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# Frontiers of Imaging at LLNL

## Applications and Technology Overview

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**Coherent Communication, Imaging, and Targeting Program**

**Physics and Advanced Technologies**  
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# **New developments in optics, detectors, and signal processing technologies are enabling new approaches to optical imaging**

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New imaging technologies can lead to revolutionary new national security capabilities:

- 3D movies of high energy laser fusions plasmas on 100 fsec time scales
- Detecting and classifying WMD activities anywhere on earth
- Detecting and characterizing clandestine nuclear or radiological devices

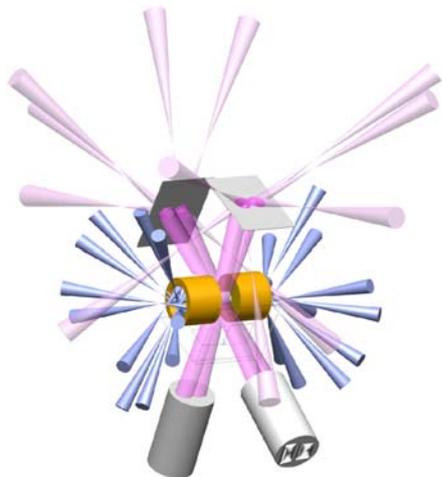
The same technologies lead to new scientific applications:

- Direct imaging of single biomolecules at atomic resolution
- Directly imaging an extrasolar planet and measuring its spectrum

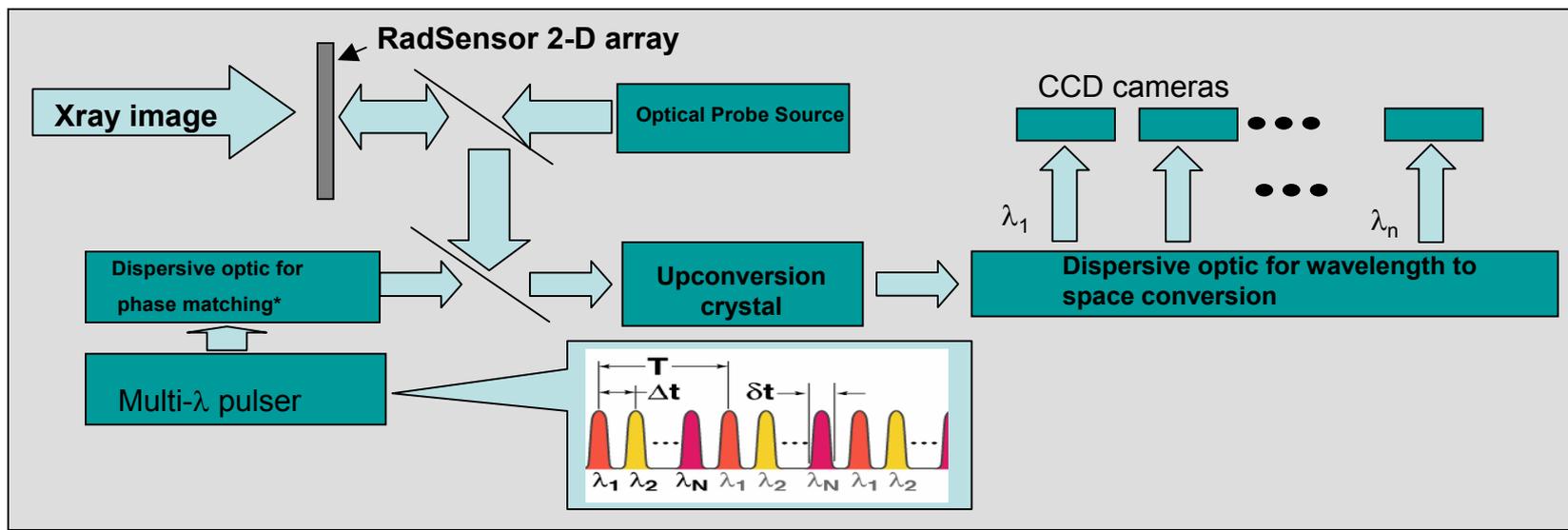
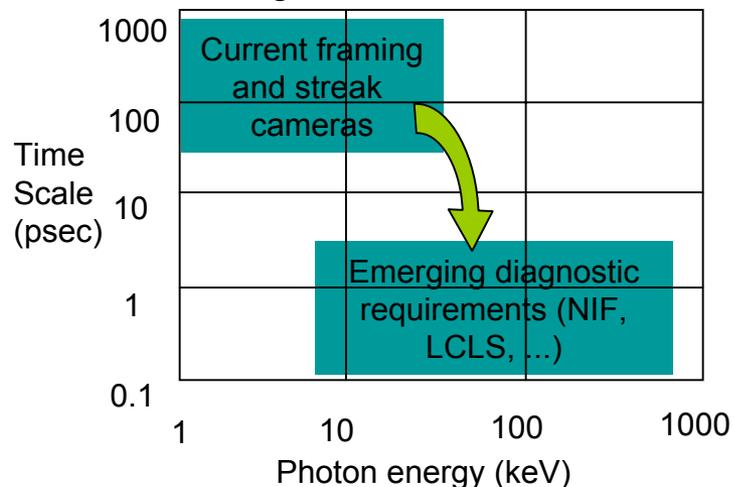
# Pushing temporal limits – x-ray framing cameras at sub-picosecond frame times



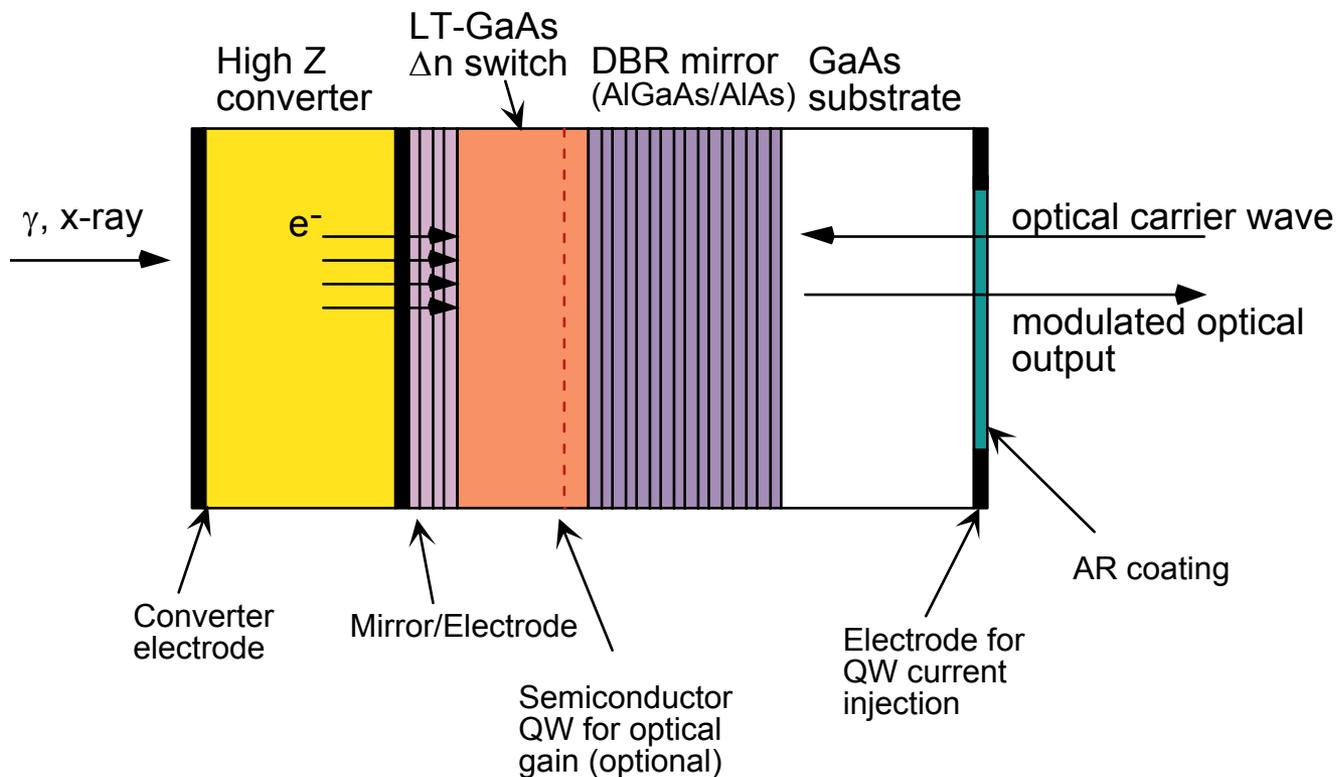
3D imaging enabled by new x-ray optics and detector technologies



Future diagnostics require high energies at short time scales



# Imaging Detector Structure

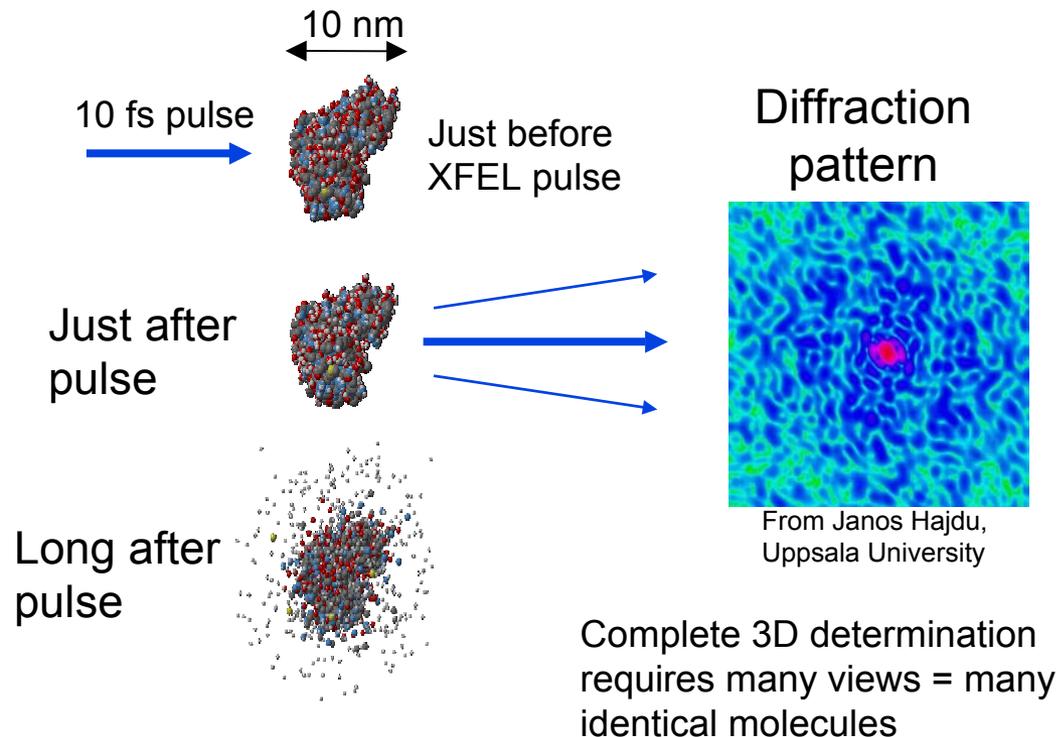
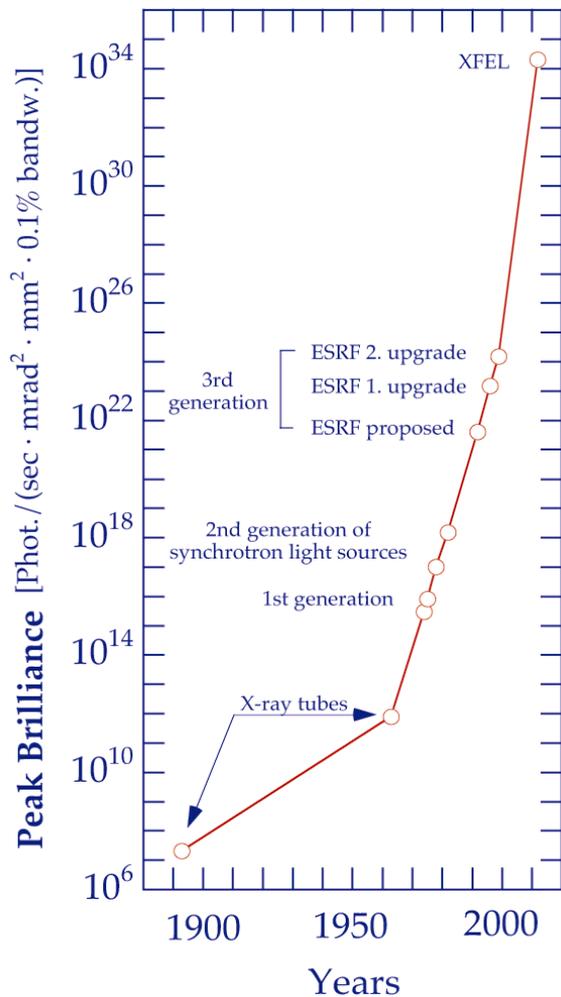


**VCSEL-like structure represents one pixel and can be epitaxially grown on a wafer-scale, enabling megapixel xray movies**

# Atomic-resolution imaging of virtually any biological macromolecule will become possible



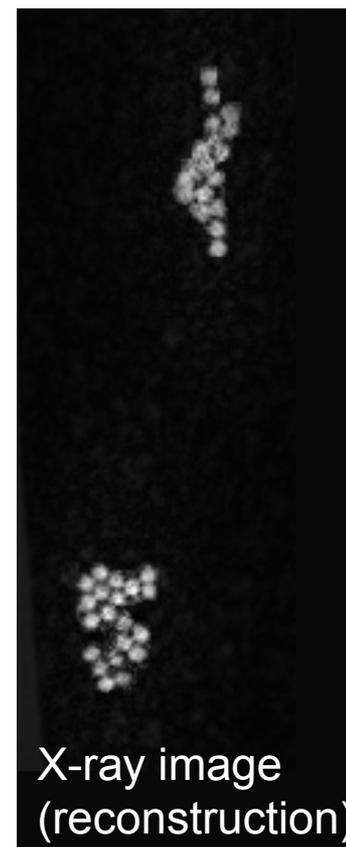
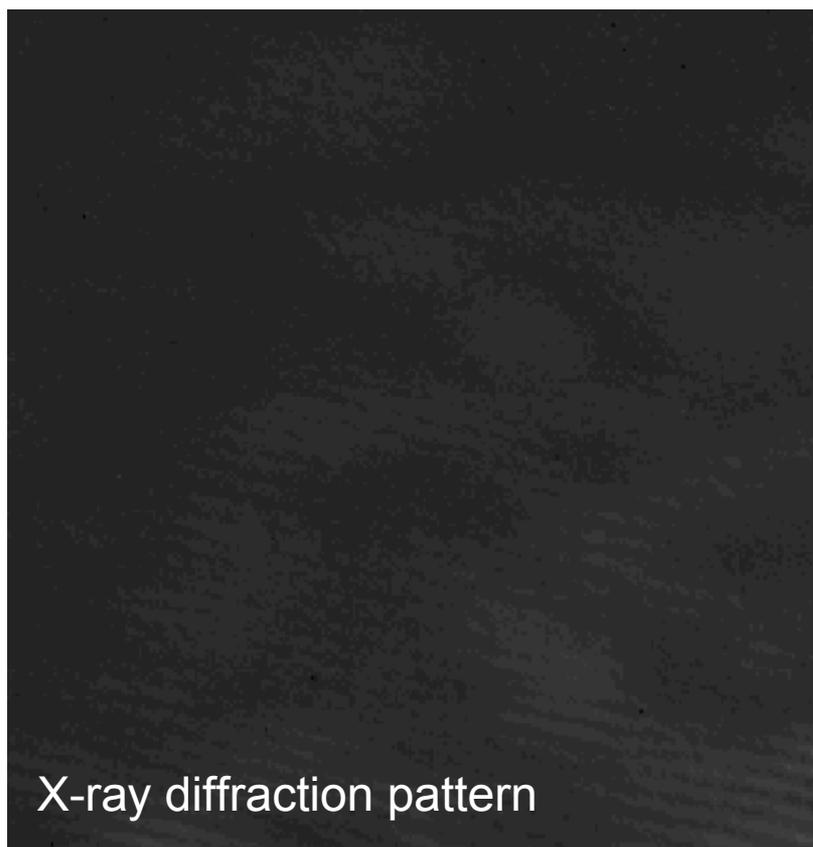
## Diffraction from a single molecule:



Two critical issues need to be solved:

- details of short-pulse photon-matter interactions
- image reconstruction

The image was reconstructed, with no additional image used to guide the reconstruction



Sample: 50 nm gold spheres

Diffraction recorded at ALS undulator beamline,  $\lambda = 2$  nm

Resolution of reconstructed image: 20 nm

Reconstruction performed with variation of Gerchberg-Saxton algorithm,  
with dynamic support constraint

Stefano Marchesini and Henry Chapman, LLNL

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# We Have Demonstrated LifeGuard as A Thermal Imaging System for Tracking Bullets and Artillery Shells



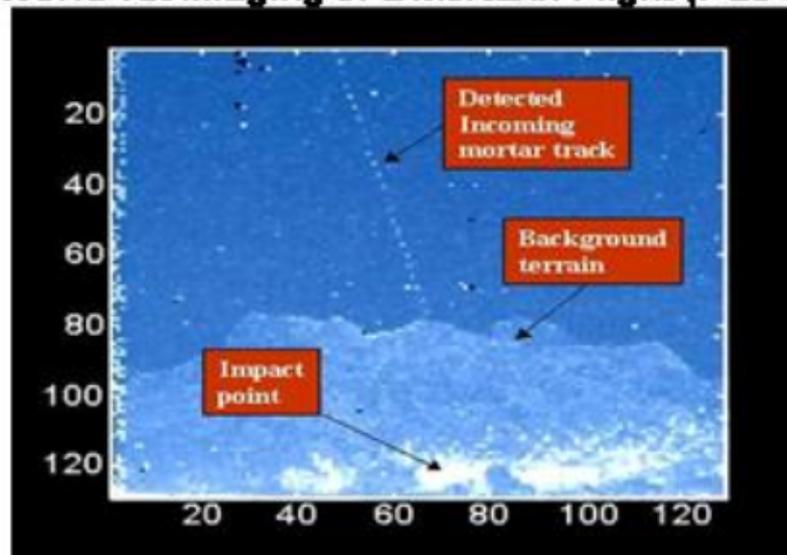
World 1st Imaging of Bullet in Flight (6-15-93)



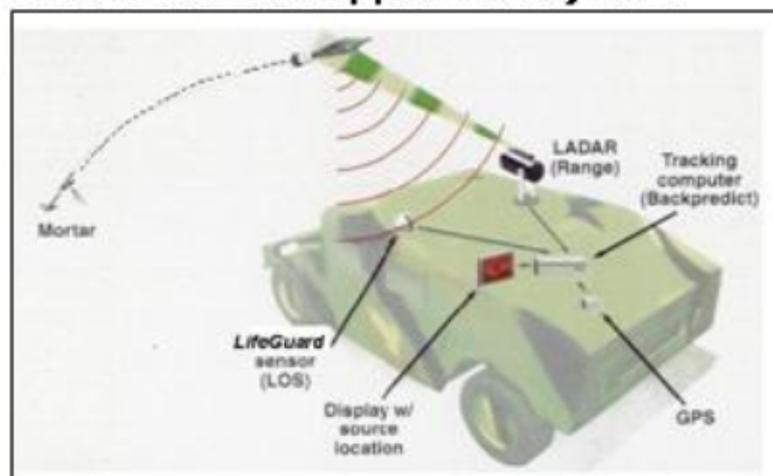
**A Counter SniperScope System**



World 1st Imaging of a Mortar in Flight (7-28-94)



**A Counter Fire Suppression System**

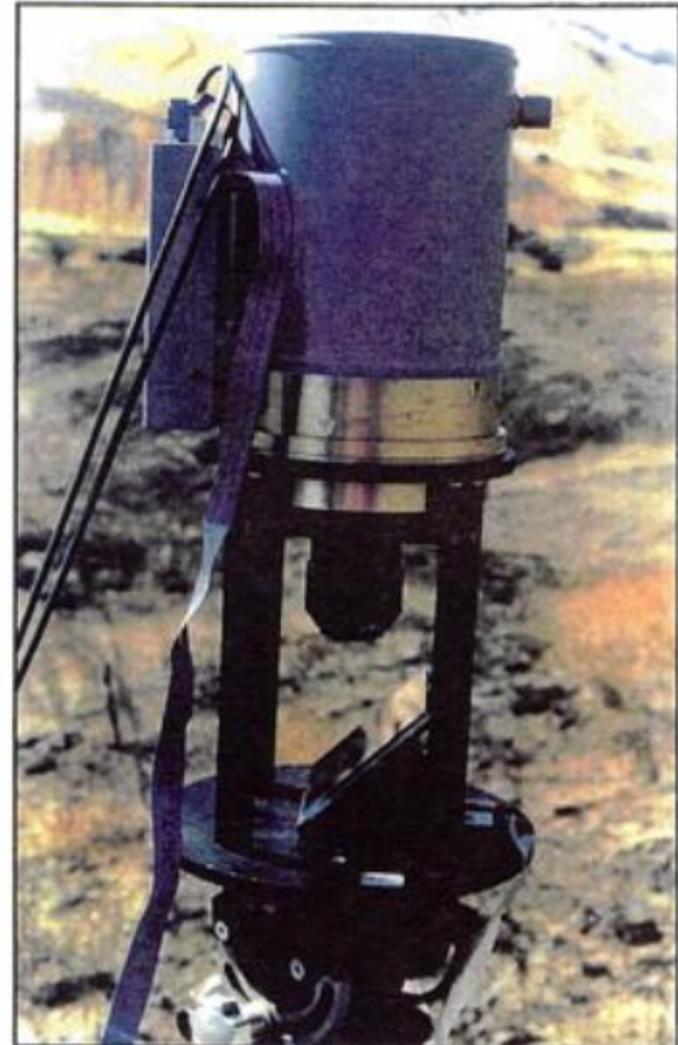


# Lifeguard I (1993) Demo System Sensor Specifications



Parameter	1993 Demo*
material	InSb
waveband, $\mu\text{m}$	3-5
quantum eff	40%
number of pixels	128 x 128
frame rate, Hz	217
readout	raster
bits	12
noise bits	1-2
BLIP limit	< 20%
pixel size, $\mu\text{m}$	50
FOV	16°
pixel IFOV, mrad	2
cooling	LN2
ruggedization	NA

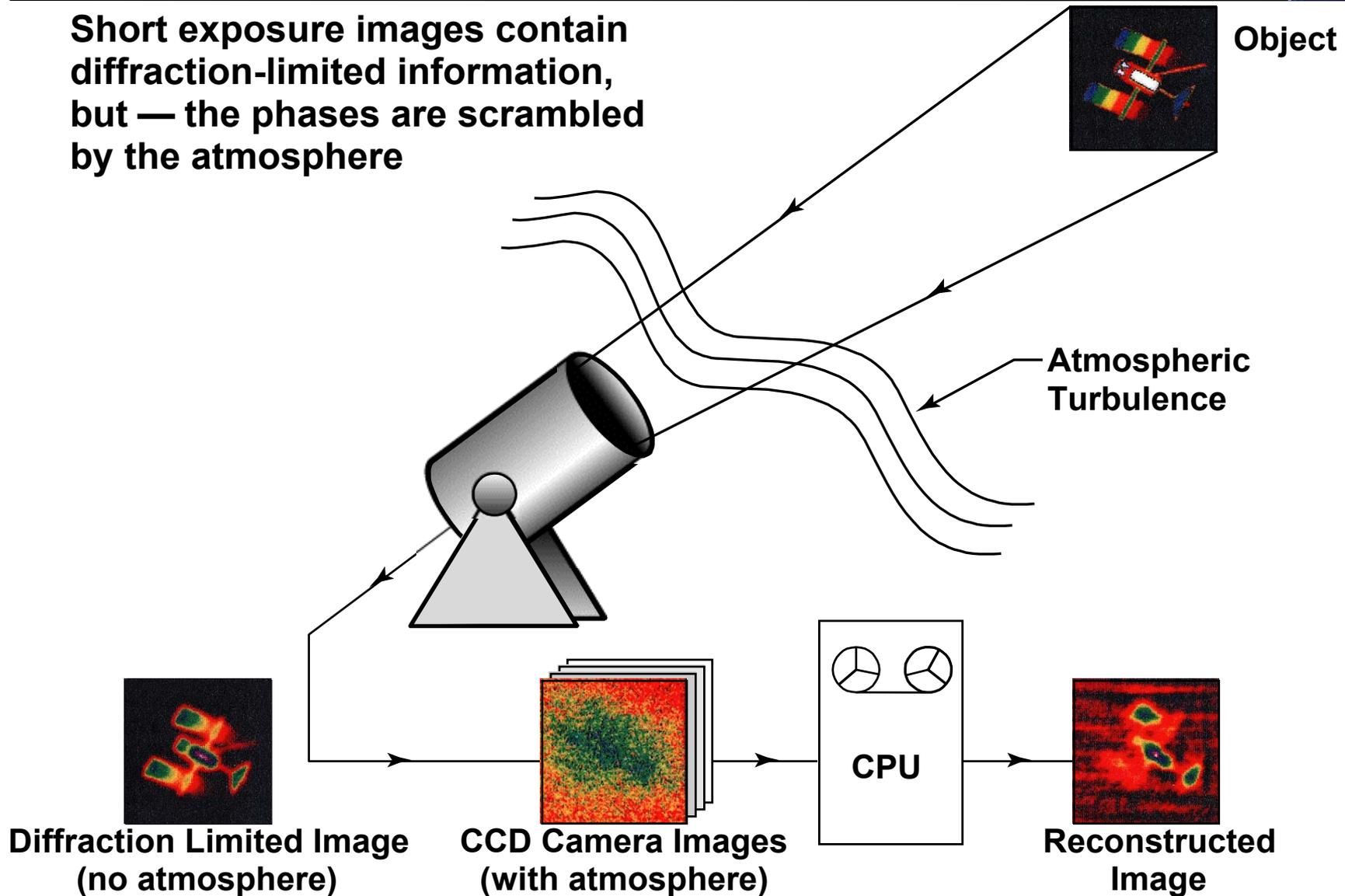
\* Note that current experiment senso electronic noise >> intrinsic back



# Speckle Imaging for High Resolution Surveillance



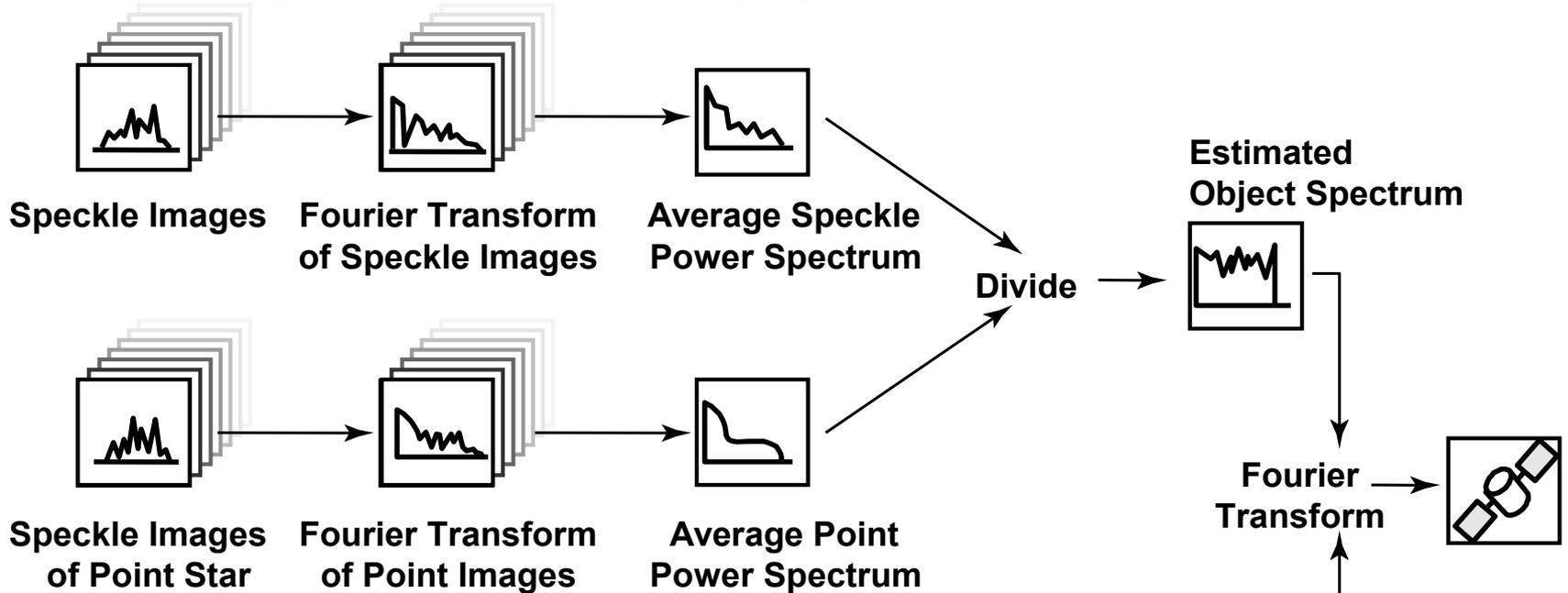
Short exposure images contain diffraction-limited information, but — the phases are scrambled by the atmosphere



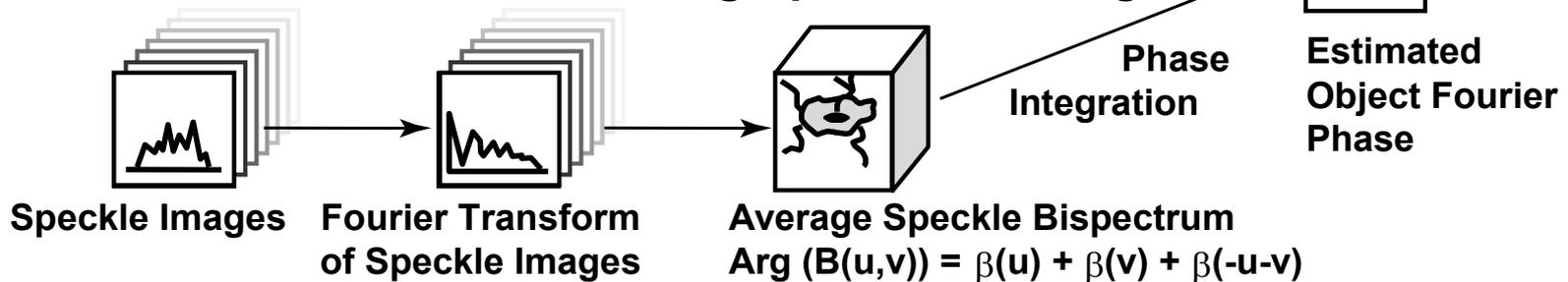
# The Fourier magnitude and phase can be estimated from speckle image sequences



- **Fourier Magnitude Estimate Using Speckle Interferometry**



- **Fourier Phase Estimate Using Speckle Masking**



$$\text{Arg}(B(u,v)) = \beta(u) + \beta(v) + \beta(-u-v)$$

# People and resolution targets from 3.3 km range



**Shift and Add**



**Speckle tile processed**

**100 frames**

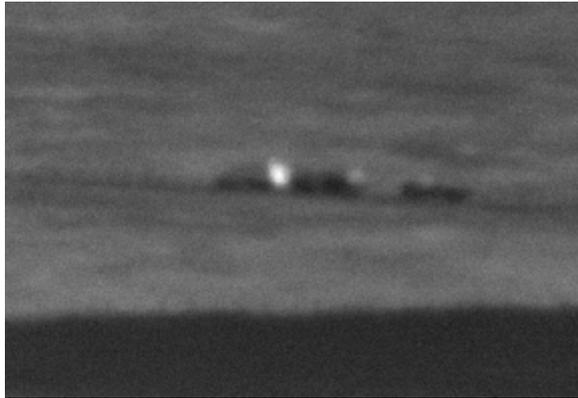
**15 ms exposures**

**256x256 sized tiles**

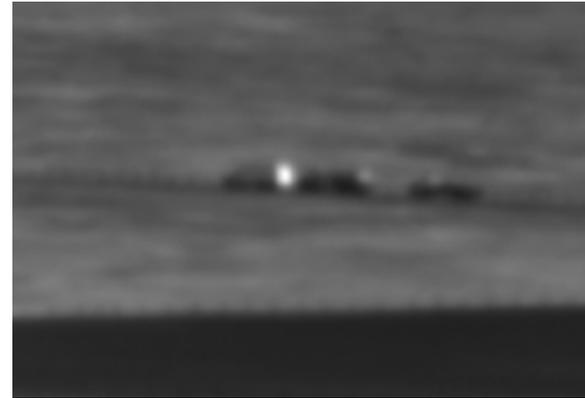
**60% Hanning apodization**

**Set  $r_0 = 2.0$  cm**

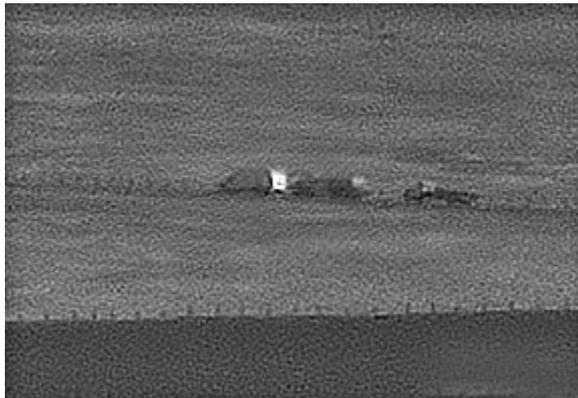
# Trucks at 22 km range



Sample frame



Shift and add 100 frames



20 cm aperture

dt = 0.9 ms

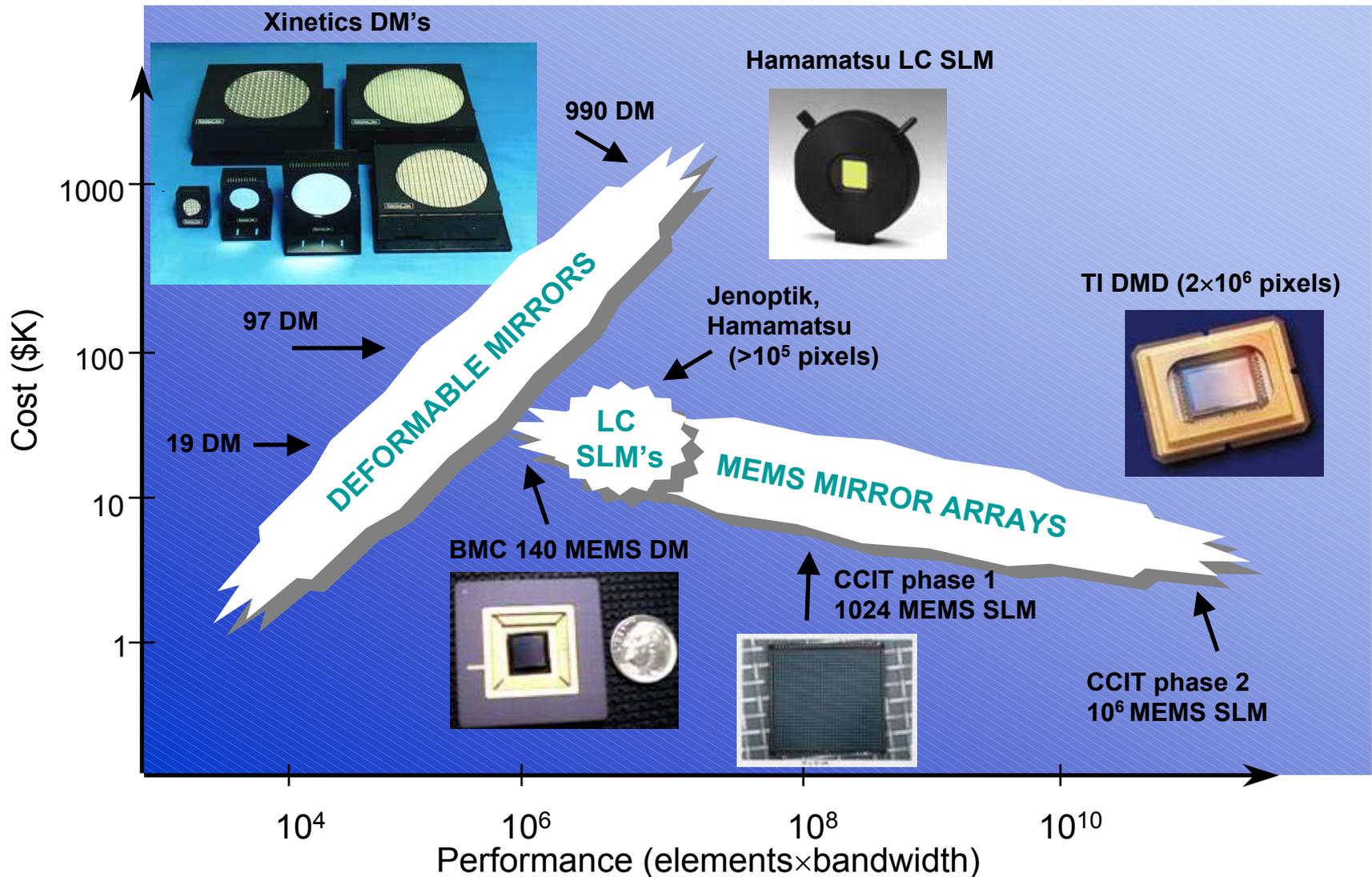
Flat-field gain correction

Speckle-tile processed 256x256 tiles,

DLmax = 312, proc. to DL= 40

R0 = 1.0 cm (D/r0 = 20)

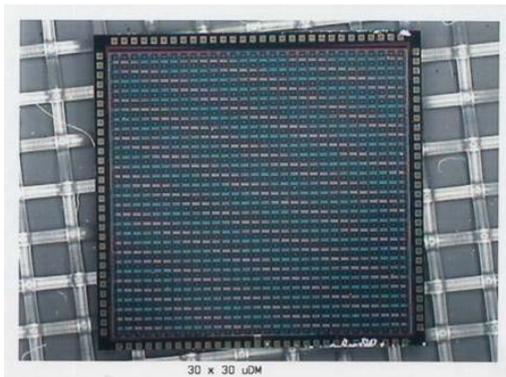
# New wavefront control devices provide dramatically increased capabilities at lower cost



# New spatial light modulators being developed by CCIT and CfAO enable precision optical control

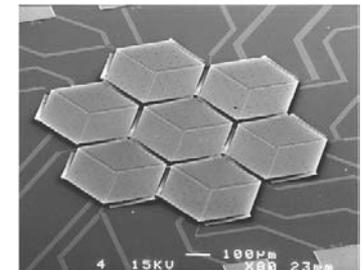
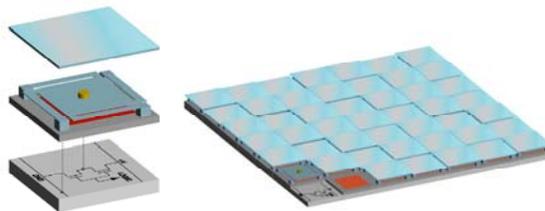


- **Pushing SLM technology to**
  - Large formats (1024x1024 phase control points)
  - Fast temporal response (10  $\mu$ s)
  - High optical quality (20 nm)
- **High resolution phase control enables new applications**
  - Arbitrary space-time optical codes
  - Programmable diffractive optic
  - High-resolution aberration correction
  - Direct intensity control – designer psf's



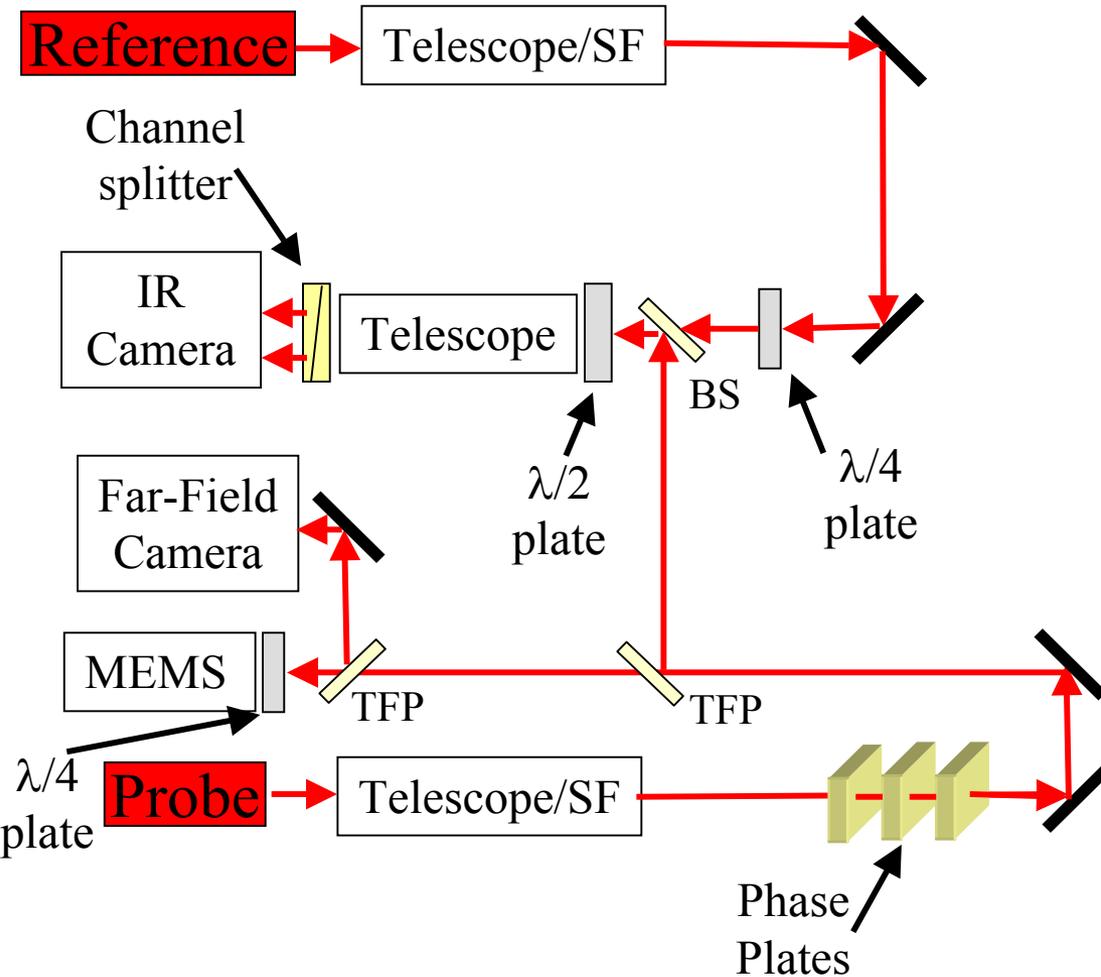
1000 actuator MEMS DM  
developed at Boston University

Design concept for MEMS SLM  
integrated with electronics



High-stroke MEMS  
DM developed at  
UC Berkeley

# IR Laboratory Breadboard Optical Layout - Open Loop (E. Stappaerts, K. Baker)



- Laser is an Erbium doped fiber laser at 1530 nm.(1 ns pulse, 1khz rep. rate, 2 separately triggered arms with 8  $\mu$ J and 130 nJ)
- Polarization out of the probe laser is linear (45 degrees)
- Polarization out of reference is made linear and vertical
- Reference is circularly polarized by QWP
- HWP rotates vertical polarization by 45°; quadrature receiver separates & interferes vertical and horizontal components of reference and probe beam
- QWP in front of MEMS rotates the polarization 90 degrees by the second pass.

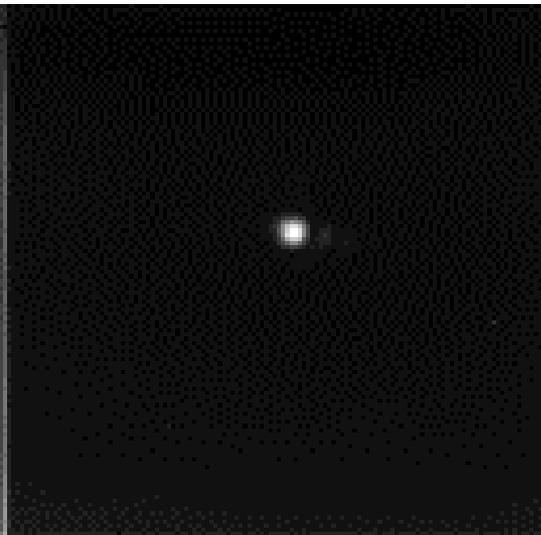
# Far-field Pattern with Rotating Phase Plates



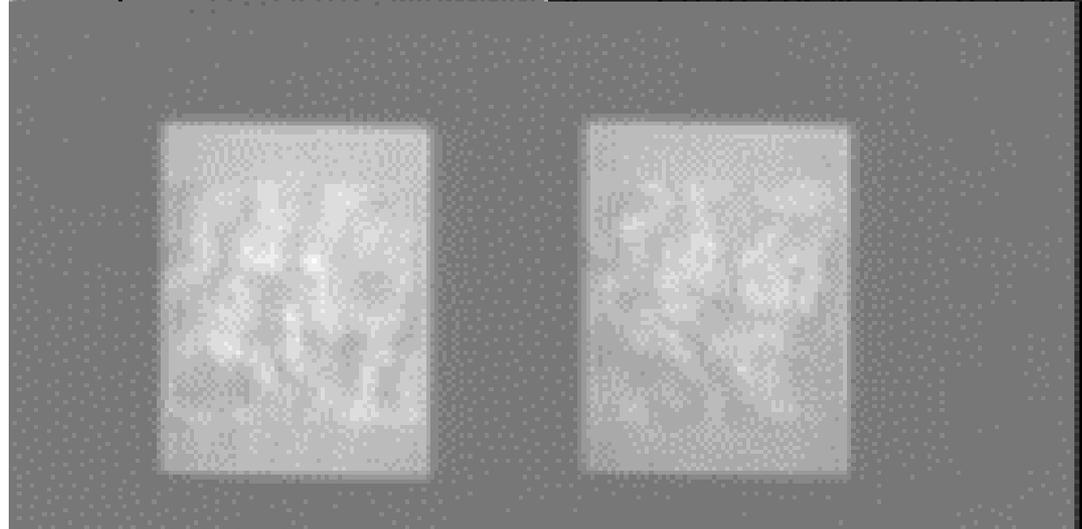
Uncorrected  
Far-field  
(Movie)



Corrected  
Far-field  
(Movie)



Interferogram  
Channels  
(Movie)

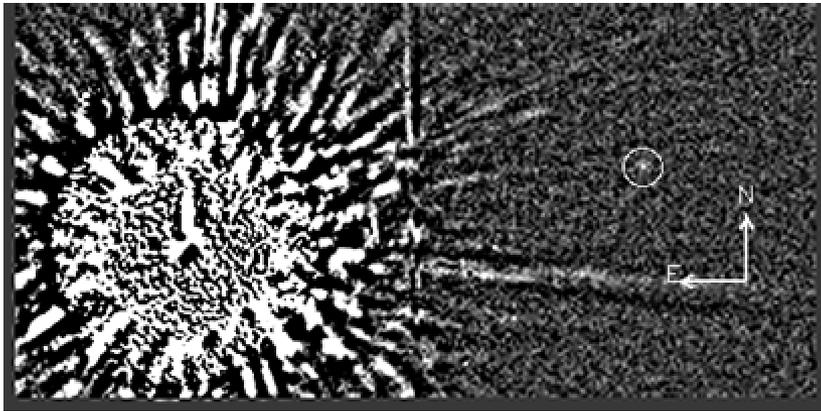


K. Baker, LLNL

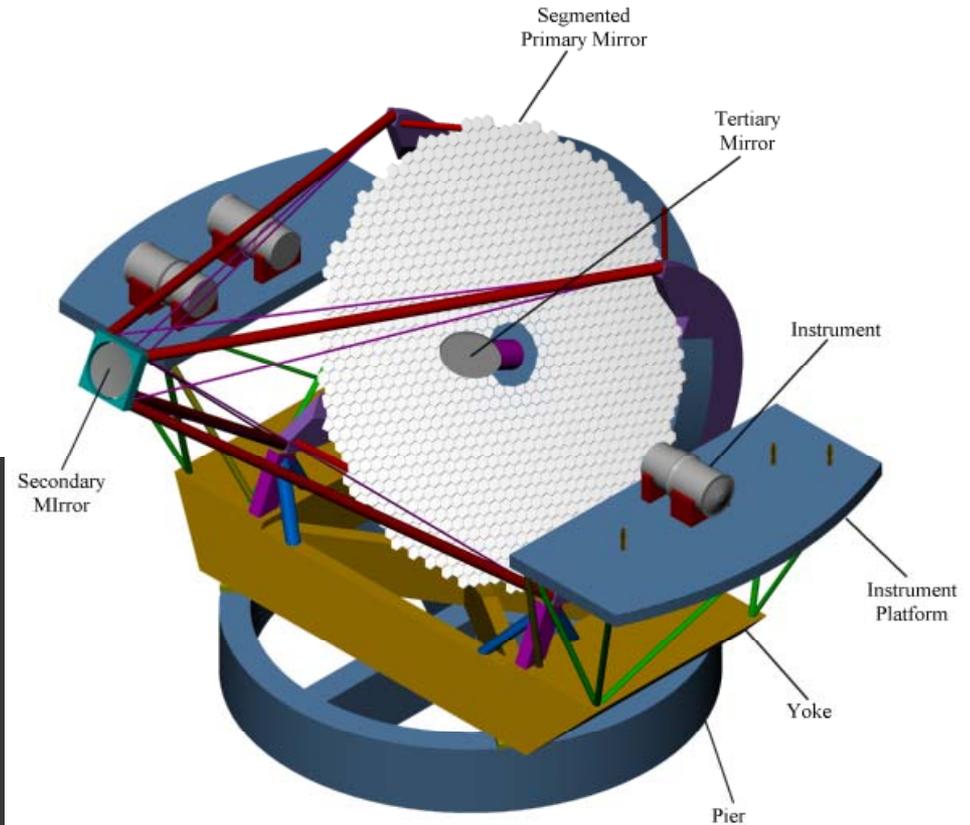
# Center for Adaptive Optics Astronomical Themes



**Extreme adaptive optics that enable ultra-high-contrast astronomical observations**



**Adaptive optics for extremely large telescopes**

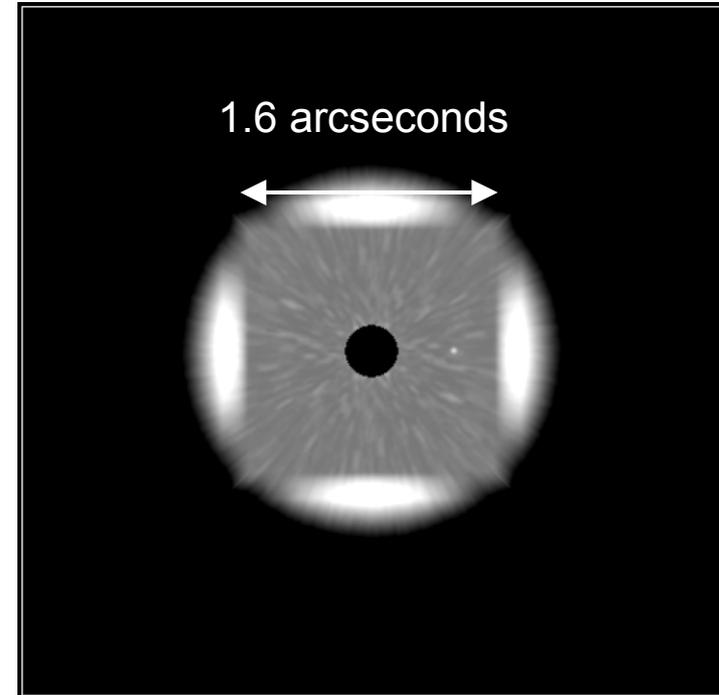


Development of adaptive optics systems for these applications requires new high-performance, affordable wavefront corrector technology.

# eXtreme Adaptive Optics Planet Imager: XAOPI (B. Macintosh, LLNL)



- A ~3000 actuator AO system for an 8-10m telescope
- Science goals:
  - direct detection of extrasolar planets
  - characterization of circumstellar dust
- Status: 2002-3 Conceptual design study
  - System could be deployed in 2007
- LLNL, UC Berkeley, UCSC, UCLA, Caltech, JPL team
- System will be funded by NSF/CfAO and another external agency
- System is intended to be facility-class
  - A wide variety of high-contrast science programs are available
  - System will operate on targets brighter than  $m_R \sim 7-10$



Simulated 15 minute XAOPI H-band image showing a 8 Jupiter-mass planet near a solar-type star