Astrophotonic Quantum Astronomy...



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The Remarkable Rebirth of Masking Interferometry

Keck / NIRC2





Anthony Cheetham

VLT / CONICA



9 Hole pupil mask



Image Plane (linear/log)



Fourier Plane



Asymmetric structures in Transition Disks





Huelamo et al. A&A 2011 2013 (+Cheetham)...



Kraus & Irelad ApJ 2011



Masking: present status

- Mostly L band (some K band detections)
- Now more than half dozen detections of asymmetry
- > What are we seeing?
- > Search for evidence of orbital motion.
- NACO is going away (probably)
- >NIRC2 going strong
- > New opportunities at GPI, LBT
- Also big algorithmic gains



Image Credit: ESO/L. Calçada





JAM: JWST Aperture Mask



SPACE TELESCOPE MIRROR COMPARISON













FICSM: Fizeau Interferometric Cophasing of Segmented Mirrors



- Initial state mirror has tilt 0.5 arcsec and phase errors of 150 microns
- Algoithm requires one broadband and one narrowband image. Repeat once (two cycles).
- Delivers 3.7mas tilt and 0.75nm in a single application of the algorithm (does not require convergence).
- Now adopted as primary backup strategy for phasing JWST mirrors in the event of a failure of NIRCAM.
- Can be extended to any segmented mirror
- > Does not require a mask
- > Working on seeing limited case

Cheetham, Tuthill et al. Applied Optics 2013



Kernel Phase detection of Brown Dwarf binaries

- Reanalysis of archival Hubble Space Telescope data from a previous survey looking for brown dwarf binaries (Reid et al., 2006)
- Use Kernel Phase a generalization of Closure Phase which applies to redundant pupils (Martinache 2010)
- Kernel Phase works at high Strehl when wavefronts can be approximated as a linear sum of phase errors



Ben Pope





(2006), 2M 0149-4954

Fourier phases



The Incredible Precision of Kernel Phase I

- > Data vs. model for best parameter fit for the known binary from earlier
- > With error bars!
- ase > A good fit lies on the Kernel Ph y = x line – this does over its entire range
- > Parameters are an order of magnitude more precise than visual estimates





Comparison with Previous Survey

Target – 2MASS	Old		New	
2252-1730	Н	J	Н	J
Separation	140		127.8 ± 2.3	125.8 ± 1.5
θ	341.5		353.1 <u>+</u> 0.5	353.7 ± 0.4
Contrast	4.2	2.47	3.5 ± 0.1	2.47 ± 0.05
0147-4954				
Separation	190		139.9 <u>+</u> 0.3	139.7 ± 0.2
θ	67.6		72.7 <u>+</u> 0.1	72.5 <u>+</u> 0.1
Contrast	1.58	3.5	2.07 ± 0.01	2.36 ± 0.01

New Binaries







- Here is an L dwarf which is not obviously a binary
- Reid et al. (2006) looked hard and noted 'PSF abnormality' in some targets
- Is there a slight gradient in the Fourier phases?
- Can kernel phases detect anything in such a marginal case?



- THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY
- Data vs. model for a new L dwarf binary, 2M 2028+0052
- We have five strong candidates of this form
 - mostly with no PSF abnormality noted
- All close binaries at low contrast
 - Follow up to confirm and get masses



Kernel Phase Outcomes



- Two orders of magnitude more precise astrometry on eight known binaries for follow-up
- > Discovered five new brown dwarf binaries
- Higher Binary Fraction lends further weight against embryo ejection models, favouring gravo-turbulent collapse
- Uncovered a population of a half dozen high contrast (>10) potential planetary-mass candidates
- Illustrated the power of kernel phase for space and ground based high contrast detection
- Required the development of sophisticated data analysis (Nested Sampling Bayesian Methods).



Illustration by Jon Lomberg, University of Toronto. Published in *National Geographic*, September 13, 2011.

Pope, Martinache and Tuthill 2013 ApJ



A masking go-faster stripe: Polarimetric Interferometry for enhanced precision

CONICA camera with Wollaston Prism



Normal Imaging



Polarised light





Barnaby Norris



Optical Interferometric Polarimetry: W Hydrae





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Grain Size: 10 nm metrology precision at 100 PC !

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Dust grain size and mass tightly constrained from multi-lambda scattering



VAMPIRES: Visible Aperture Masking Polarimetric Interferometer for Resolving Exoplanetary Signatures





The Dragonfly Instrument







2-D to 1-D Pupil Reformatting











First DRAGONFLY on-sky data



Cassini's Ringside view of Mira



Paul Stewart

- VIMS instrument
 - Visible & Infrared Mapping Spectrograph
 - Designed for stellar occultations
 - Continuous spectra 1-5 microns
 - Space: no scintillation noise!

Cassini-Saturn System Geometry

- Inner Encke Gap edge is sharp
- Highly elliptical 18 day orbit
- ~4 times Earth-Moon distance
- Apogee, most distant and slowest point, best for occultations



Model Fitting Examples





First results on Mira







 Resolved molecular atmosphere of Mira with stellar occultations from Cassini over 1-5 micron region

 Able to constrain state of the art models in this critical wavelength range in the windbase region around the star

CODEX Mira Atmosphere model