

# Optomechanics with Adaptive Optics

John T. Wen, Benjamin Potsaid

Center for Automation Technologies and Systems, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

## Optomechanics

**Integrated design, optimization, and control of automation systems involving active optical, mechanical and electronic components.**

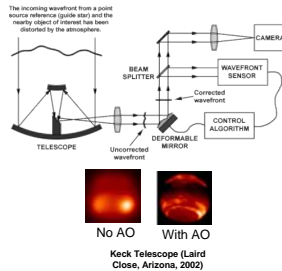
**Adaptive Optics (AO):** Devices that can change wavefront in real-time, in response to environmental or operating conditions.

**Examples:**

- Deformable mirror (DM)
  - Liquid crystal spatial light modulator (SLM)
  - Fast steering mirror
  - Liquid lens
  - Segmented micro-mirrors
  - Digital micromirror device (DMD)
- 

## Existing Applications of AO

### Atmospheric aberration compensation



### Vision Science (Retina Imaging)



## New Emerging Opportunities for AO

- Microscopy: Correct for intrinsic optical aberrations to enhance resolution.
- Telescope: Correct for atmospheric disturbance as well as astigmatism from off-axis imaging
- Laser beam shaping: Modify Gaussian irradiance profile to flat top hat with different shapes

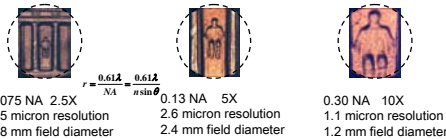
**Challenges:**

- Small stroke for MEMS deformable mirrors (few  $\mu\text{m}$ )
- One way actuation of electrostatic MEMS mirrors

**Optomechanics required for integrated design!**

## Fundamental Limitation of Microscopes

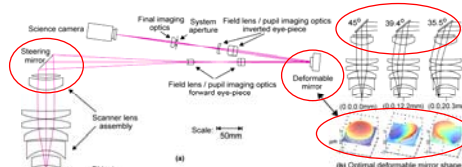
Inherent tradeoff between **field-of-view** and **resolution** in optical microscopy:



Common Solution: Moving stage, multiple parfocal objectives, multiple microscopes, zoom lens

➔ **Slow – unsuitable for dynamic events, disturbance of specimen, difficult to add additional instruments**

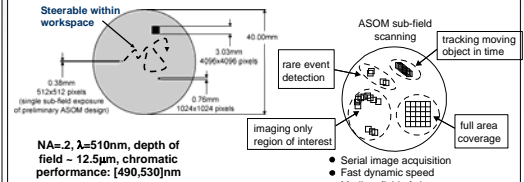
## Adaptive Scanning Optical Microscope



- Post-objective image field scanning (not a point)
  - Faster than a moving stage
  - No agitation to the specimen
- Deformable mirror aberration correction
  - Two order of magnitude larger field area
  - Simplified scan lens design

Potsaid, Bellouard, Wen, Optics Express, 2005

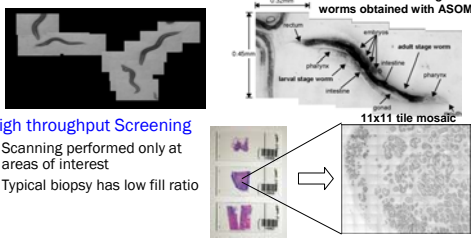
## ASOM Field of View and Scan Time



ASOM Camera	Scan Movements for full coverage	Estimated time to scan (100 moves/sec)	
		40mm DIA	10mm DIA
512x512	8737	87.4 sec.	5.5 sec.
1024x1024	2184	21.8 sec.	1.4 sec.
2048x2048	546	5.5 sec.	0.3 sec.
4096x4096	136	1.4 sec.	0.09 sec.

## Bio-imaging Applications

- **Multiscale and Longitudinal biological imaging** of live organisms
  - Simultaneous observation of single cells, organisms, animals and populations with limited phototoxicity
  - Individual organisms tracked throughout their lives with behavior correlated to genetic makeup

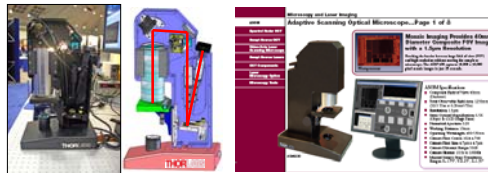


**High throughput Screening**

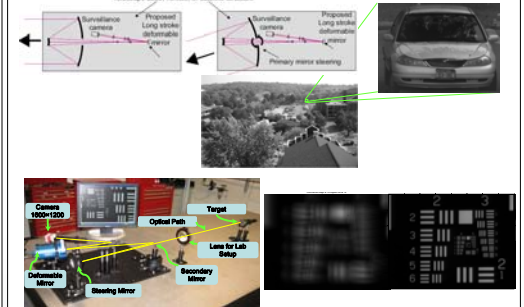
- Scanning performed only at areas of interest
- Typical biopsy has low fill ratio

## Licensing and Commercialization

- First ASOM prototype built at RPI CATS based on NSF and CATS funding. RPI licensed to Thorlabs in 2006.
- Close collaboration for Photonics West 1/07 live demo
- Thorlabs ASOM won Laser Focus World Product of the Year Award in CLEO 2007
- ASOM sold through Thorlabs catalog (8-page spread) July 2007

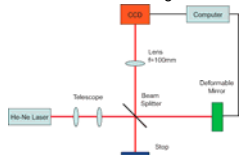
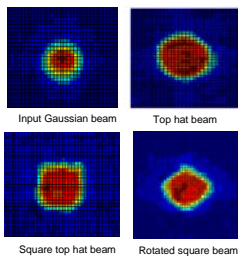


## Extension: Scanning Telescope



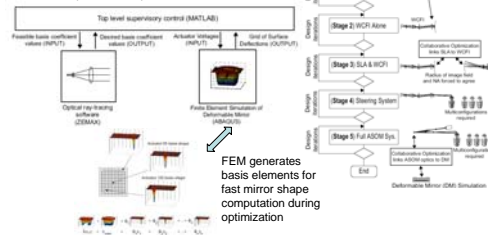
## Extension: Laser Beam Shaping

- Uniform energy distribution important for laser processing (cutting, drilling, marking) and communication
- Deformable mirror based beam shaping allows flexible energy distribution specification and shaping over wide field through



## Design Tool

Integrated design optimization environment coordinating optical simulation software (ZEMAX), finite element simulation (ABAQUS), mathematical computation software (MATLAB)



## Summary

- **Opto-Mechatronic System design** considers interactions between optical, mechanical, electrical, and computer components at the earliest stages of device conceptio
- ➔ **Result: Considerable performance gains**
  - ASOM: particularly suitable for challenging biotech, MEMS, and microbotic applications:
    - Dynamic observations
    - Low fill factor
    - Low Lighting
    - High Throughput
  - ASOM extension: subsurface imaging, LED illumination
  - New AO devices (ready for commercialization in a few years):
    - Scanning telescope
    - Wide field laser beam shaping

**Acknowledgements:**

