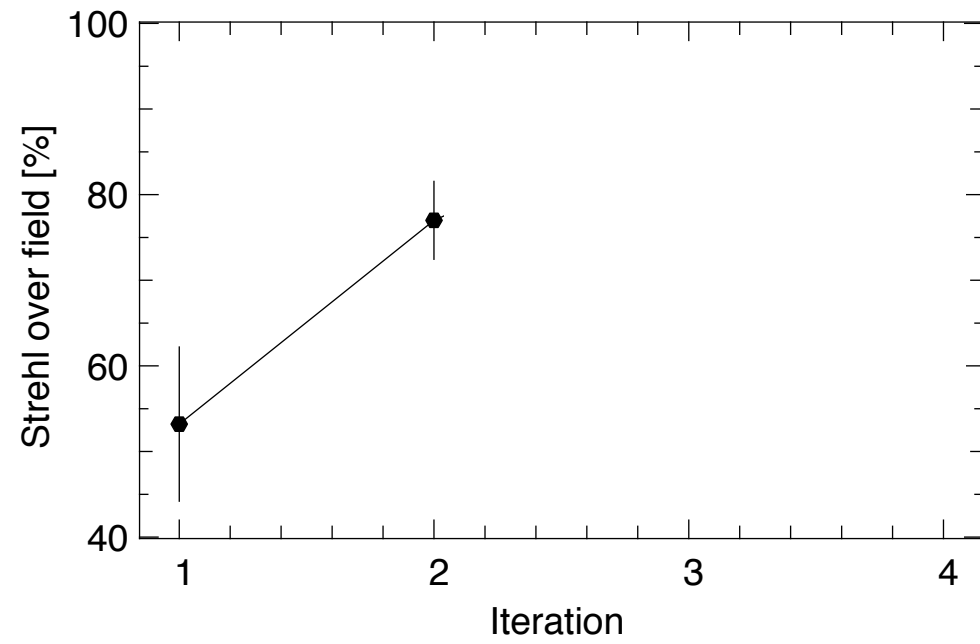
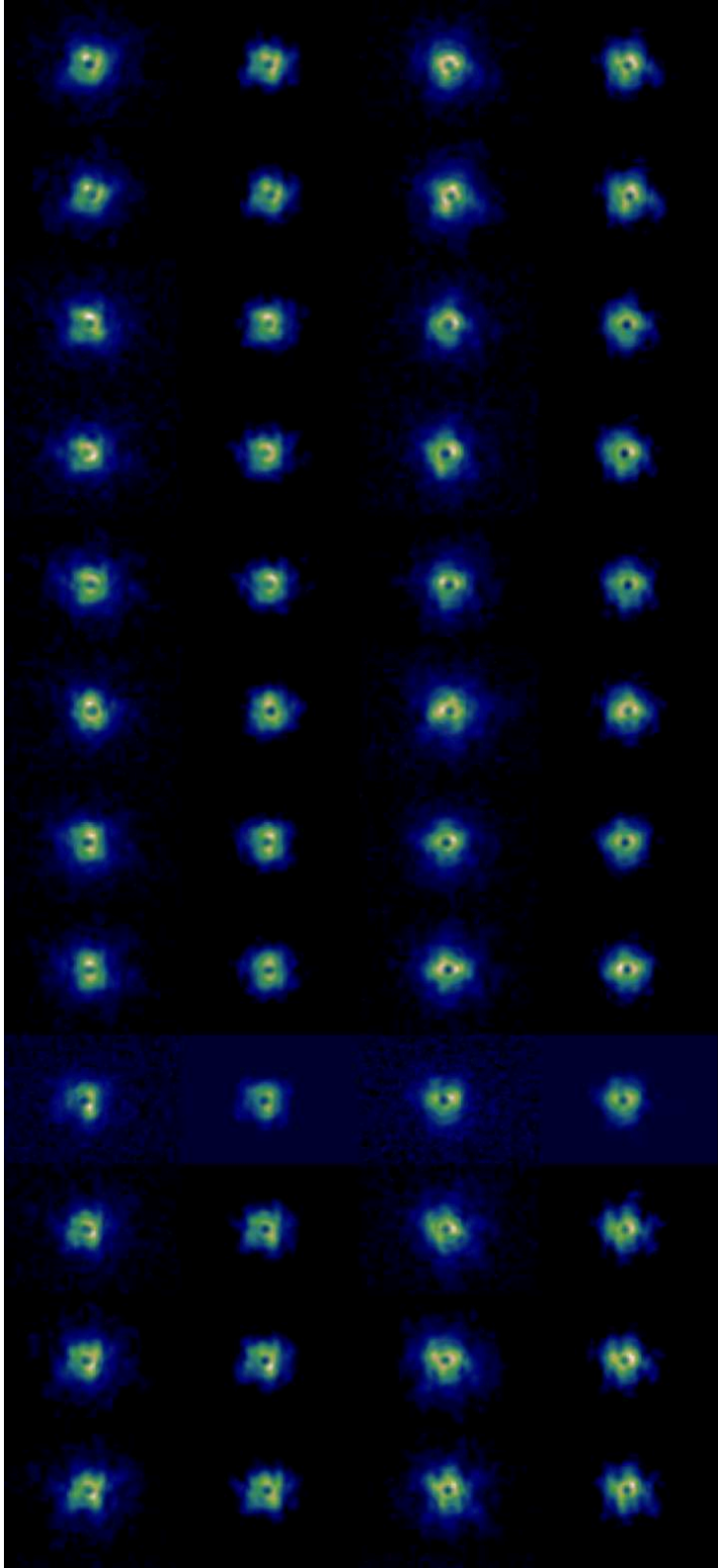


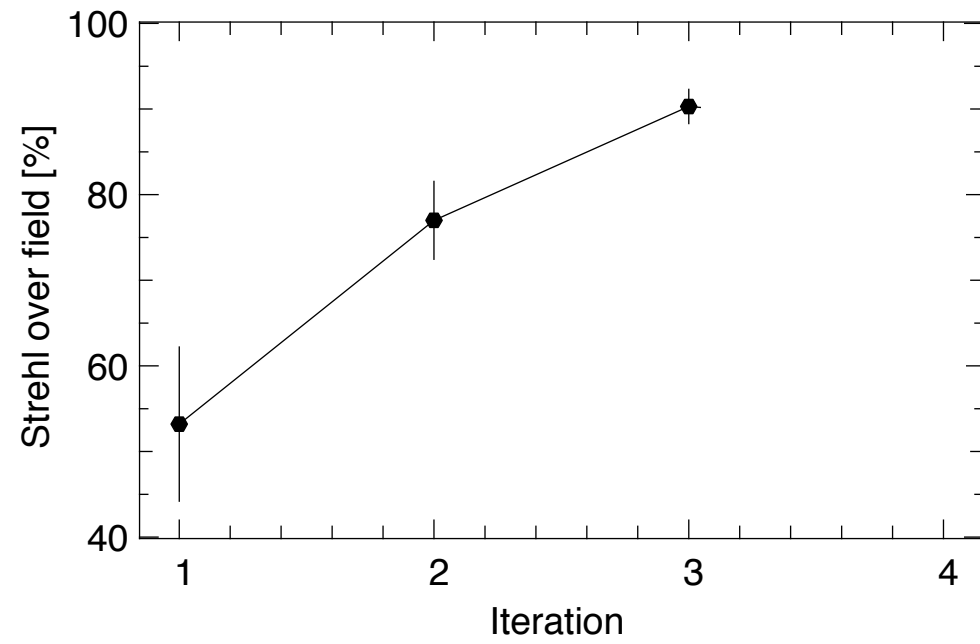
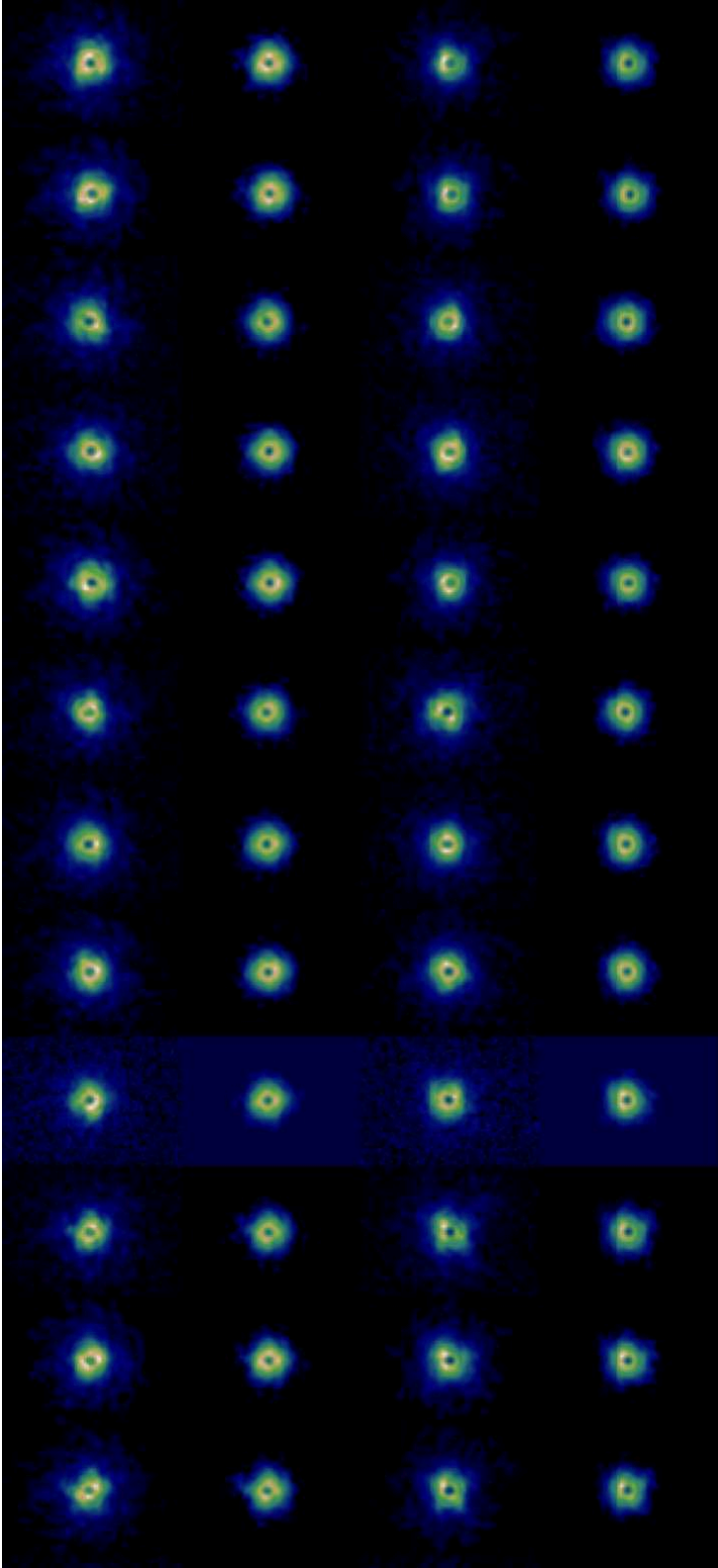
Tomographic phase diversity:

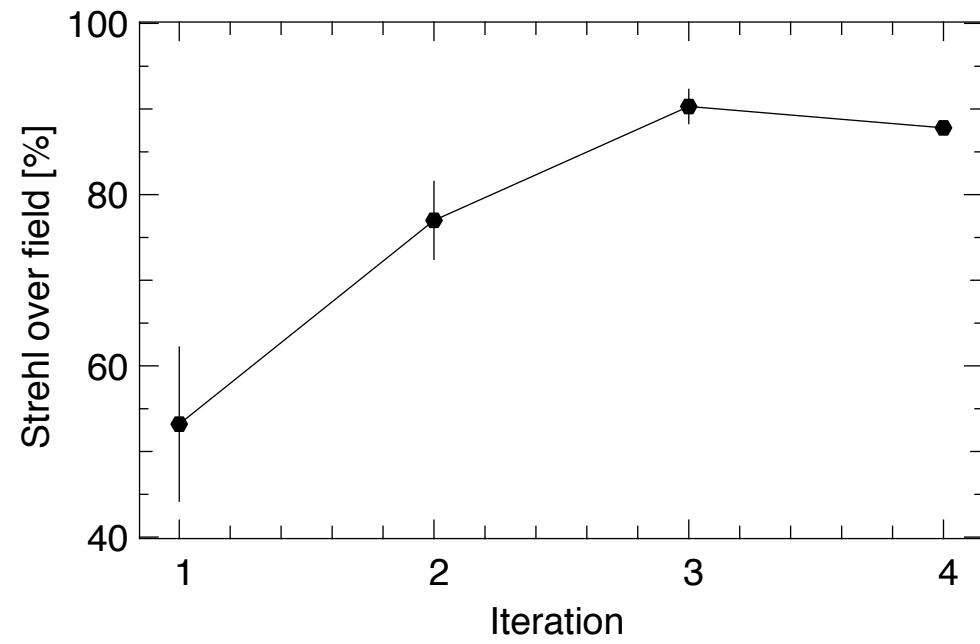
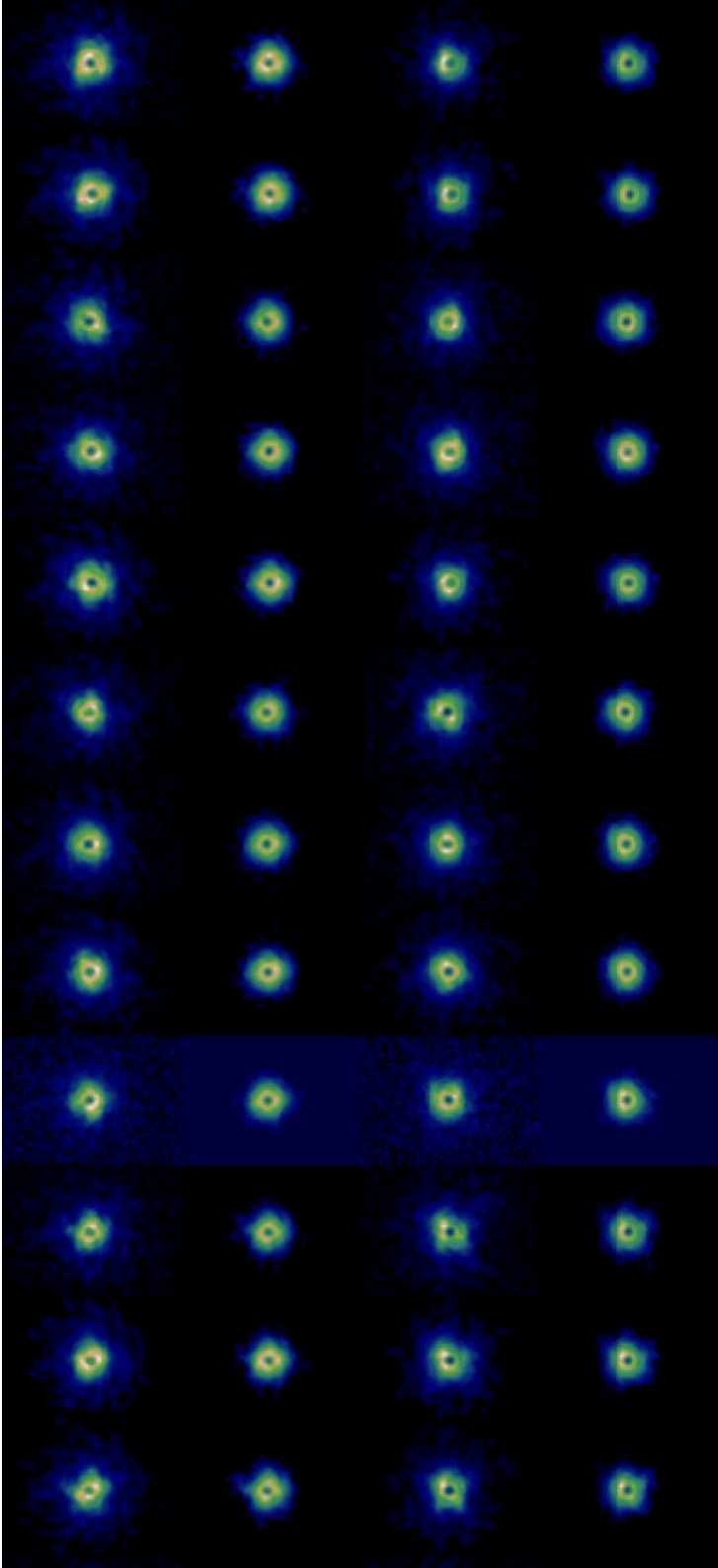
- ◆ The classical PD approach can be extended to process data over an extended field of view.
- ◆ Instead of solving for a 2D phase, solve for a 3D phase (discrete or continuous). E.g 2-3 phase planes + a tomographic projector
- ◆ Naturally more overconstrained/robust than PD in individual direction + tomographic reconstruction (assuming # of field positions/images is larger than the # of phase planes).

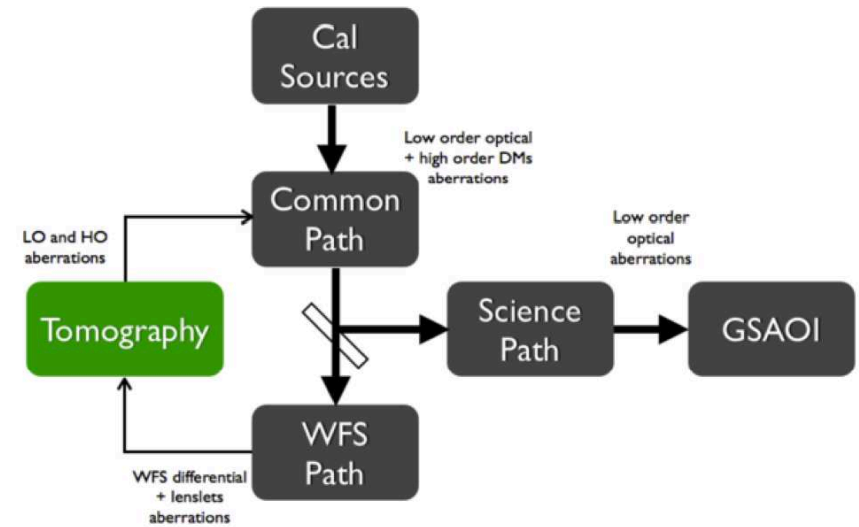












(NCPA optimizes the wave-front in the science beam, but may degrade it severely in the NGSWFS path !)

(NCPA issues for wide-field AO systems: Impossibility to compensate for anything that's not close to a DM conjugation altitude !)

Wind profiler method (Wang et al. 2008)

Time-delayed cross correlation between two wave front sensors, WFS_A and WFS_B , is :

$$T^{AB}(\Delta u, \Delta v, \Delta t) = \frac{\left\langle \sum_{u,v} S_{u,v}^A(t) \cdot S_{u+\Delta u, v+\Delta v}^B(t + \Delta t) \right\rangle}{O(\Delta u, \Delta v)}$$

$S_{u,v}^{WFS}(t)$: X and Y slopes of the WFS in subaperture (u,v) at time t

$O(\Delta u, \Delta v)$: overlapping illuminated subapertures for offset

Δt : is a multiple of the acquisition time

Signal is retrieved by deconvolution $FT^{-1}[FT[T^{AB}]/FT[A]]$

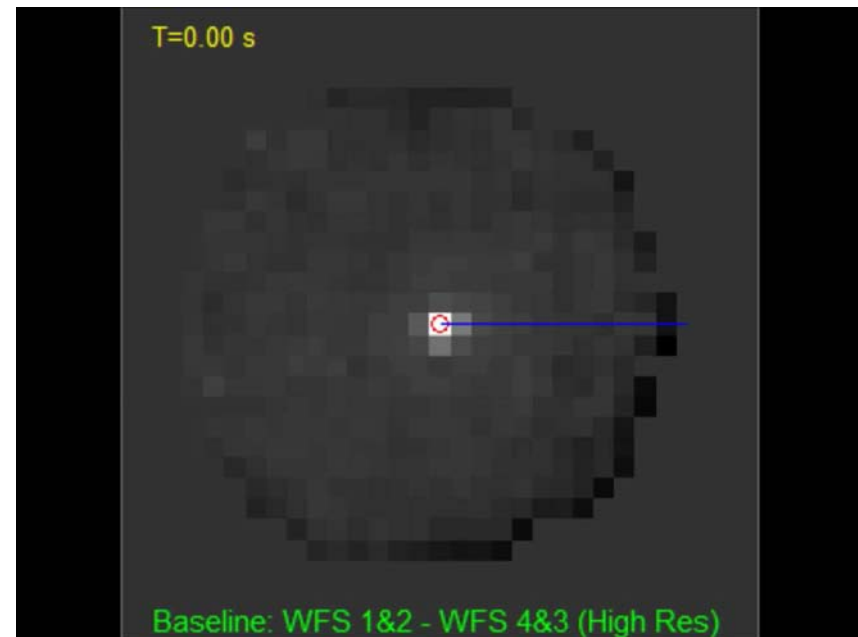
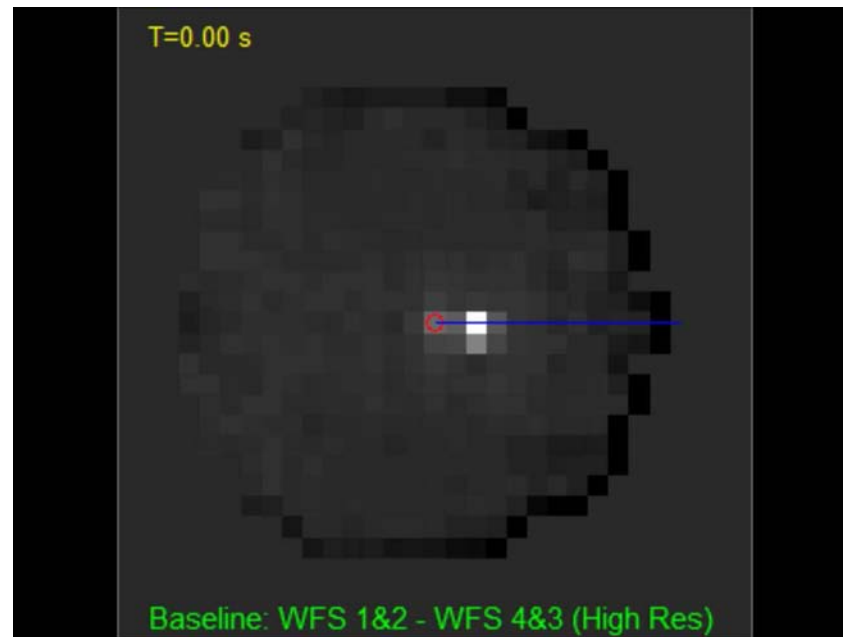
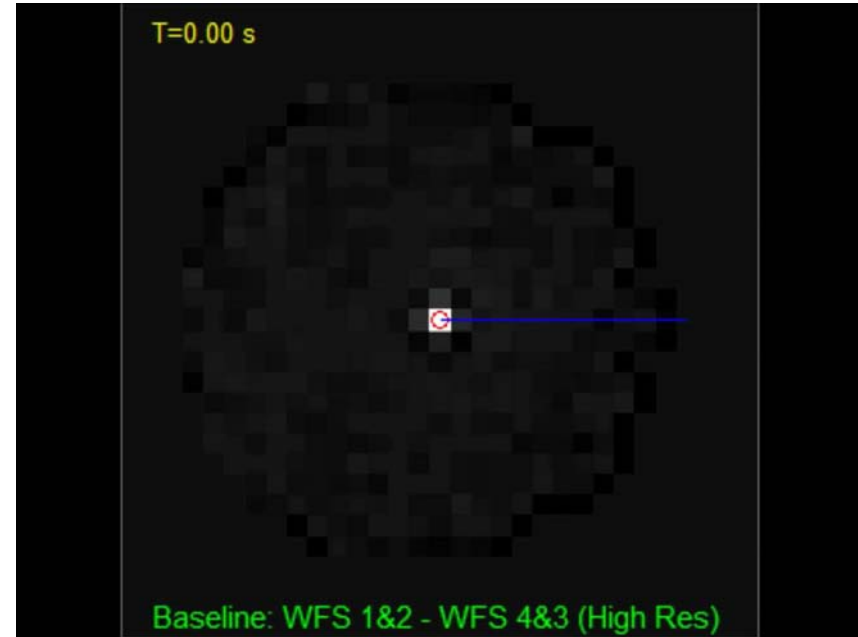
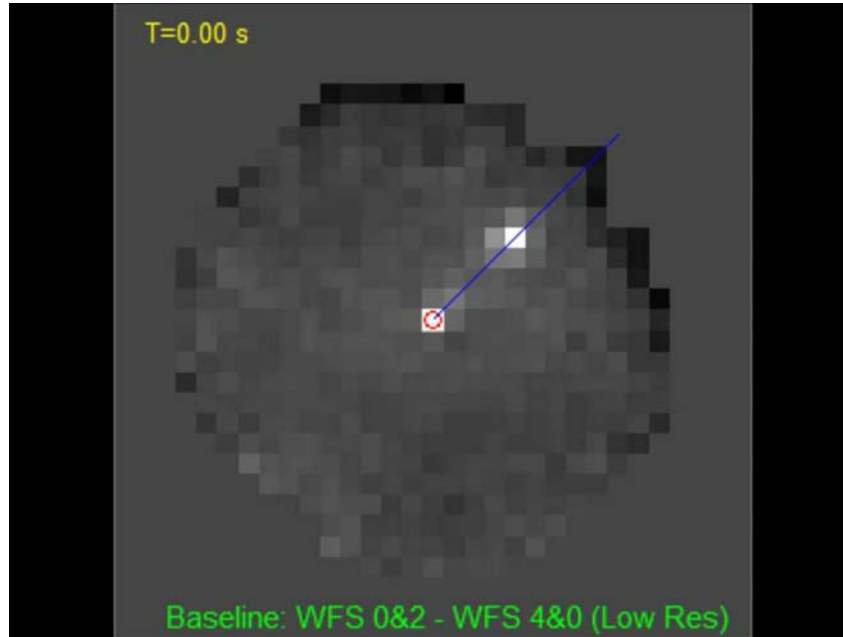
$$A(\Delta u, \Delta v) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\left\langle \sum_{u,v} S_{u,v}^A(t) \cdot S_{u+\Delta u, v+\Delta v}^A(t) \right\rangle}{O(\Delta u, \Delta v)} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\left\langle \sum_{u,v} S_{u,v}^B(t) \cdot S_{u+\Delta u, v+\Delta v}^B(t) \right\rangle}{O(\Delta u, \Delta v)}$$

A is the average of the autocorrelations of WFS_A and WFS_B

GeMS' wind profiler

For $T = 0$ s, the turbulence profile in altitude is extracted from the baseline

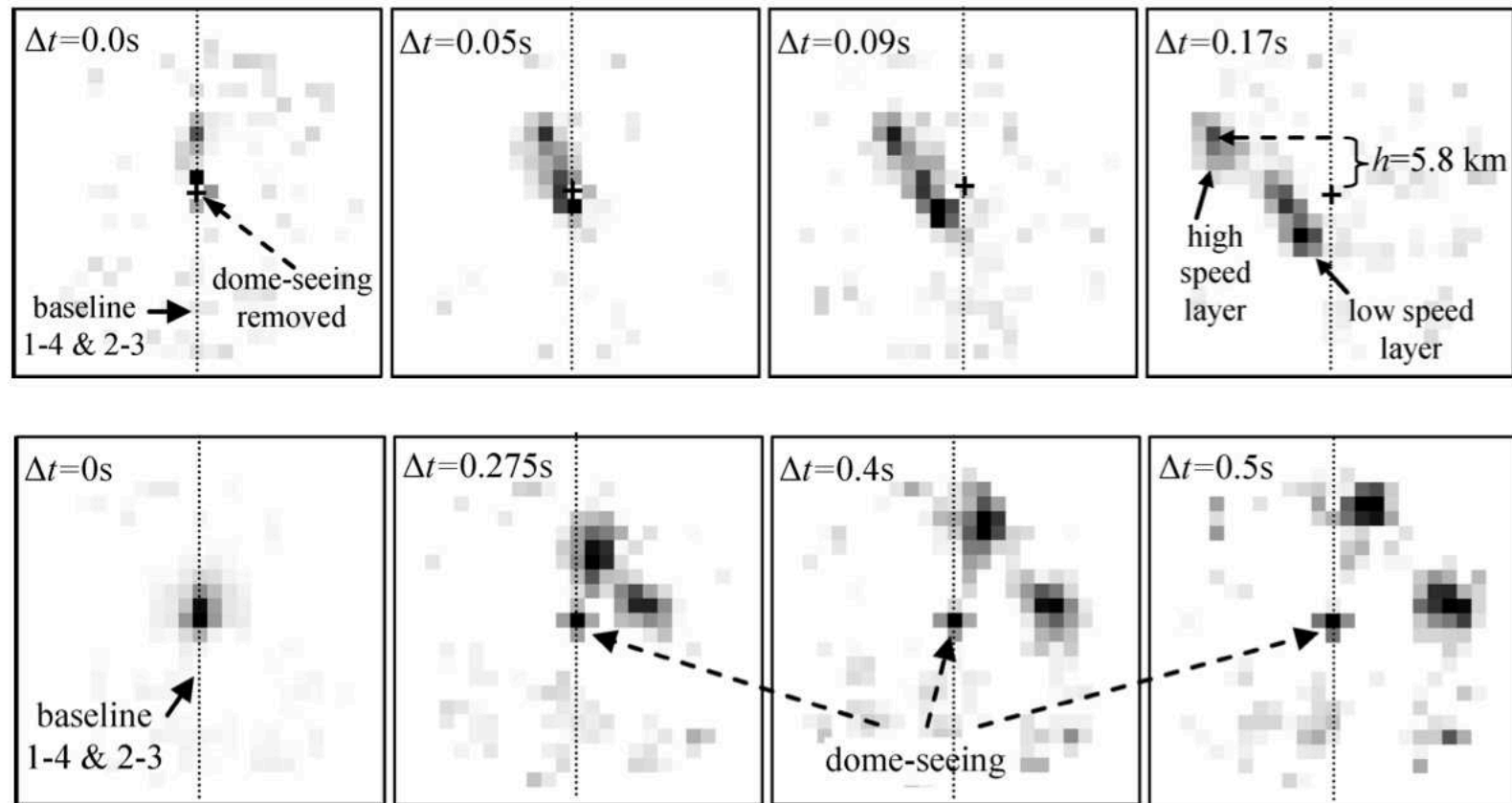
For $T > 0$, the layers present can be detected and their velocity estimated



GeMS' wind profiler

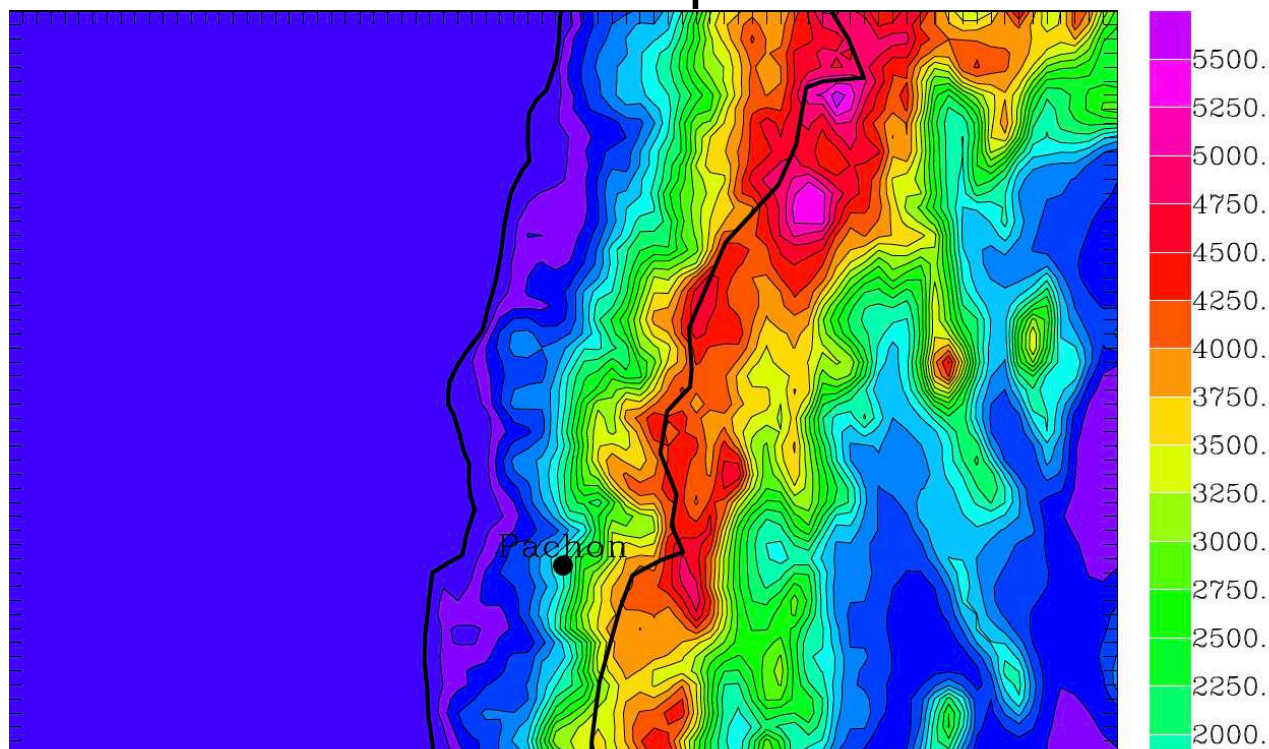
For $T = 0$ s, the turbulence profile in altitude is extracted from the baseline

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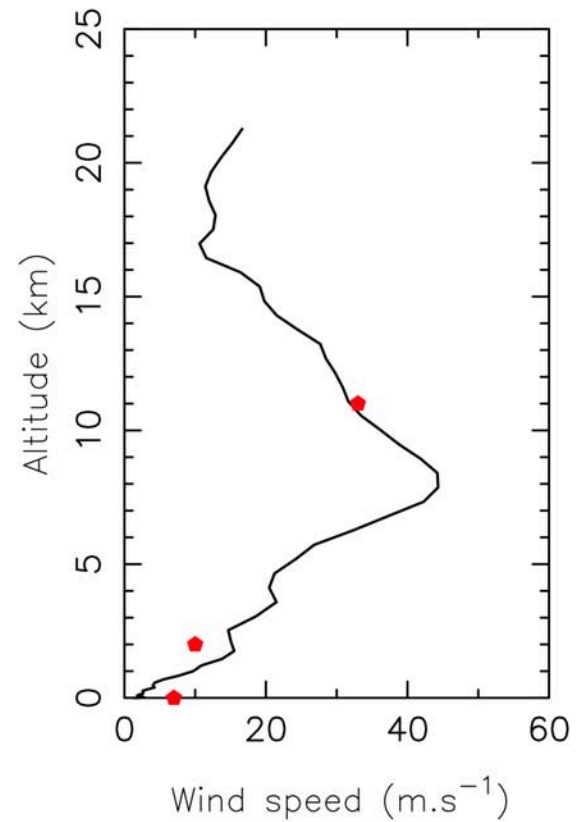
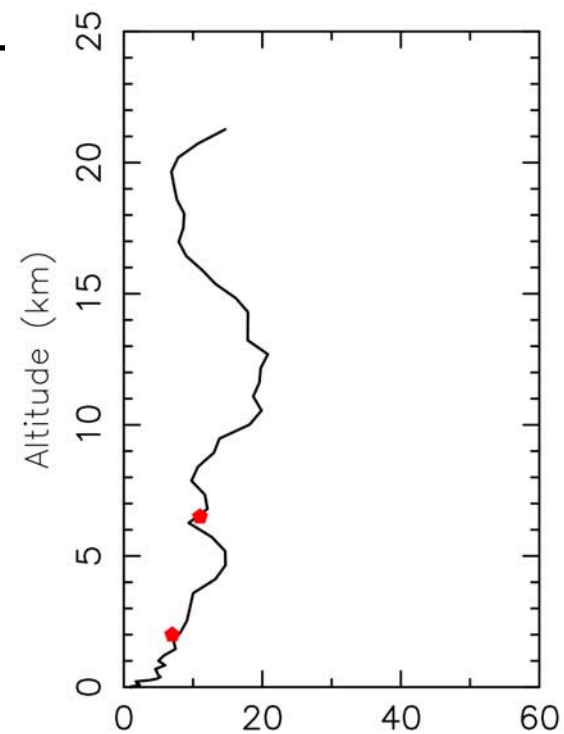
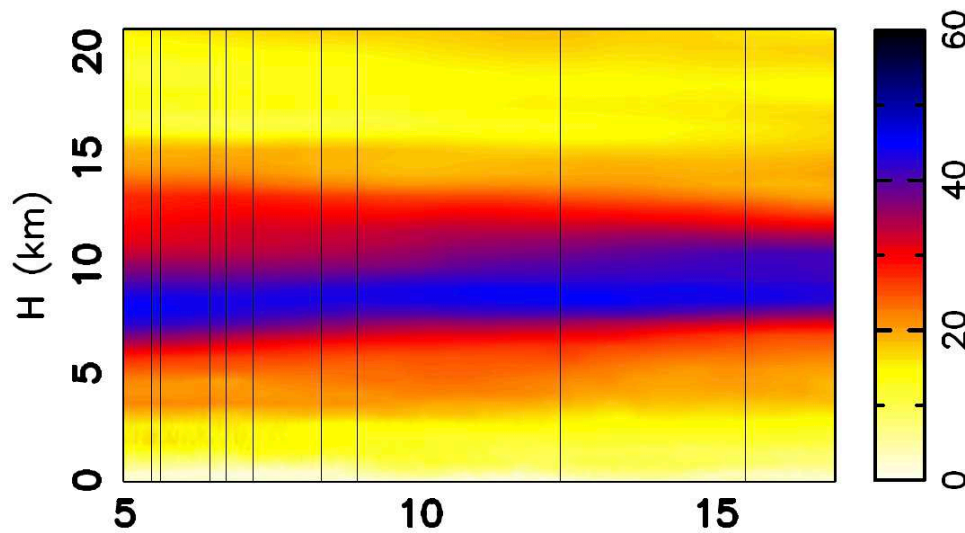


GeMS' wind profiler

Cross-Check with wind predictions



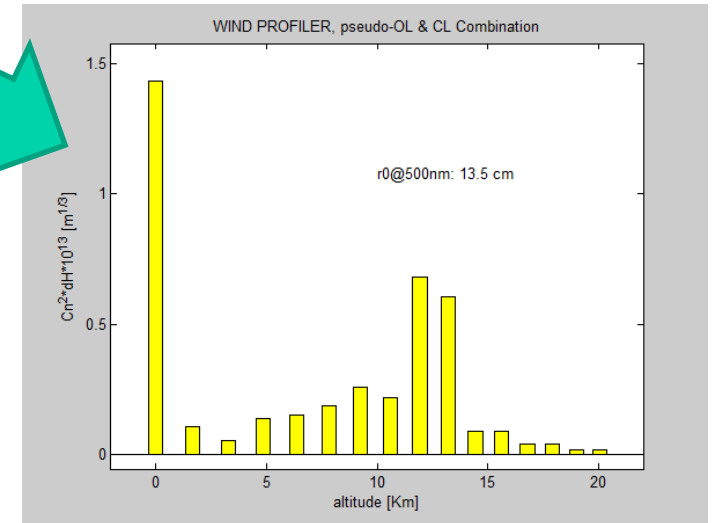
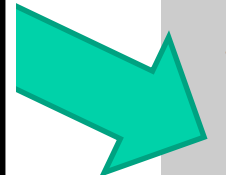
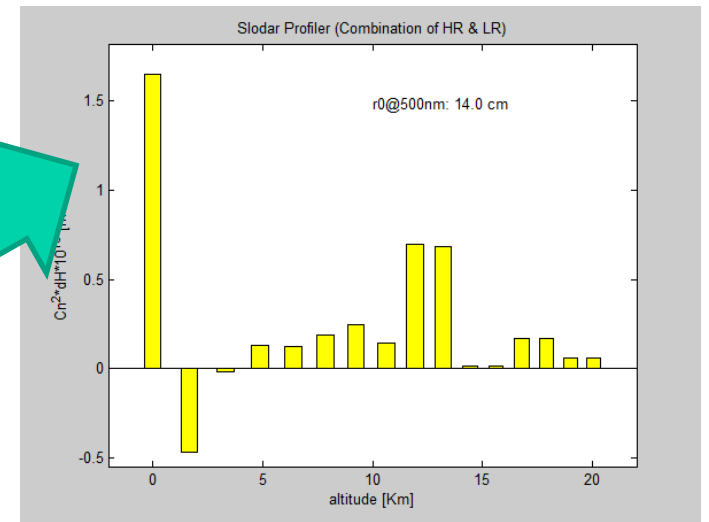
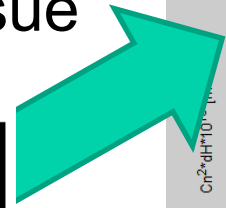
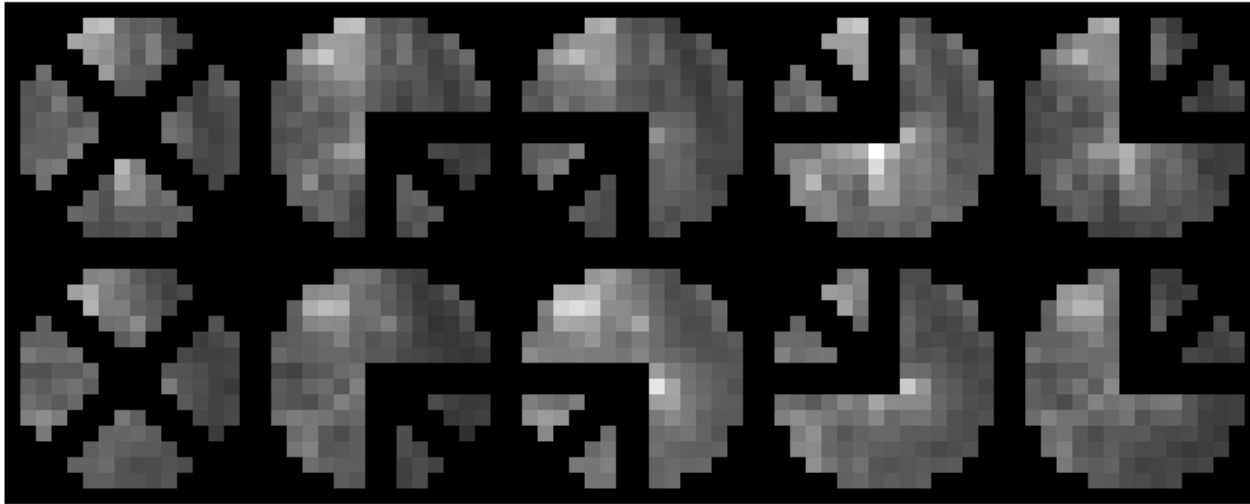
Wind speed 23052013 UT



GeMS' wind profiler

Wind profiler solves the “negative Cn2” issue

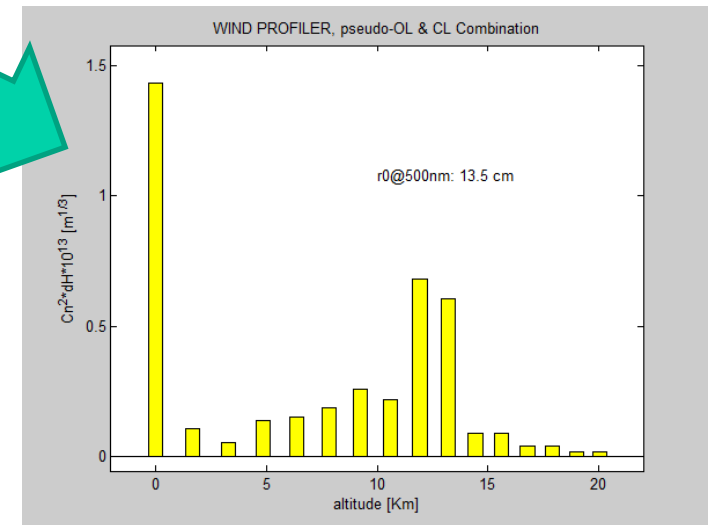
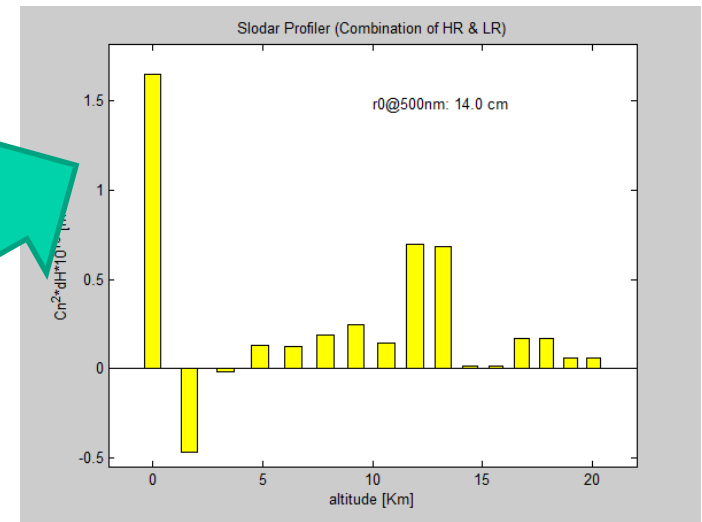
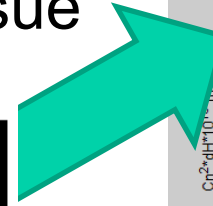
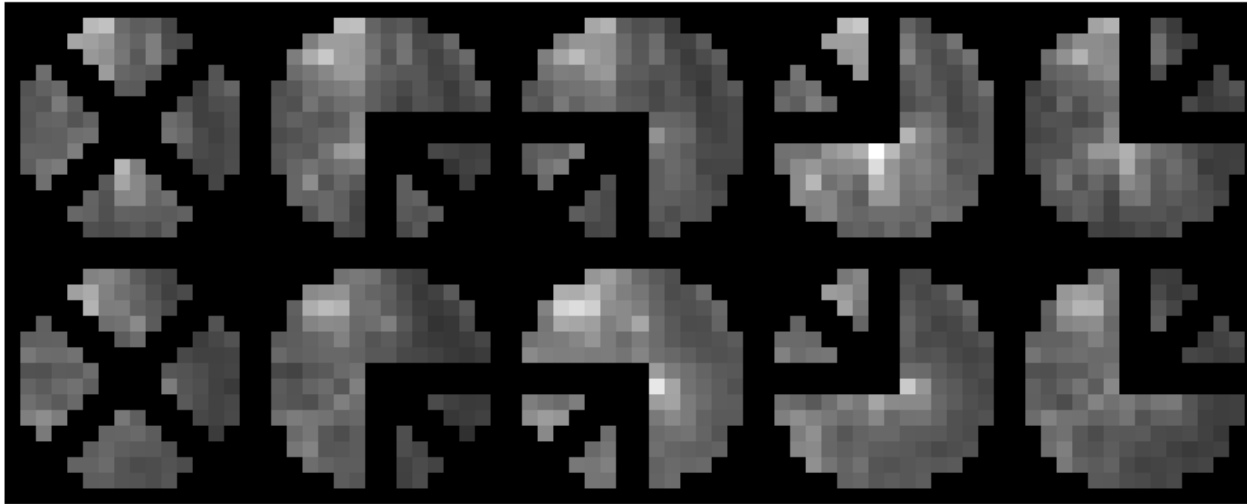
Variance of valid subapertures, X (top); Y (bottom)



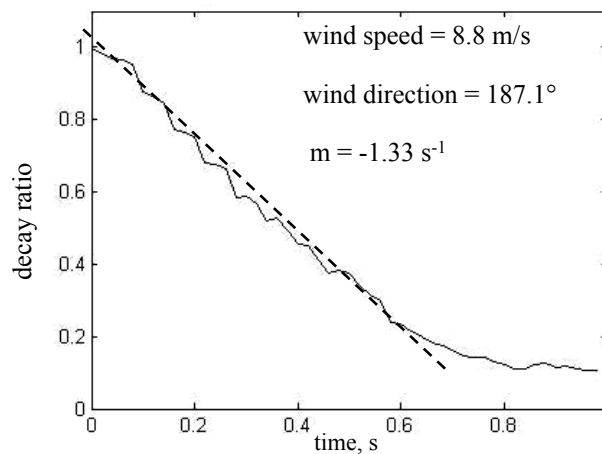
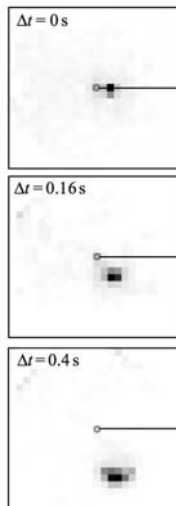
GeMS' wind profiler

Wind profiler solves the “negative Cn2” issue

Variance of valid subapertures, X (top); Y (bottom)



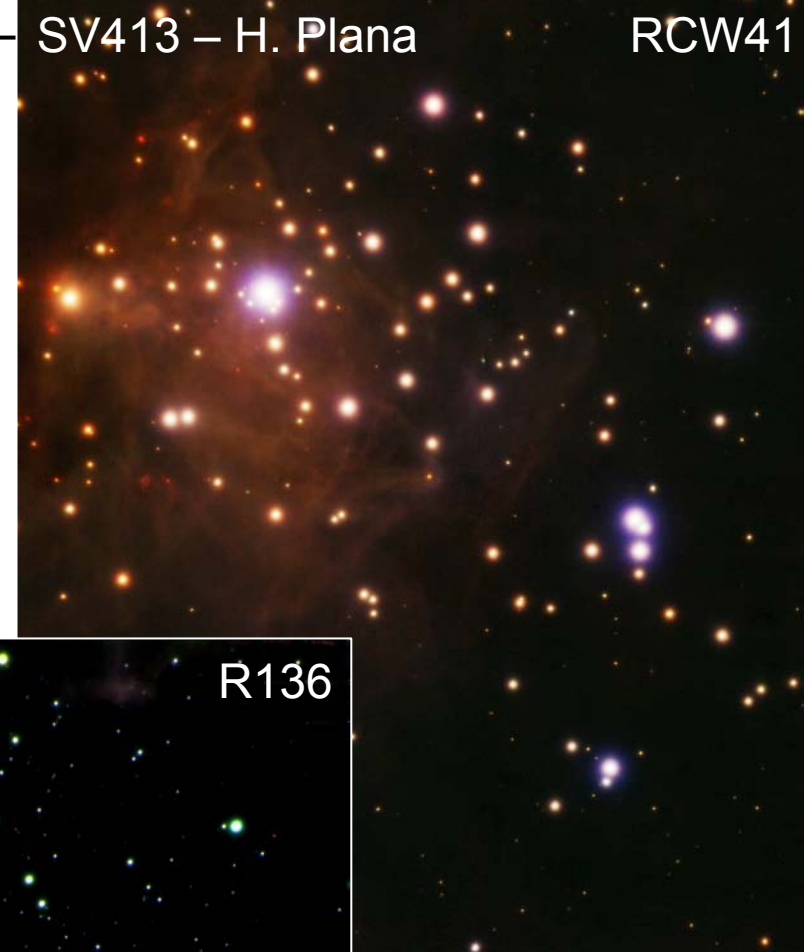
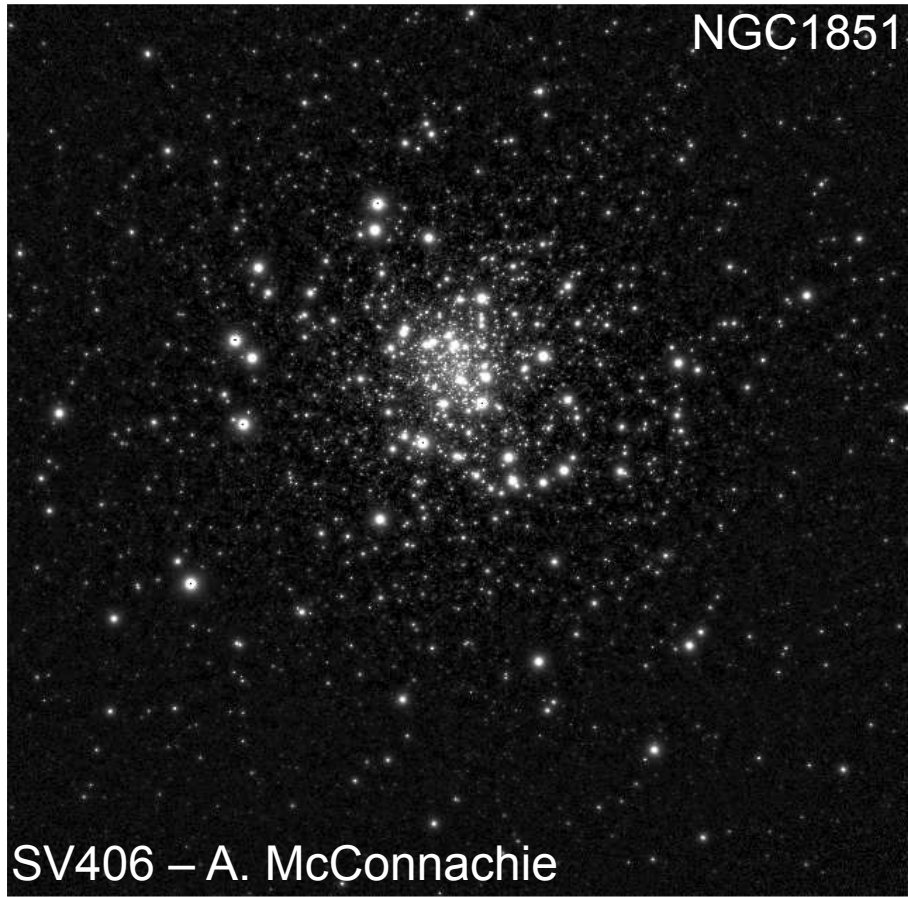
Also allows to study the Frozen Flow hypothesis



Star Clusters

SV413 – H. Plana

RCW41





HAFNER 16: A YOUNG MOVING GROUP IN THE MAKING; Version 5.0; May 8, 2013

T. J. Davidge

*Dominion Astrophysical Observatory,
National Research Council of Canada, 5071 West Saanich Road,
Victoria, BC Canada V9E 2E7*

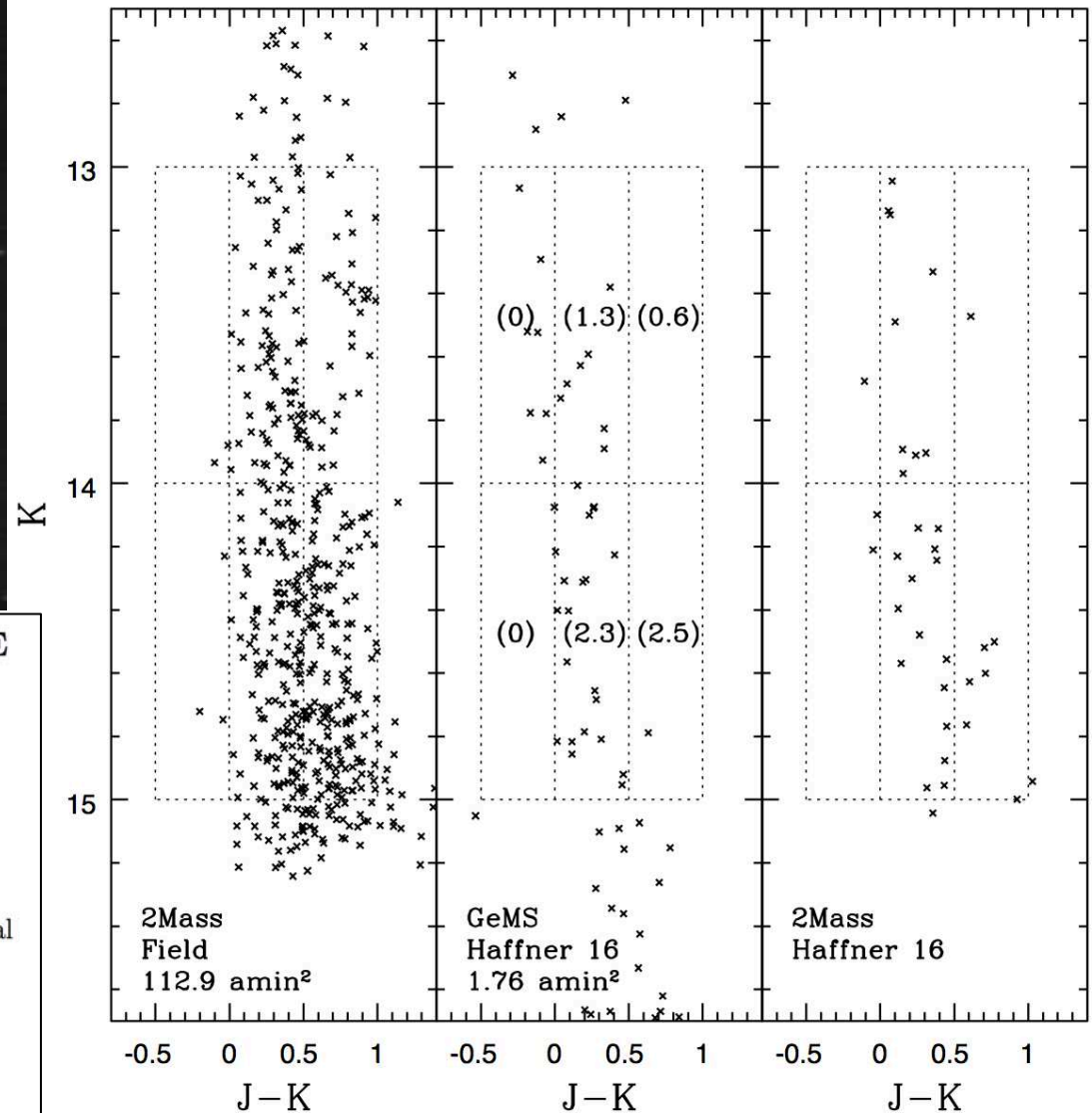
Rodrigo Carrasco, Claudia Winge, Peter Pessev, Benoit Neichel, Fabrice Vidal

Gemini Observatory, La Serena, Chile

Francois Rigaut

Australian National University

Low mass cluster
Age estimation based on PMS
~ 10Myr cluster





Why MCAO is good for astrometry ?

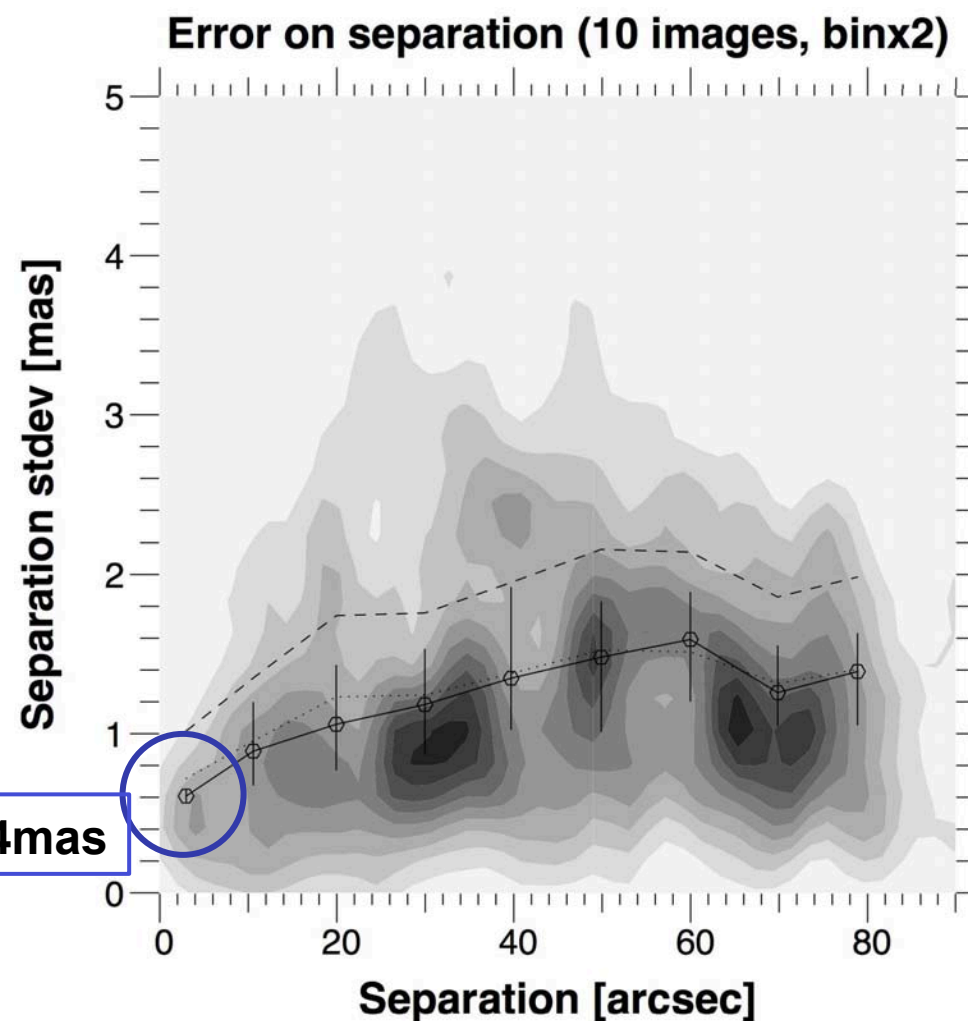
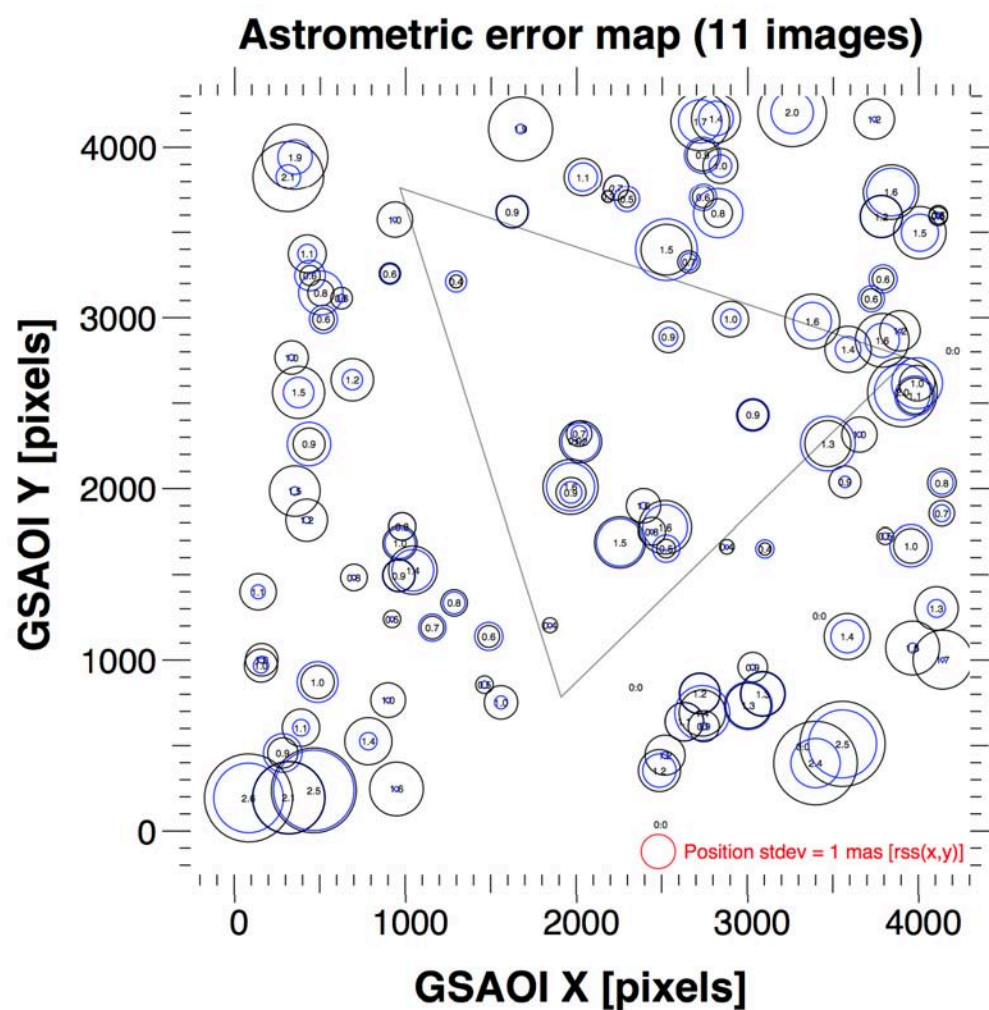
- ◆ Active control of plate scales
- ◆ Large FoV => more reference stars
- ◆ PSFs are uniform over the field



Why MCAO is good for astrometry ?

- ◆ Active control of plate scales
- ◆ Large FoV => more reference stars
- ◆ PSFs are uniform over the field

Rigaut, Neichel et al. 2012

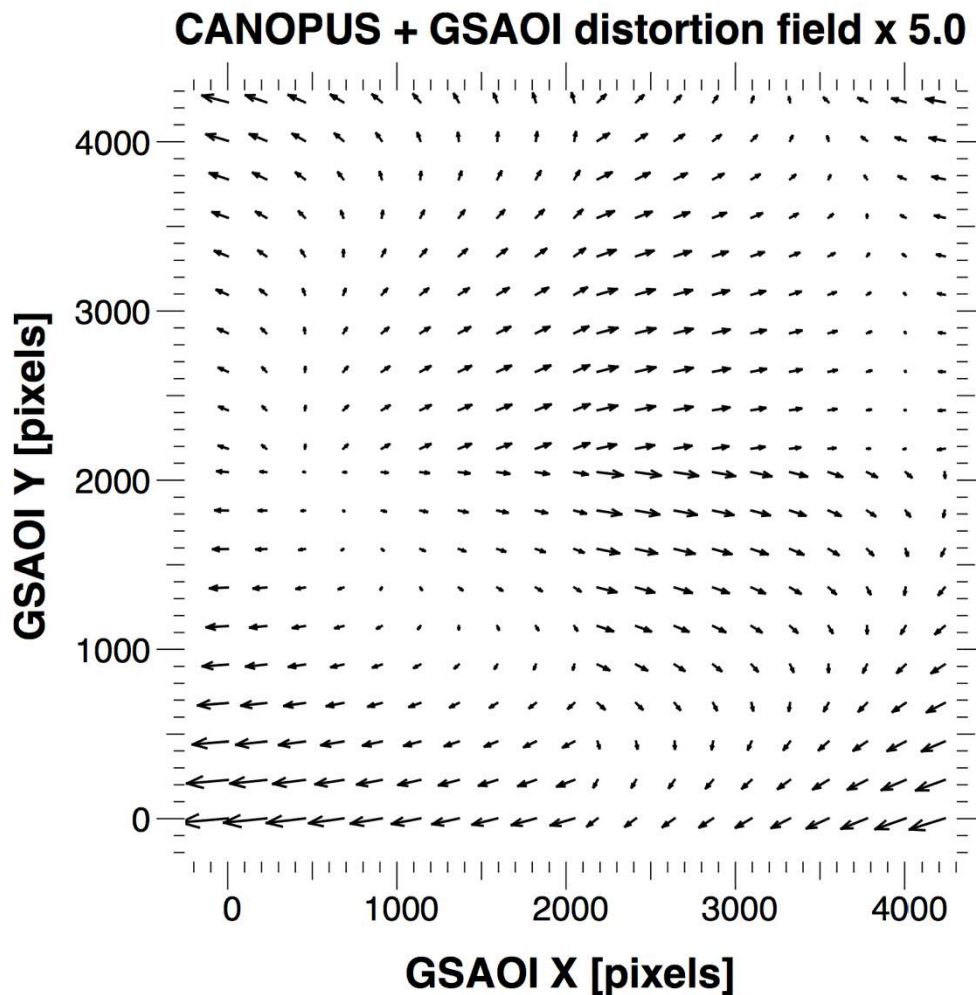




Why MCAO is good for astrometry ?

- ◆ Active control of plate scales
- ◆ Large FoV => more reference stars
- ◆ PSFs are uniform over the field

But astrometry is challenging:



Distortions in Science plane are difficult to calibrate.

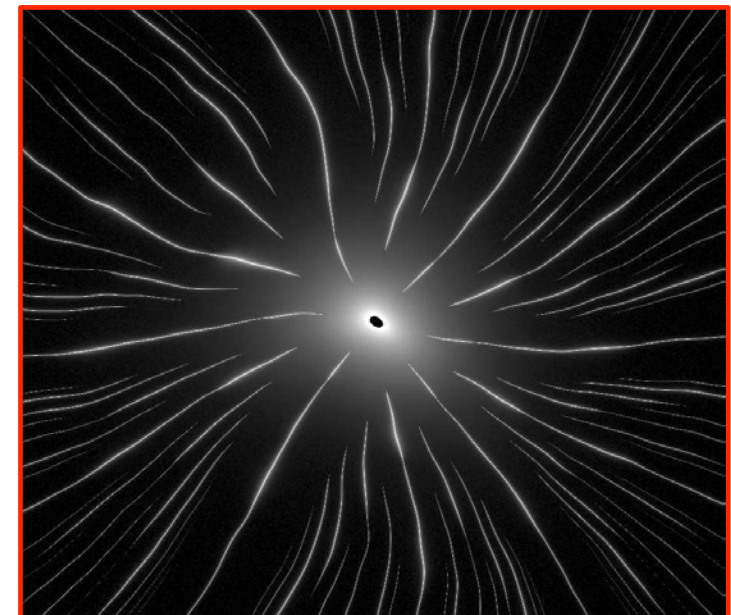
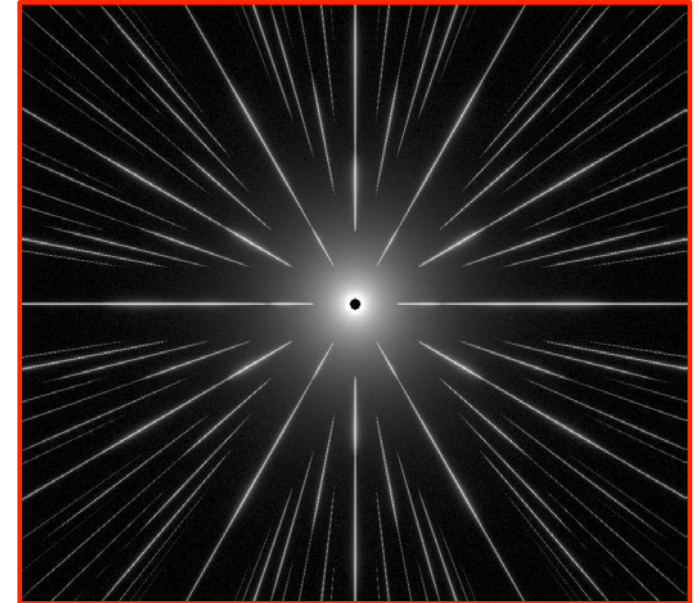
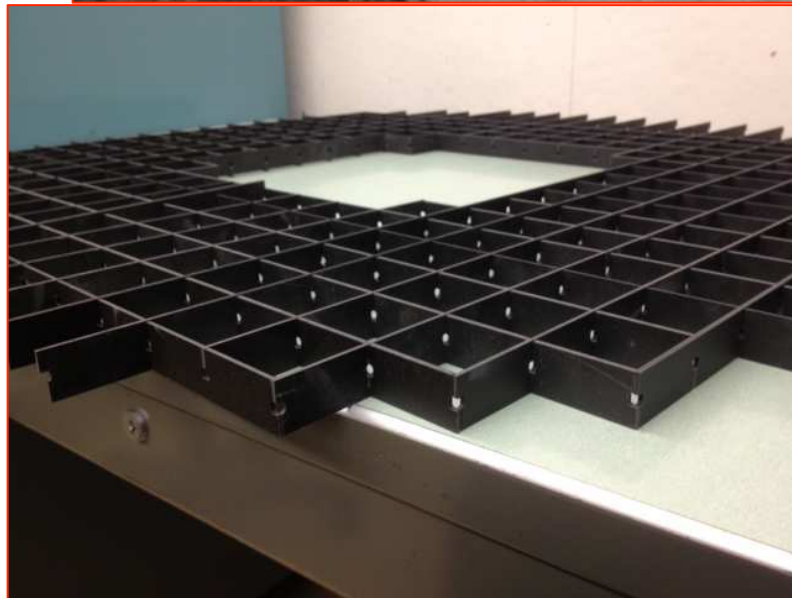


Multi-epoch astrometric performance is ~ 1 mas

For crowded fields, it can be calibrated
For sparse fields, looking for hardware solutions



Diffraction grid for high-precision astrometry programs



*Guyon+12
Bendek+12
Ammons+12.*