

AOIM2013

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Adaptive Optics in Astronomy: deblurring the atmosphere

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Abstract content :

The application of Adaptive Optics in astronomy has been revolutionary for ground based telescopes, particularly those working in the near infrared region of the electromagnetic spectrum. Techniques are rapidly evolving and current systems can already rival space-based telescopes (e.g. the Hubble Space Telescope) in some areas. This talk will briefly review how astronomical AO works and the results that can be achieved. The effects of the atmosphere in causing image degradation will be presented, as will the manner in which we can monitor its effect in real time. Finally the potential future use of Ground Layer AO for the Southern African Large Telescope will be discussed.

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