

Science with Adaptive Optics: flavors and constraints

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While it is true that Adaptive Optics cancel out the effects of the atmospheric turbulence in astronomical observations, such simplifying statement carried along a number of possible schemes for the image degradation compensation (sometimes referred to as “flavors”) and involves a number of further constraints, the sky coverage being one of the most prominent. I will try to make an overview of the existing and planned techniques, trying to emphasize the areas of possible involvement of the Italian astronomy, and to sort out the additional constraints that adaptive optics observations pointing out their effectiveness for telescopes of different apertures.

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