



Robo-AO-2

A facility for rapid near-HST resolution imaging from the ground

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There is a growing need for very efficient adaptive optics (AO).

- Large surveys, large data sets
 - E.g., Kepler, TESS, Gaia, WFIRST, ...
 - Binary stars, blends: exo-hosts, *microlensing*, ...
- Rapid-response (transients)
 - E.g., ATLAS, ZTF, LSST, your favorite TDA project
 - Crowded fields, location in host galaxy, SNR boost
- Monitoring
 - E.g., planetary weather, lensed quasar dynamics

Efficient AO Design Philosophy

- Most large telescopes have (laser) AO.
- Primarily focused on very detailed studies of few interesting objects.
- Traditional Metrics: Strehl, contrast, EE, sky coverage

Efficient AO prioritizes:

- 1. Reliability**
- 2. Predictability**
- 3. Ease-of-use**

Robo-AO

Fully robotic laser AO

Sub-minute overheads

Performing previously
infeasible AO surveys,
 $N > 1,000$

Diff.-limited, $0.12''$, on
 $V < 16$ point sources

Detects $\Delta m \sim 5$ at $0.5''$





**Robotic
Telescope**

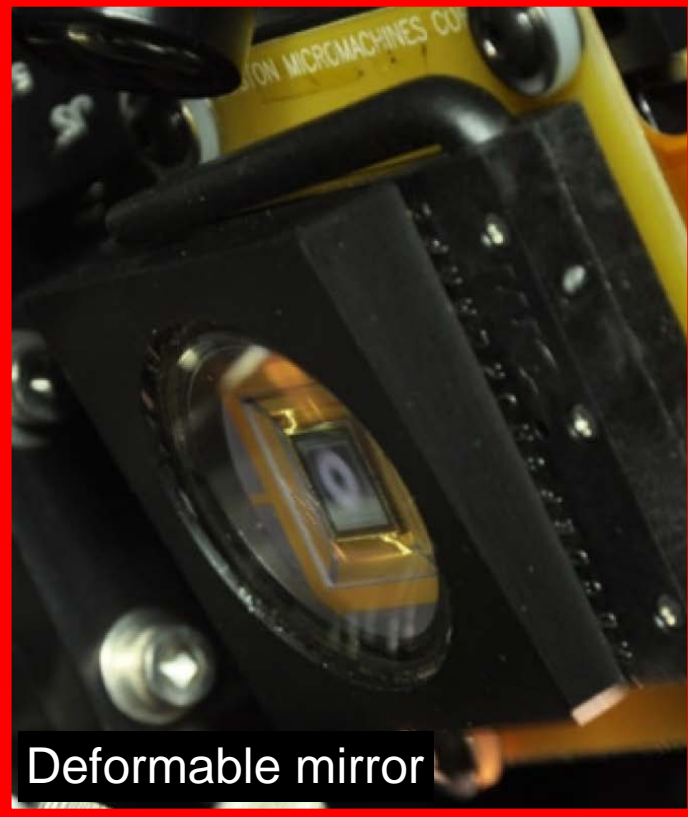
UV laser guide star

(US Pat. nos. 9,279,977, 9,405,115)

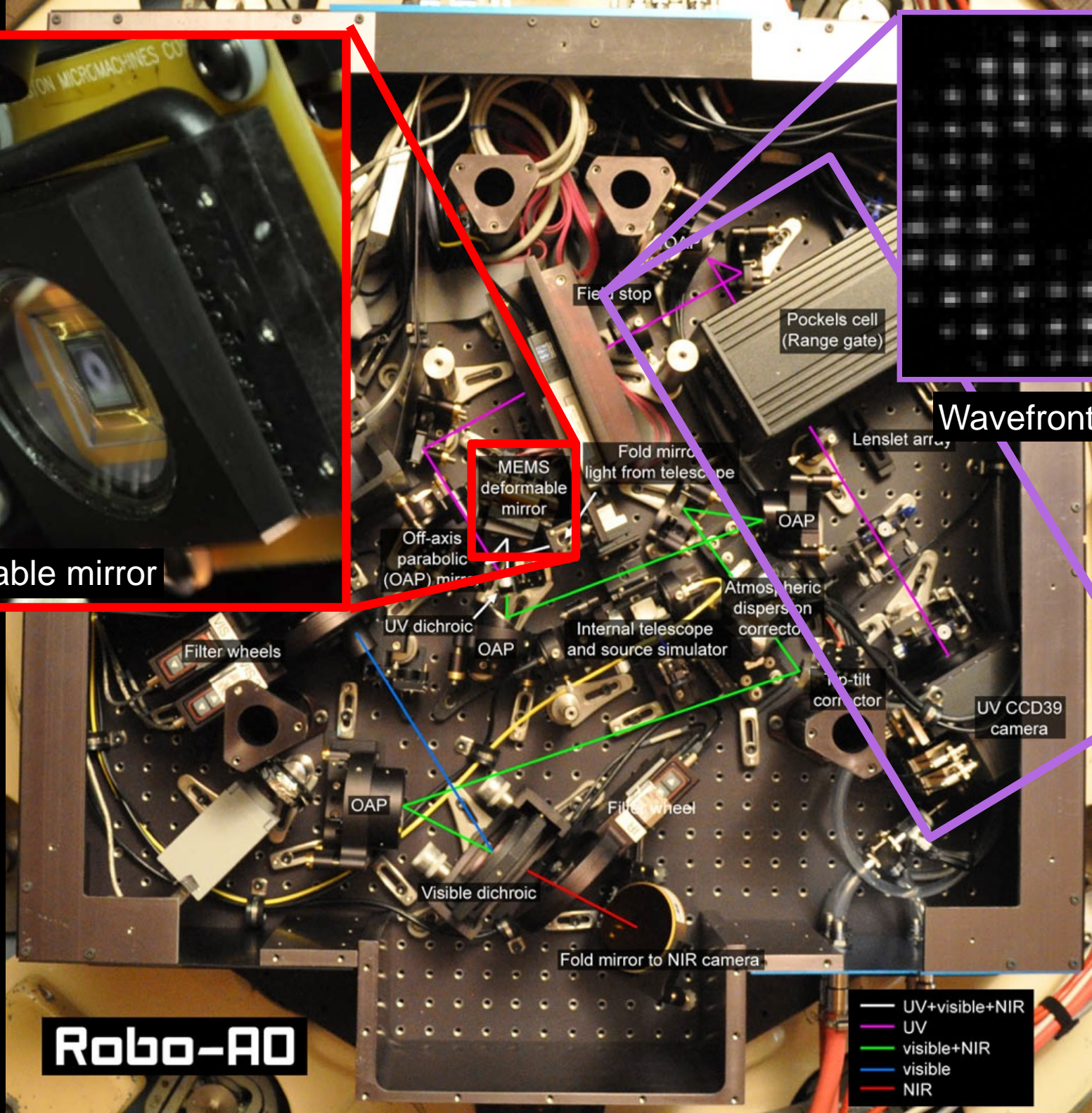
**Adaptive Optics System +
Science Cameras**

Robotic Software

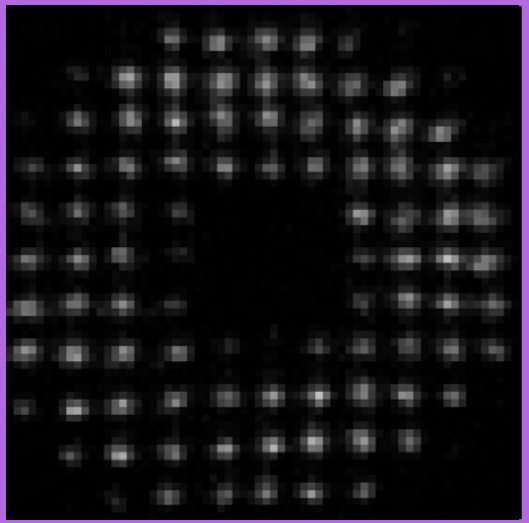
(US Pat. no. 9,563,053)



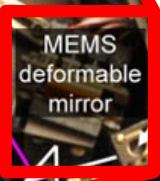
Deformable mirror



Robo-AO

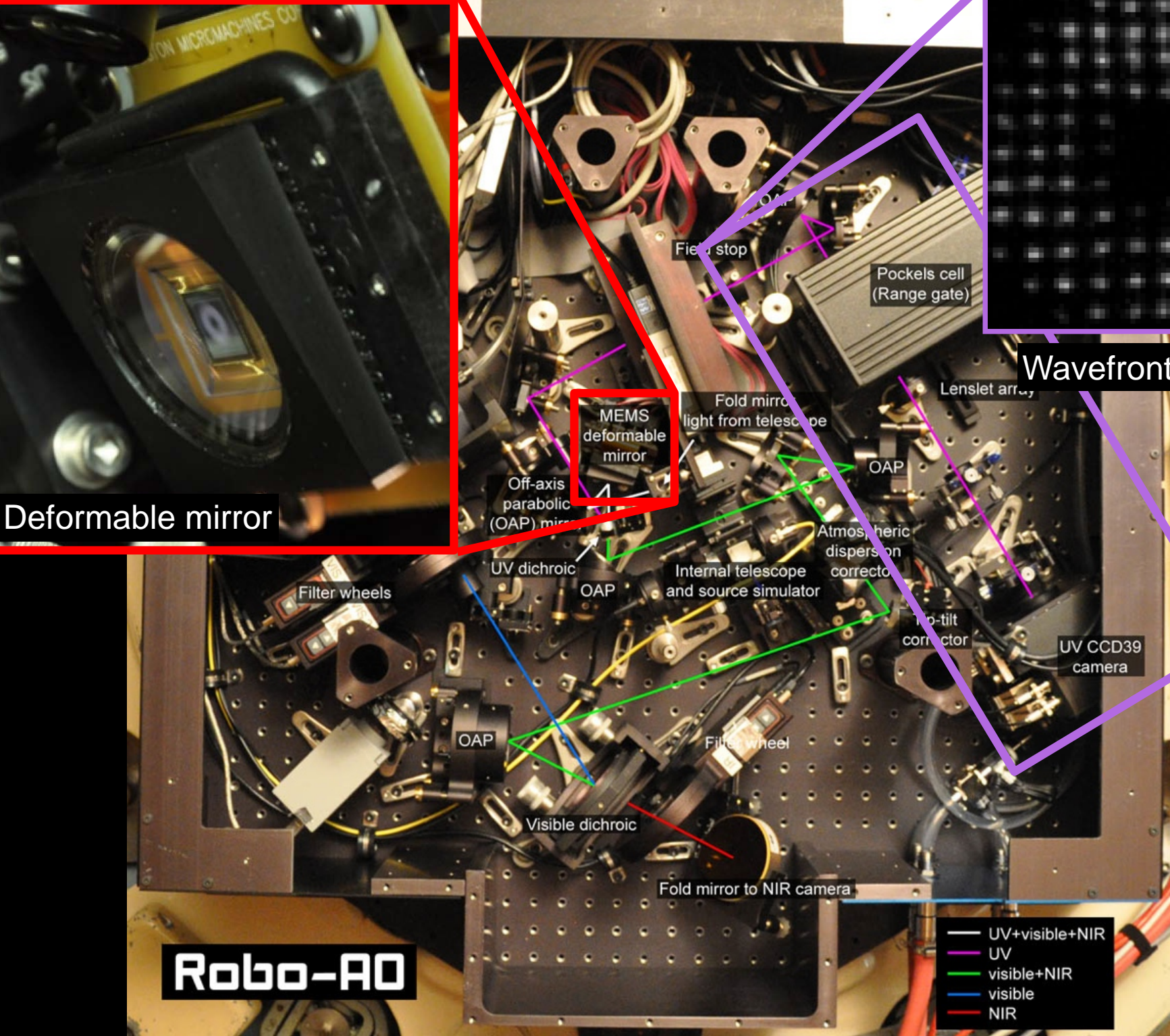


Wavefront sensor



MEMS deformable mirror

- UV+visible+NIR
- UV
- visible+NIR
- visible
- NIR



Labels in the diagram include: Filter wheels, UV dichroic, OAP, Internal telescope and source simulator, Visible dichroic, Fold mirror to NIR camera, Fold mirror light from telescope, Field stop, Pockels cell (Range gate), Lenslet array, Atmospheric dispersion corrector, Tip-tilt corrector, UV CCD39 camera, and Filter wheel.

Robo-AO is fully automated.

- A master sequencer runs the show.
- Subsystems run as daemons.
- Auto-recovery from unexpected errors
- Observations loaded into database via .xml.
- Intelligent obs. queue, mixes science programs
 - Automatic satellite/laser deconfliction
- Automatic data reduction and analysis pipeline
(Reduced images are ready the next day!!!)

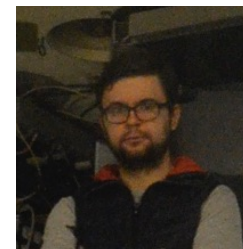


Reed Riddle,
Robotic
software Guru

Nightly data

Toggle view

February 22, 2017 - February 23, 2017



Dmitry Duev
CIT P.Doc

2017/02/22

Data preview

Auxiliary data

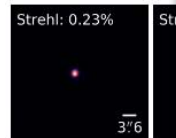
Download

Toggle summary

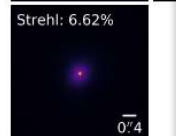
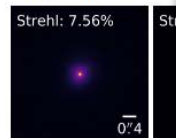
Program 0



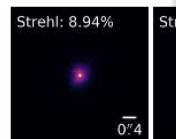
Program 24



Program 283



Program 3



0 VIC_Si_o_20170222_092131.042223

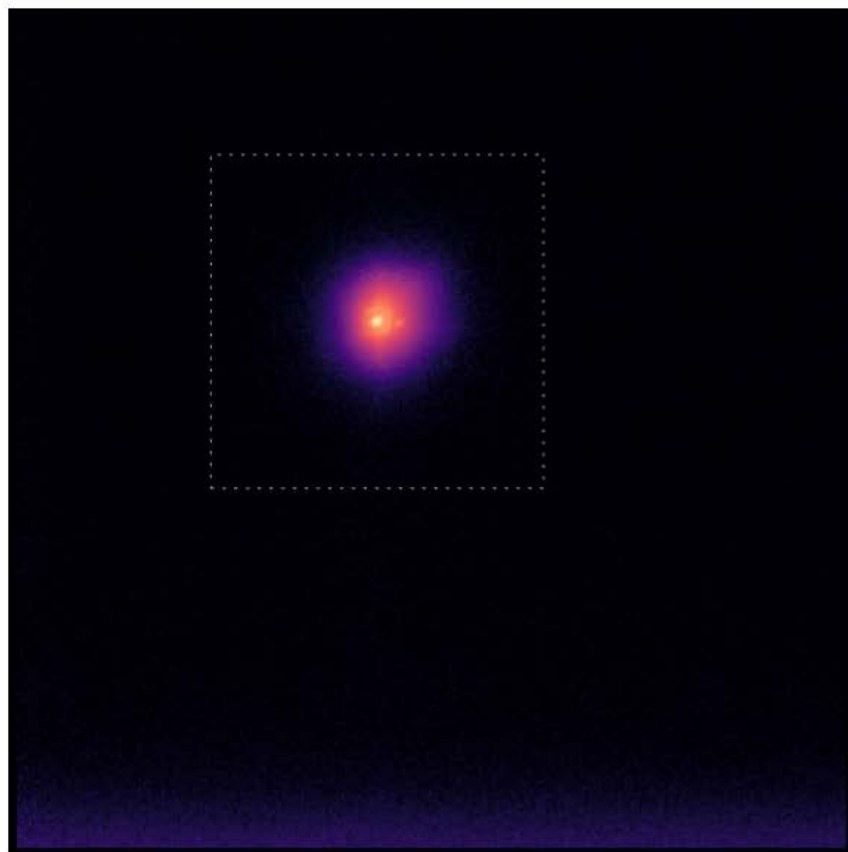
Lucky pipeline

Faint pipeline

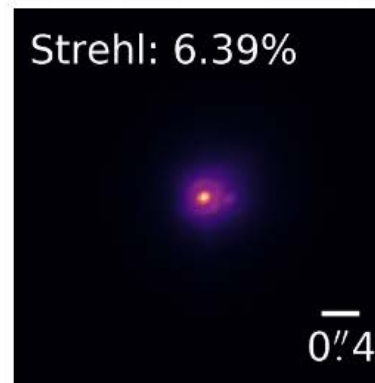
Header

External images of the field

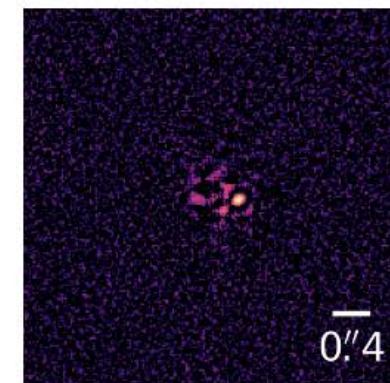
Full-size



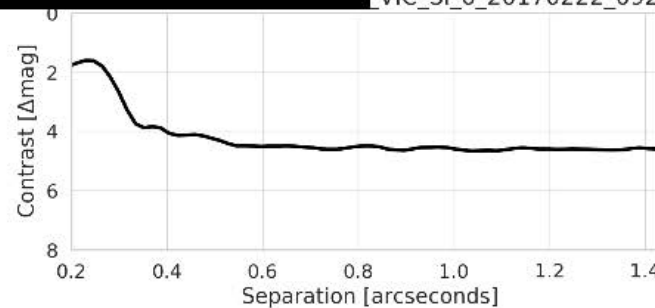
Cropped



PSF-subtracted



0 VIC_Si_o_20170222_092131.042223

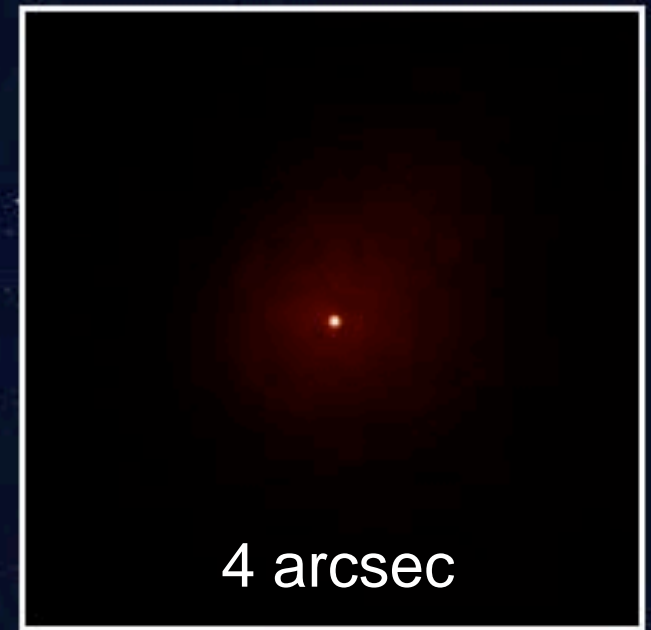


Download all source data

Close

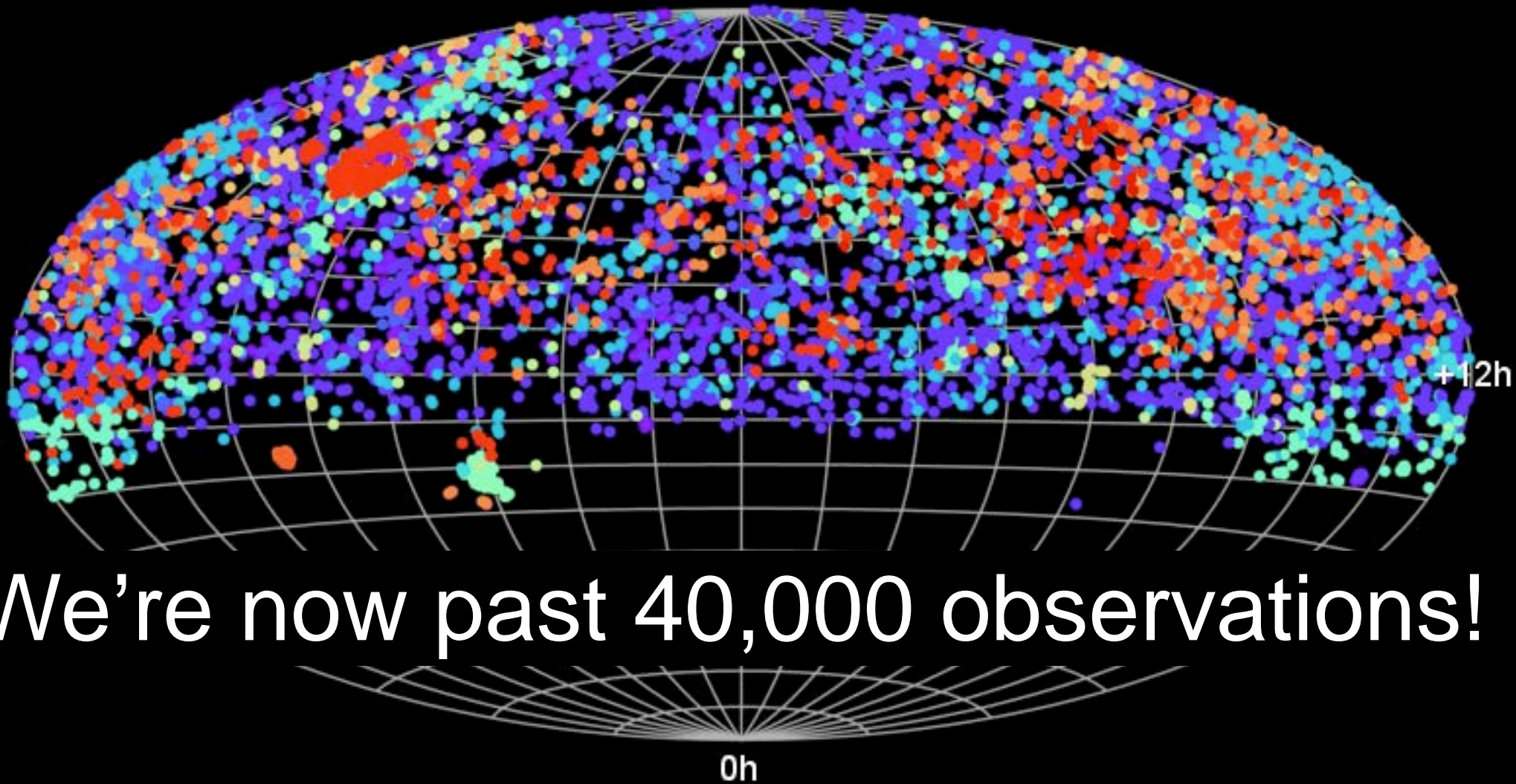
40 second overhead / target

25 targets / hour



2014/03/25

11572 targets
19 projects



We're now past 40,000 observations!

Robo-AO General Observing

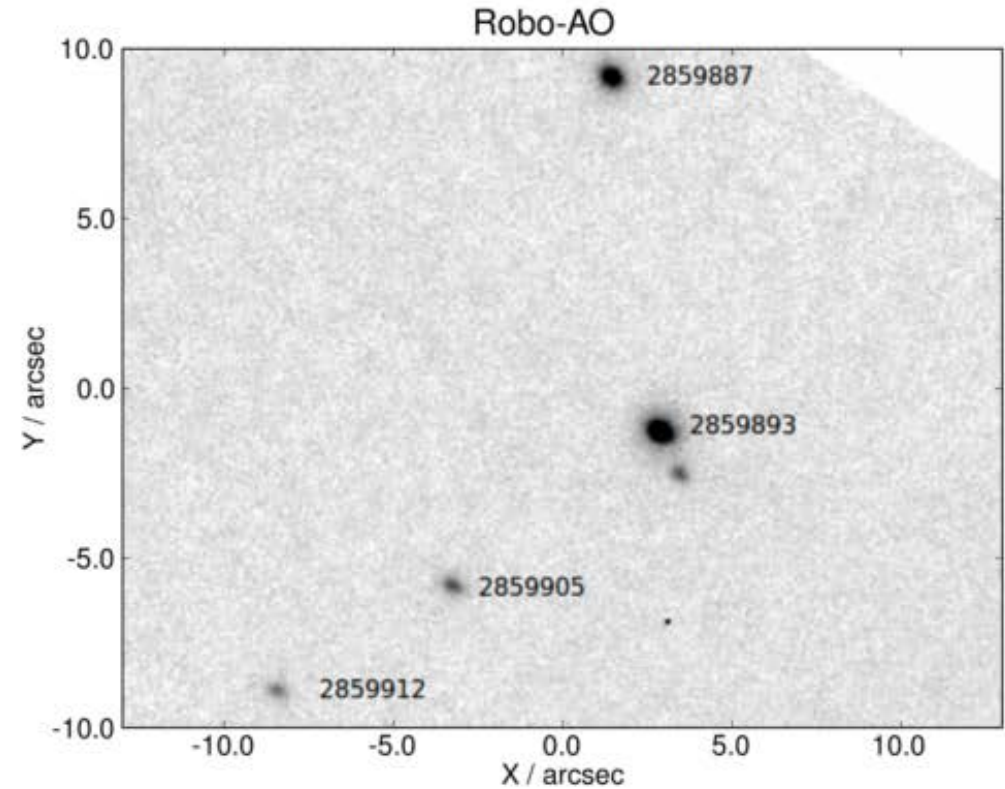
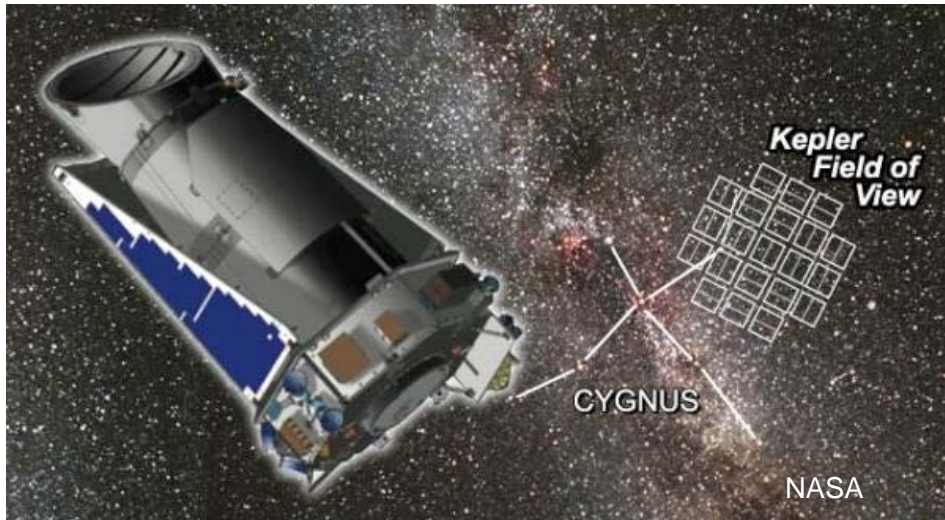
- **Nearby exoplanets & planetary formation:**
 - Stellar companions around K2 exoplanet hosts (Open c.o. Templeton Fnd.)
 - Verifying debris-disk stars (S. Hinkley)
 - Transit candidates from PTF/M-dwarfs survey (N.Law)
- **Field stellar multiplicity:**
 - High-order solar-type multiplicity (R. Riddle, A. Tokovinin)
 - All Northern stars within 25 pc (Robo-AO Team)

Robo-AO: 34 refereed scientific papers

- Pre-main-sequence multiplicity (L. Hillenbrand)
- Multiplicity as a function of age (J. Curtis, R. Riddle, L. Hillenbrand)
- **Solar system science:**
 - Monitoring of outgassing from Comet ISON (M. Drahus)
 - Solar system imaging (R. Hueso, et al.)
 - Search for binary asteroids (D. Duev)
- **Extragalactic & high-energy:**
 - AGN nuclei binarity (S. Tendulkar)
 - High-precision astrometry for globular cluster black holes (S. Hildebrand)
 - Lensed Quasar discovery and monitoring (E. Ofek, R. Griffiths)

Robo-AO Kepler survey

NASA XRP grant NNX15AC91G (Law, Baranec & Morton)

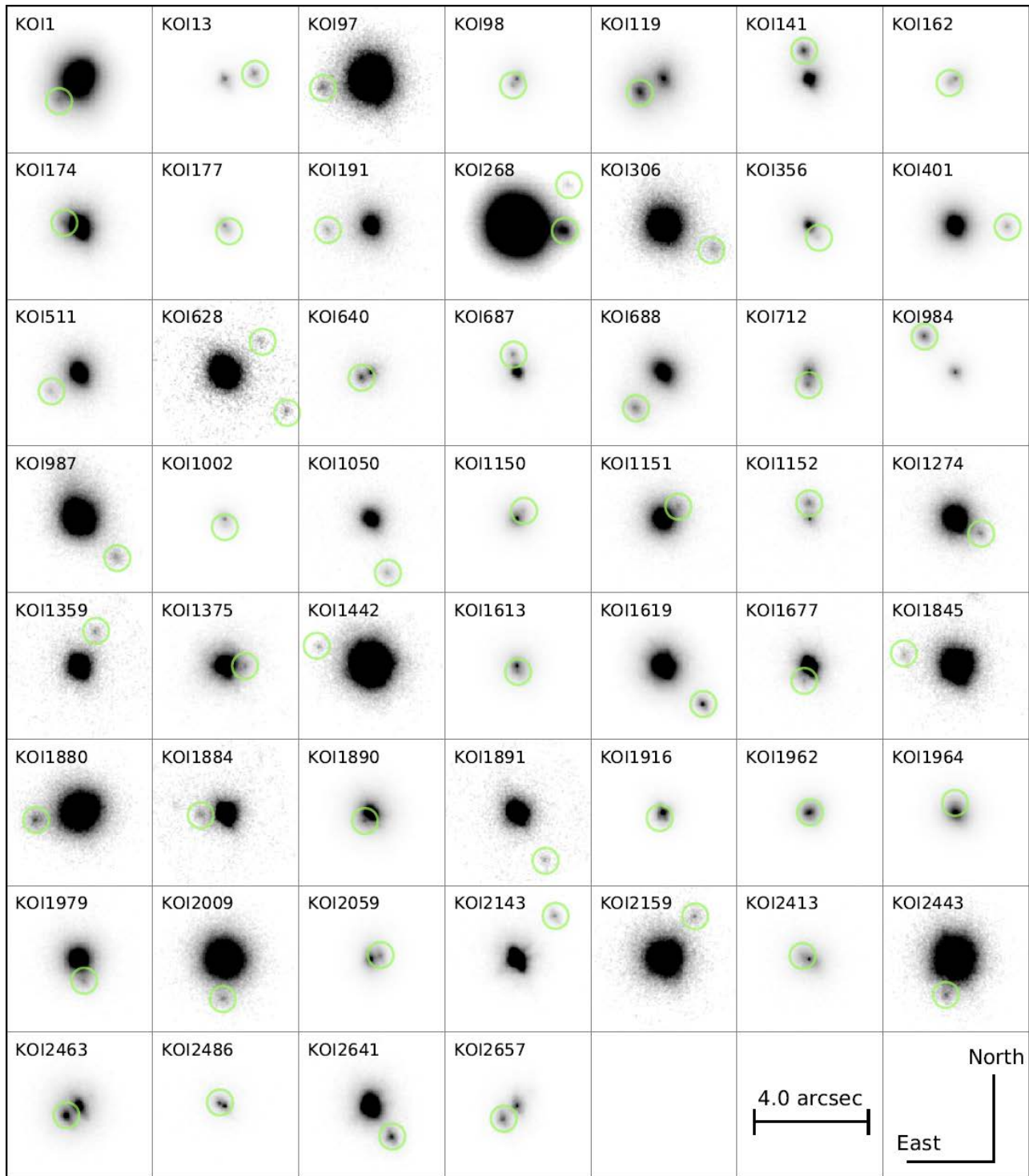


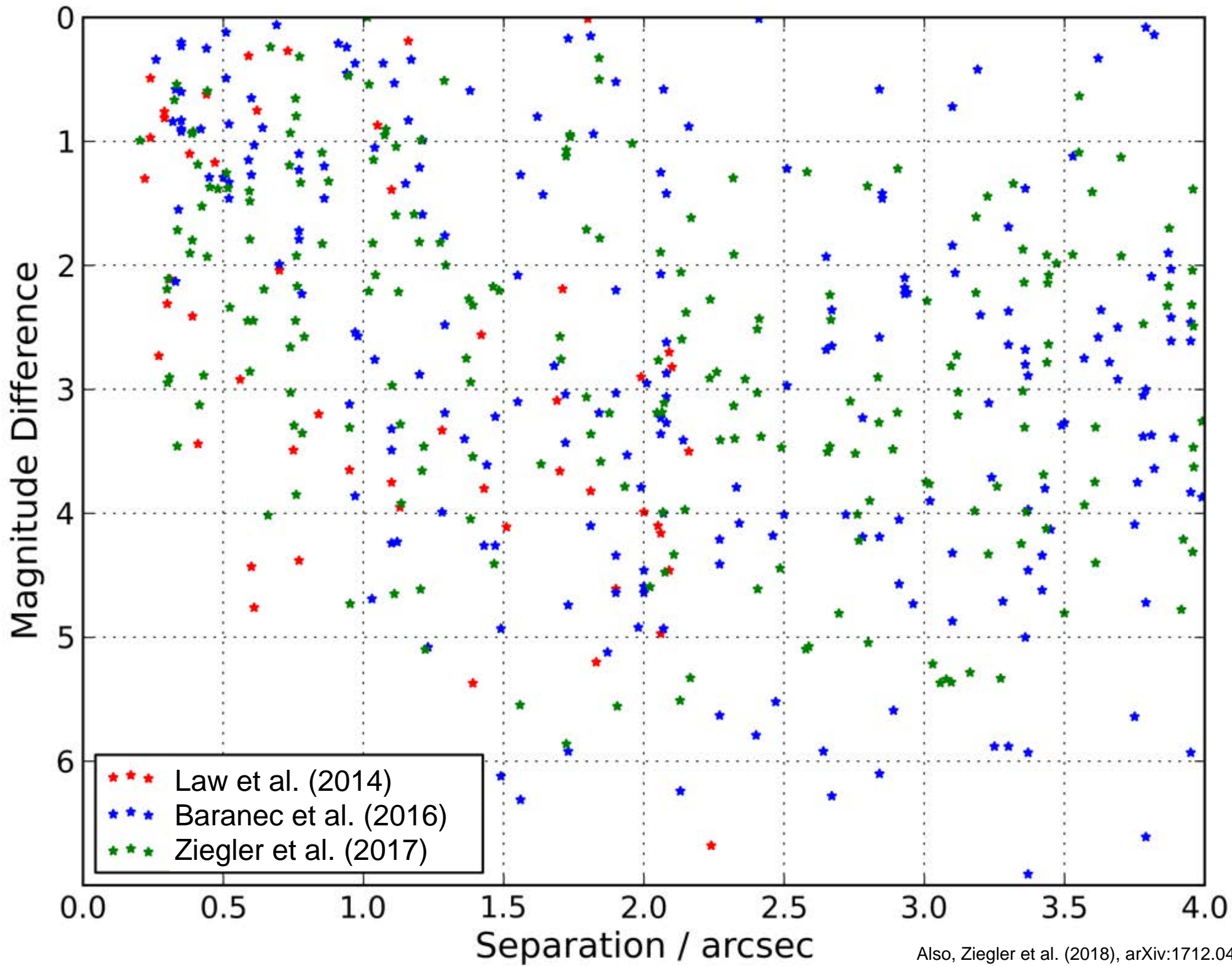
Kepler pixels are $\sim 4''$.

Photometric apertures can be 3 by 3 pixels.

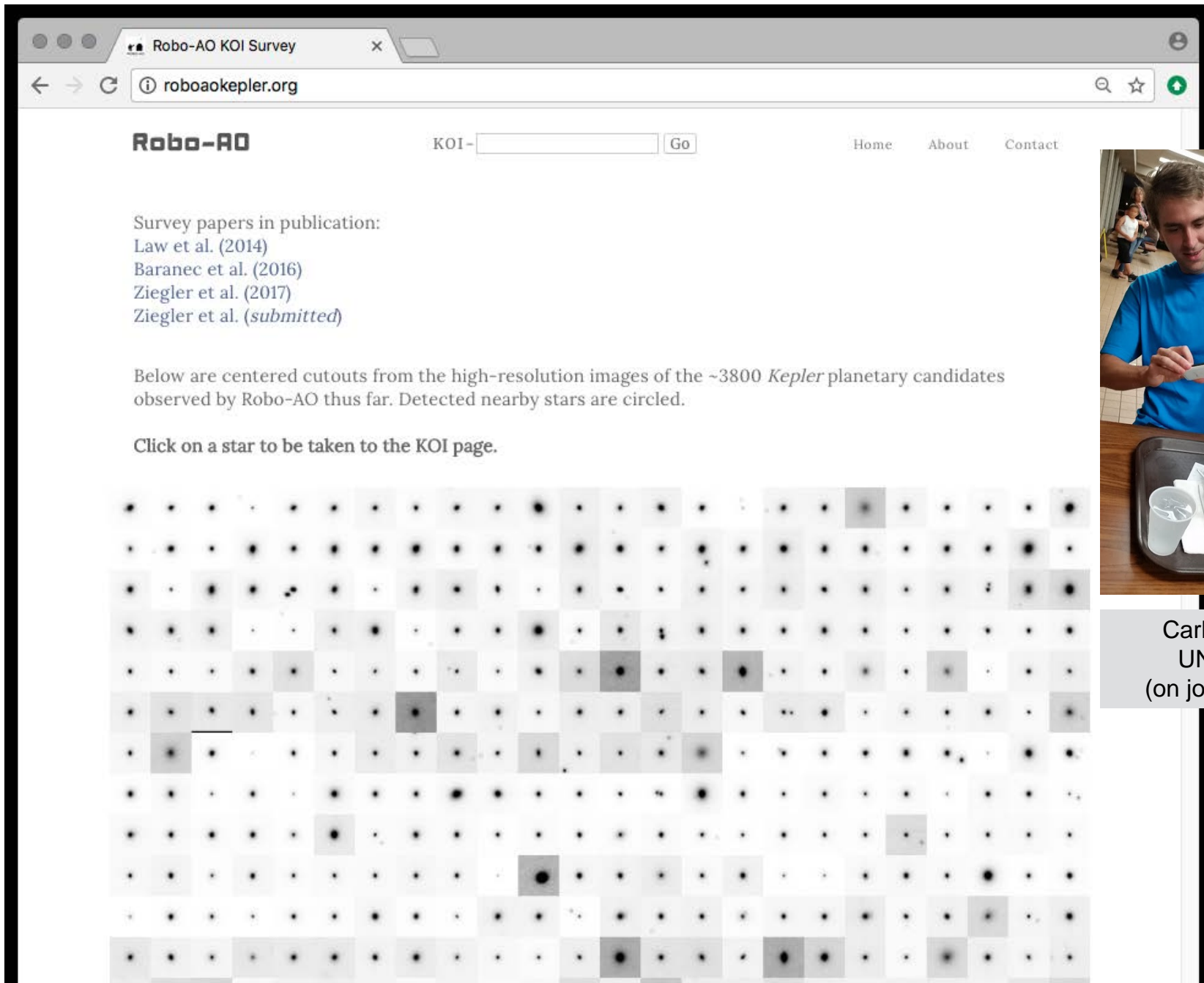
Unresolved sources contaminate transits.

We used Robo-AO to image all of the KOIs.





Public access to reduced data at roboaokepler.org



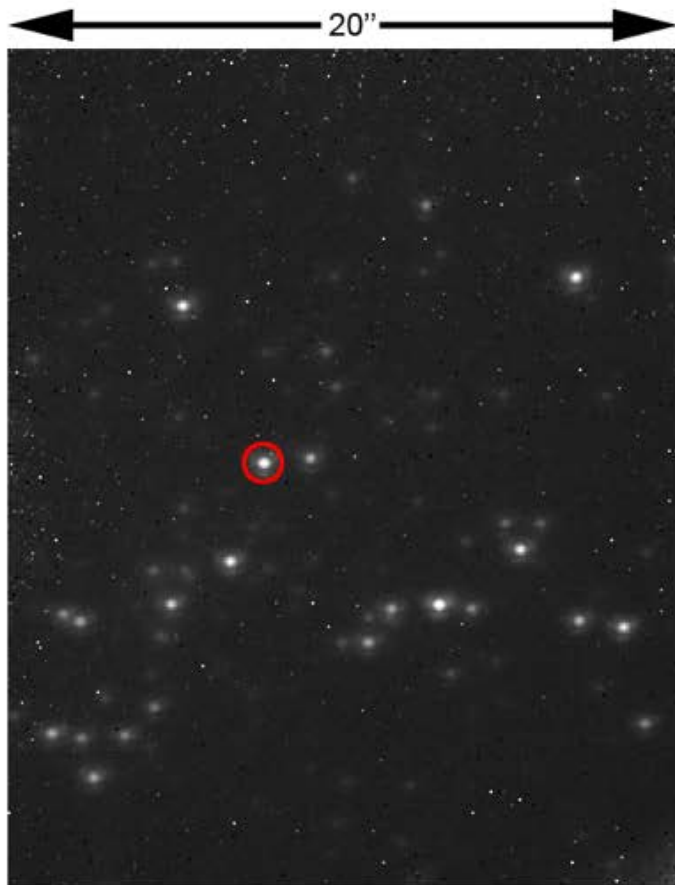
The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL roboaokepler.org. The page title is "Robo-AO KOI Survey". Below the title is a search bar labeled "KOI-" with a "Go" button. Navigation links for "Home", "About", and "Contact" are visible. The main content area lists "Survey papers in publication:" followed by "Law et al. (2014)", "Baranec et al. (2016)", "Ziegler et al. (2017)", and "Ziegler et al. (submitted)". Below this, a paragraph states: "Below are centered cutouts from the high-resolution images of the ~3800 *Kepler* planetary candidates observed by Robo-AO thus far. Detected nearby stars are circled." A subtext instruction reads: "Click on a star to be taken to the KOI page." The bottom half of the page is a large grid of small, centered cutouts of planetary candidates, with some stars circled.



Carl Ziegler
UNC GS
(on job market)

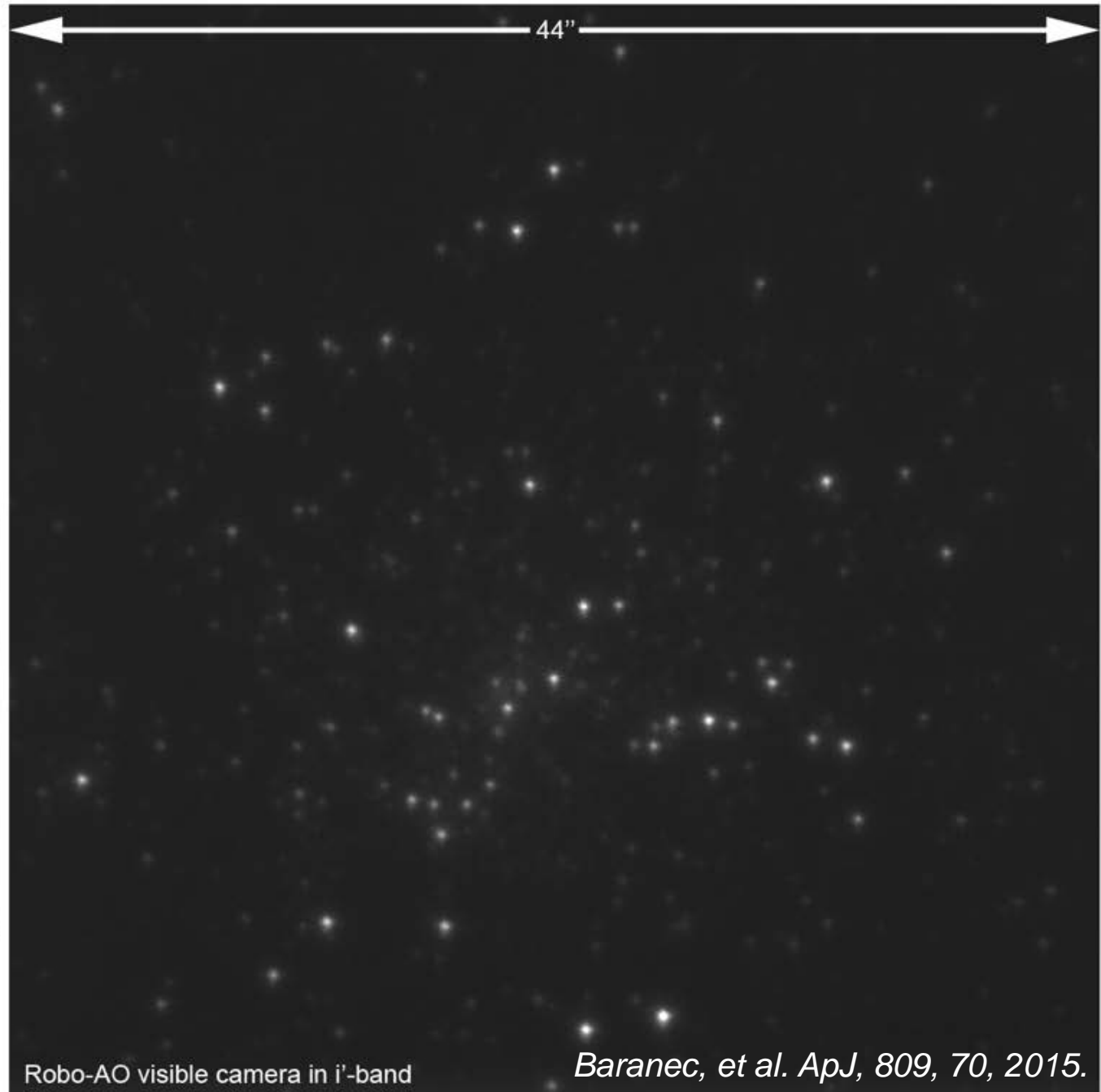
First demonstration of IR APDA in an AO system

The core of M15 imaged by Robo-AO
September 3rd, 2014.



HiloCam (SAPHIRA) in H-band

IR tip-tilt guide star indicated by red circle.

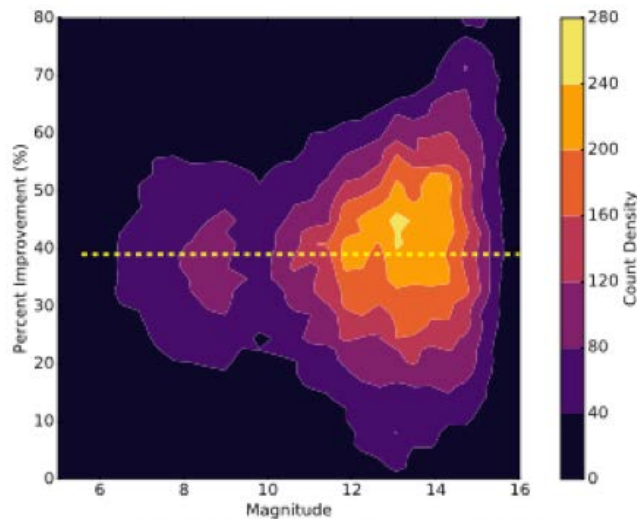
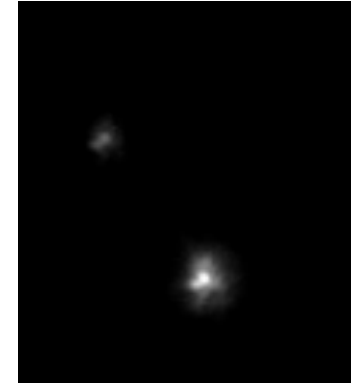


Robo-AO visible camera in i'-band

Baranec, et al. ApJ, 809, 70, 2015.

GenSTAC faint target pipeline

- Robo-AO → Fast frame rate data
- Post-facto registration requires sufficient flux
- New pipeline optimizes temporal binning -or-
- Stacks data for a improvement in FWHM of ~40% (All-sky)



(a) FWHM Improvement versus Magnitude

32 new KOI companions
in existing data!

Howard, et al. 2018



Ward Howard, UNC GS

Robo-AO was moved to
the 2.1 m telescope at
Kitt Peak, AZ in Nov. 2015.

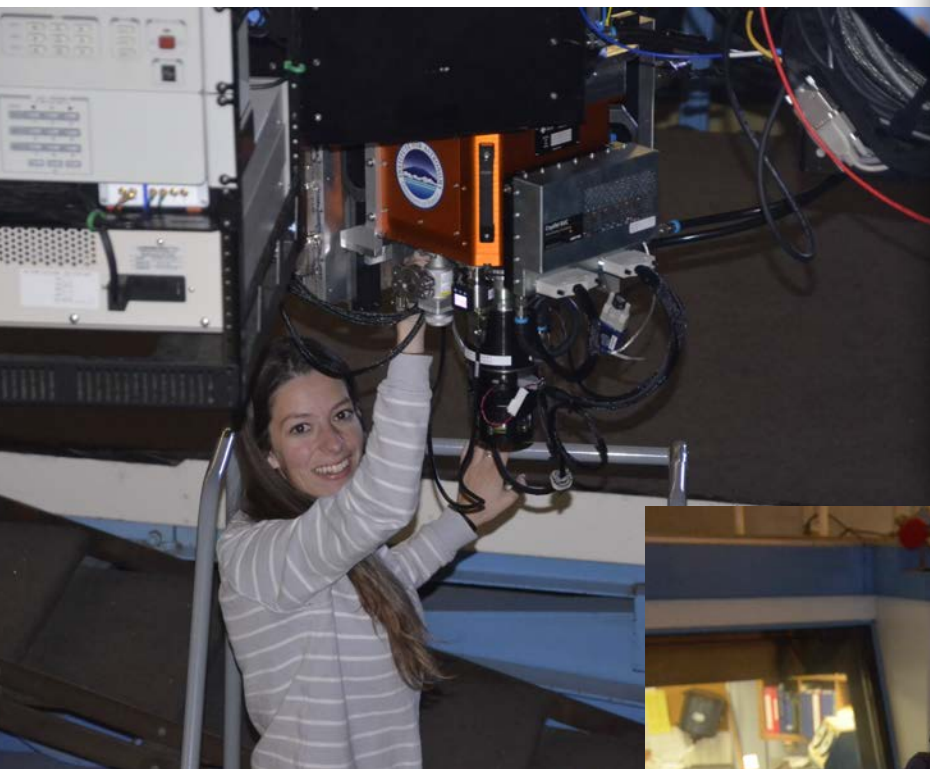


R. Jensen-Clem, et al., 2018
arXiv:1703.08867

Science grade SAPHIRA → Robo-AO Kitt Peak

Starting a N~4,000 survey for wide low-mass companions

In collaboration with Mike Liu

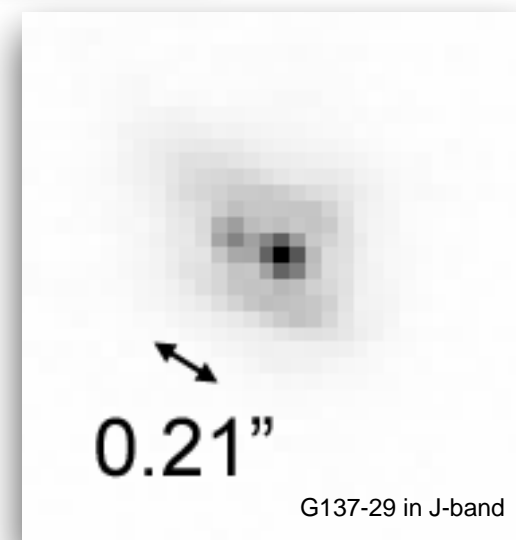


Maïssa Salama
IfA GS

Replacing a leaky filter →



GJ1116 in H-band



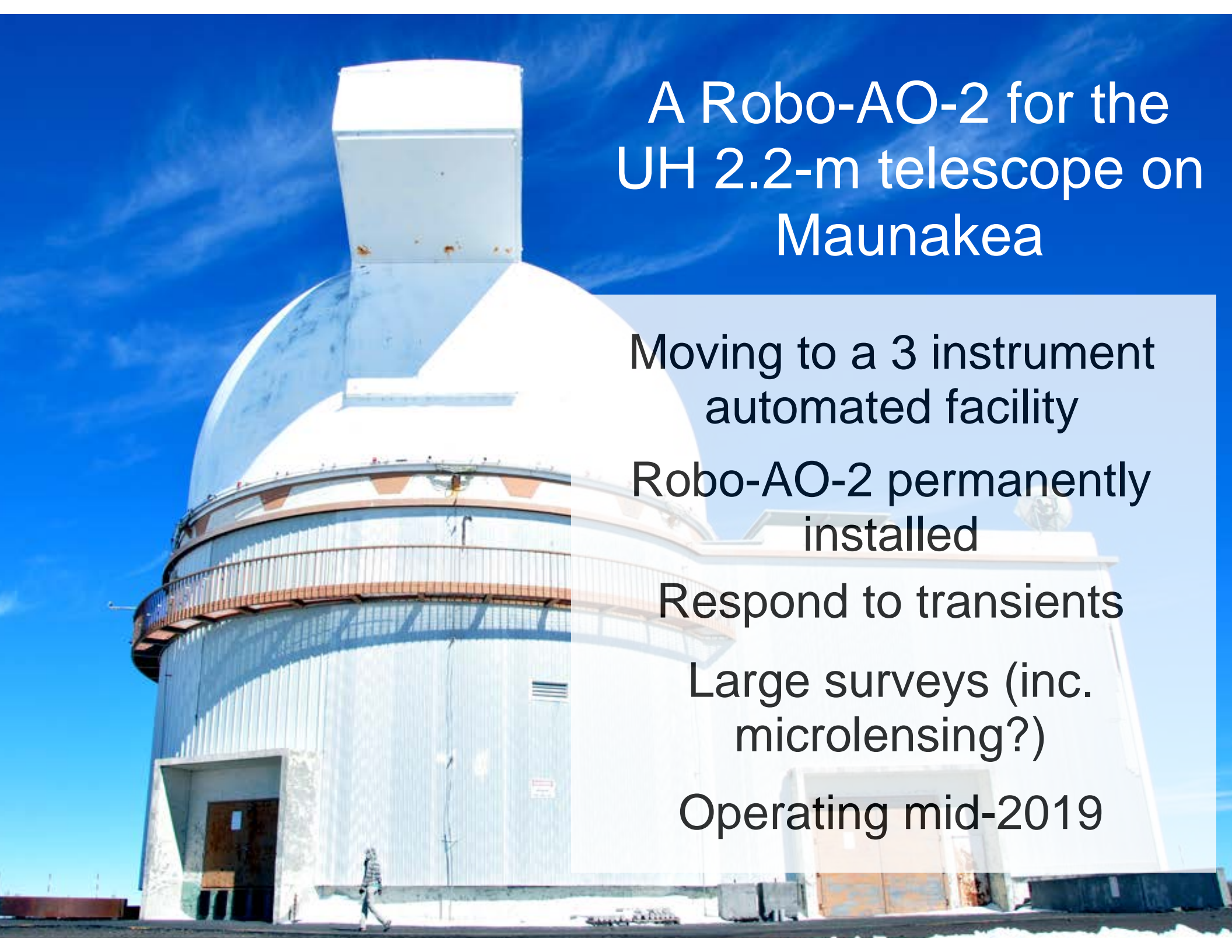
G137-29 in J-band

That's great and all. What's next?

- Kitt Peak - We'll be observing for as long as we can keep funding going (~Sept. 2018).
- (Next???) IRTF → Planetary/NASA science
- **Robo-AO-2:**
 - **Imaging across the visible and near-infrared**
 - Demonstration of hybrid AO technologies
- Robotizing Sodium laser beacon systems:
 - Transfer tech to Keck for large survey and TDA support (Gemini S for LSST)
- Additional IFS instrumentation

Robo-AO-2 will be coming to Maunakea.





A Robo-AO-2 for the UH 2.2-m telescope on Maunakea

Moving to a 3 instrument
automated facility

Robo-AO-2 permanently
installed

Respond to transients

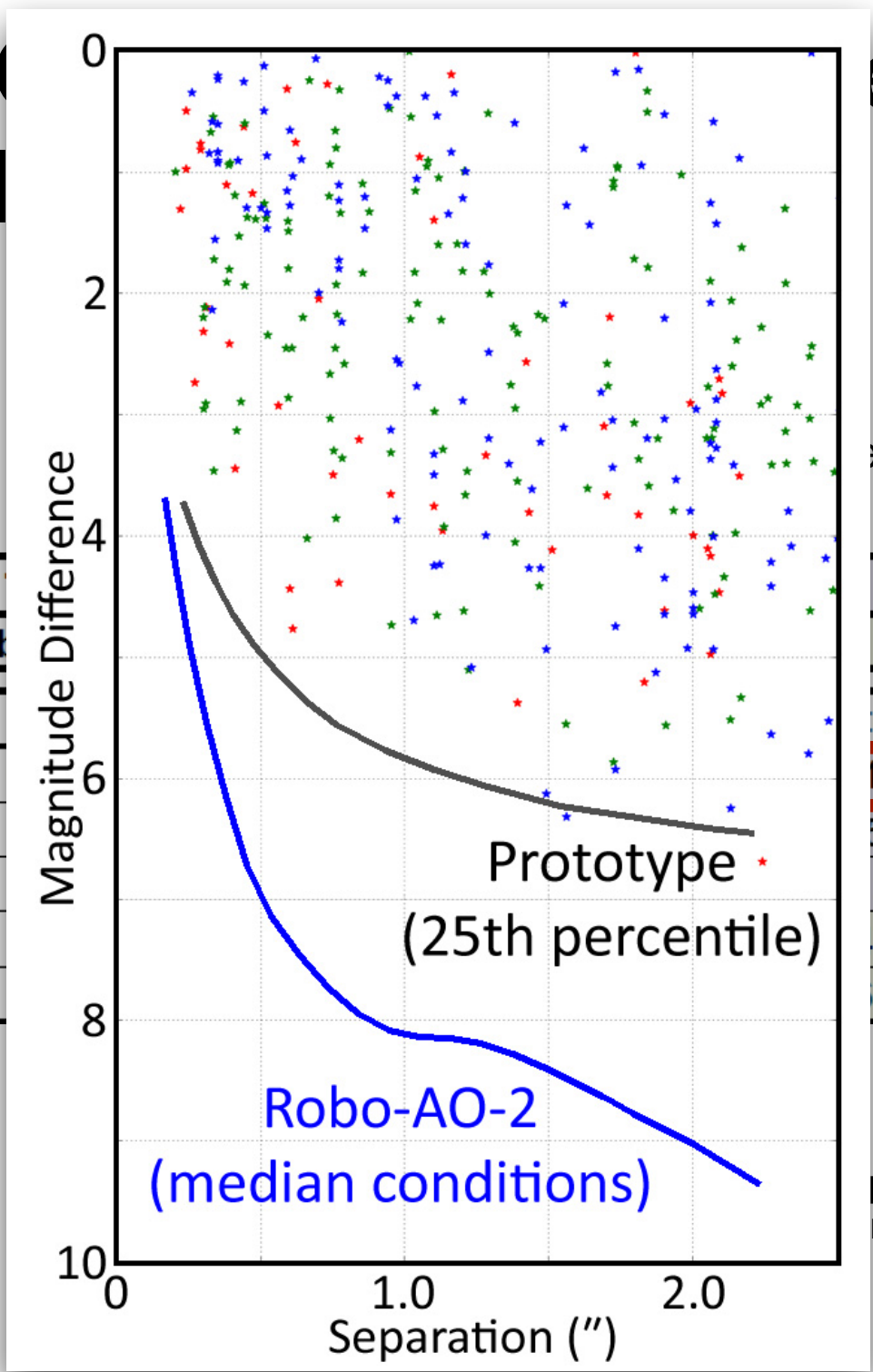
Large surveys (inc.
microlensing?)

Operating mid-2019

Robo-AO and resolution

Quality
improved.

Total Wavefront Error (NIR)	
Total Wavefront Error (Visible)	
Spectral Band	λ
g'	0.47 μ
r'	0.62 μ
i'	0.75 μ
J	1.25 μ
H	1.64 μ



Seeing
 $\theta = 45^\circ$

Poor seeing

163 nm	206 nm		
163 nm	207 nm		
Strehl	FWHM	Strehl	FWHM
1%	0.13"	0%	0.49"
5%	0.08"	1%	0.14"
3%	0.08"	4%	0.10"
7%	0.12"	31%	0.13"
4%	0.16"	50%	0.16"

opened $m_V=17$ (MV) tip-tilt star
 ranec, et al., arXiv:1407.0094

A night sky filled with stars, with a red laser beam originating from a telescope on a hillside at the bottom center and pointing upwards. The beam is thin and extends across the frame. In the background, a dark silhouette of a forested hillside is visible, with some distant lights and a faint yellow streak in the sky.

<http://robo-ao.org>

Mahalo!