First Use of Adaptive Optics Imaging to Constrain Cosmology with Gravitational Time Delays

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Outline

- Motivation
- Advantage of Adaptive Optics (AO)
- Challenge of and strategy for using AO imaging
- Blind test with mock data
- Preliminary results from Keck imaging
- Summary

H₀ provides critical independent constraints on

- nature of dark energy
- neutrino physics
- spatial curvature of the Universe

[e.g., Hu 2005, Riess et al. 2009 and 2011, Sekiguchi et al. 2010, Freedman et al. 2012, Suyu et al. 2012, Weinberg et al. 2012]



Image credit: Planck Collaboration. Ade et al. 2013 A&A

Derived H₀ based on spatially-flat ACDM model

Directly measure *H*₀ within 5.7% uncertainty with Gravitational Lensing

Thousand of lensed quasars will be found in current/future surveys. [Oguri & Marshall, 2010]

Hubble Space Telescope (HST) imaging is necessary for precise measurement of H₀.

HOWEVER

1.The HST cannot last forever.
(Last Servicing Mission is in May 2009)
2.The time of the HST is limited.
(In 2013, 18% accepted proposals are for cosmology)
3.The resolution is limited by its aperture size (2.4m)

Alternative approach

- SHARP = Strong-lensing High Angular Resolution Program
- SHARP is for studying dark matter substructure Vegetti et al. 2012 Lagattuta et al. 2012
- Use laser guide star adaptive optics with Keck II Telescope Resolution better than HST, while using a mirror that has 16x the collecting area
- Team SHARP: Chris Fassnacht, Simona Vegetti, John McKean, Dave Lagattuta, Leon Koopmans, Matt Auger



Space vs. AO : RXJ 1131-1231

HST/ACS F814W



Keck AO Ks



0.05 arcsec per pixel

0.04 arcsec per pixel

Suyu et al. 2013

We want to know whether AO data can produce similar (or better) cosmological constraints as HST data for time-delay systems (Chen et al. in prep)

The challenge of using AO imaging



INTENSITY (arbitrary units)





Strategy to extract the AGN light (outer loop)



AGN light



Strategy to extract the PSF correction (inner loop)

AGN light









Correction grid (fine structures of PSF)





Main assumption of the strategy: The PSF does not change too much within a small area. $\nabla M = 0$

Strategy to extract the PSF (inner loop)





Zoomed-in intensity

Blind test with mock data

- Purpose: to test whether we can recover the input time-delay distance by the strategy.
- Method:
 - \mathcal{D}_{-} Sherry created a mock lensed system which is
 - similar to RXJ1131



 Chih-Fan modeled the lensed system with timedelay information but without a PSF model a priori



Mock image

Model image



1. Reduced $\chi^2 \approx 1$ 2. 12 to 16 iterations



Arc light (Image – lens light – AGN light)

Model arc



Reconstructed source

Input source



0.04 arcsec per pixel

Important parameters for inferring H₀



Preliminary results of real data

The SHARP team (PI: Chris Fassnacht) provides the AO RXJ1131-1231 image with Keck AO Ks



Preliminary results of real data (RXJ 1131-1231)





Preliminary results of real data (RXJ 1131-1231)



Arc light (Image – lens light – AGN light)

Reconstructed arc

Preliminary results of real data (RXJ 1131-1231)



Reconstructed source

Summary

- High accuracy in H₀ is needed for understanding dark energy and possibly revealing new physics
- New method to model lens using AO data
- Blind test on mock AO data shows that we can recover the input time delay distance with our strategy
- Work is underway to model the Keck AO image
- AO can be a future way to follow up time-delay lenses

Many thanks to

Sherry Suyu (ASIAA) Ken Wong (ASIAA) Tzihong Chiueh (NTU) Chris Fassnacht (UC Davis) SHARP team Phil Marshall (Standford) Anja von der Linden (Standford) James Chan (NTU) Thomas Lai (ASIAA) 胡亦行 (NTU)