

Solar Adaptive Optics

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The solar atmosphere is structured to very small scales which are dynamic in nature. Driven by the quest for higher spatial resolution observations, several AO systems have been deployed at major ground-based solar telescopes during the last two decades. Current high-resolution solar telescopes, which are in the 1-1.5 class, utilise AO routinely to achieve the diffraction limit at visible and NIR wavelengths. Many scientific results have been achieved with the solar AO systems developed so far and new ground breaking knowledge is expected from the operation of the complex AO systems in the coming next generation, 4m class solar telescopes.

The presentation will review the current state of solar AO techniques and their impact on the physical understanding of the fundamental astrophysical processes observed on the Sun.

Author: Dr ERMOLLI, Ilaria (INAF Osservatorio Astronomico di Roma)

Presenter: Dr ERMOLLI, Ilaria (INAF Osservatorio Astronomico di Roma)

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