

BUILDING NEW BRAINS FOR GIANT OPTICAL TELESCOPES WITH DEEP NEURAL NETWORKS

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European Optical Telescopes

World Leadership in building and operating giant optical telescopes

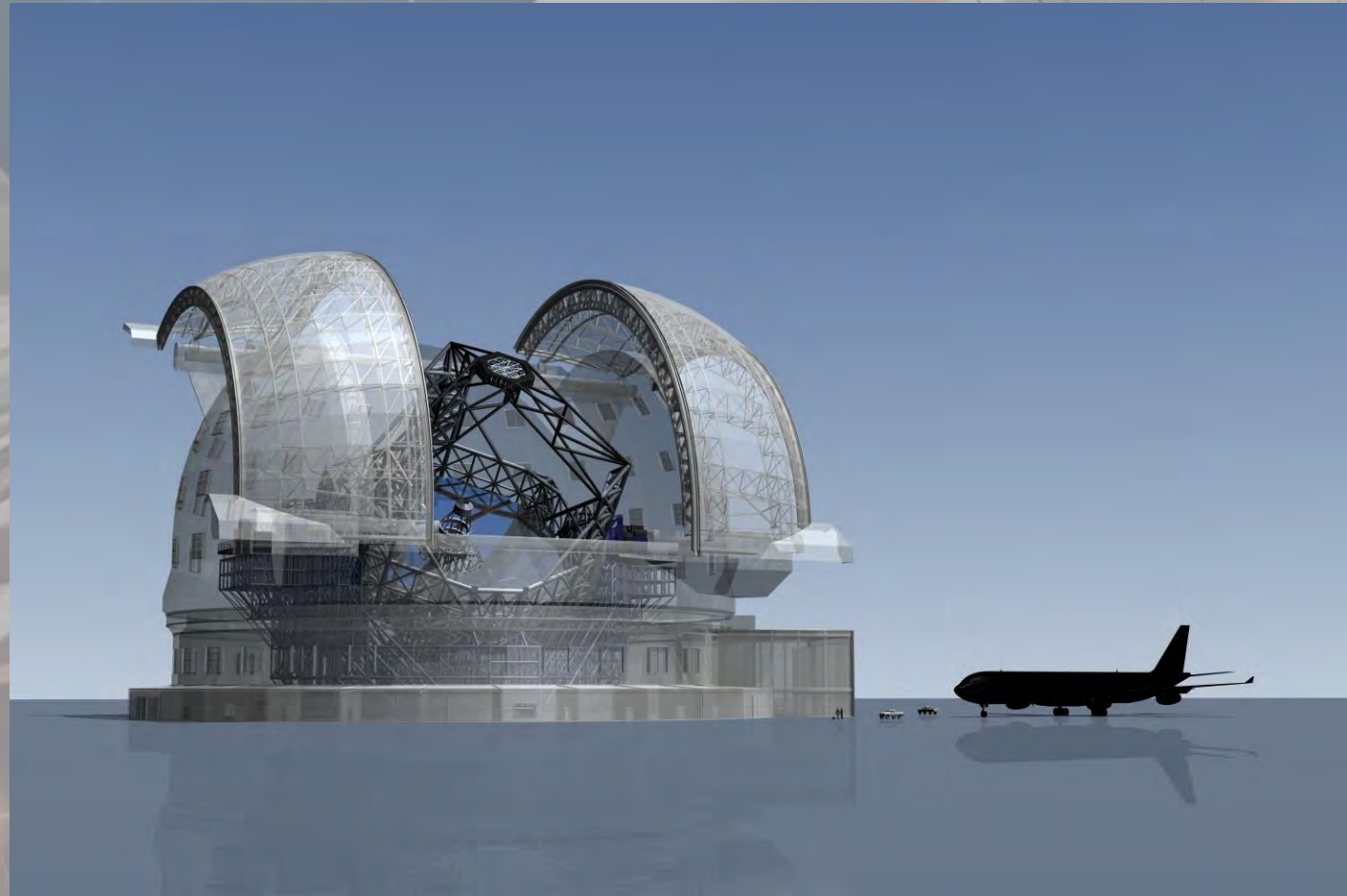
- **State-of-the-art: Very Large Telescope (VLT)**
- **Currently building the Extremely Large Telescope(ELT)**



European Extremely Large Telescope

Largest Optical Telescope ever built (for decades)

- **Primary mirror: 39m diameter**
- **6100 tons rotating structure**
- **On top of a 3100m mountain in Chile**
- **“First light” circa the end of this decade**
- **Designed to make major breakthroughs: e.g. observing rocky exoplanets**



European Extremely Large Telescope



Adaptive Optics: **enabling technology**

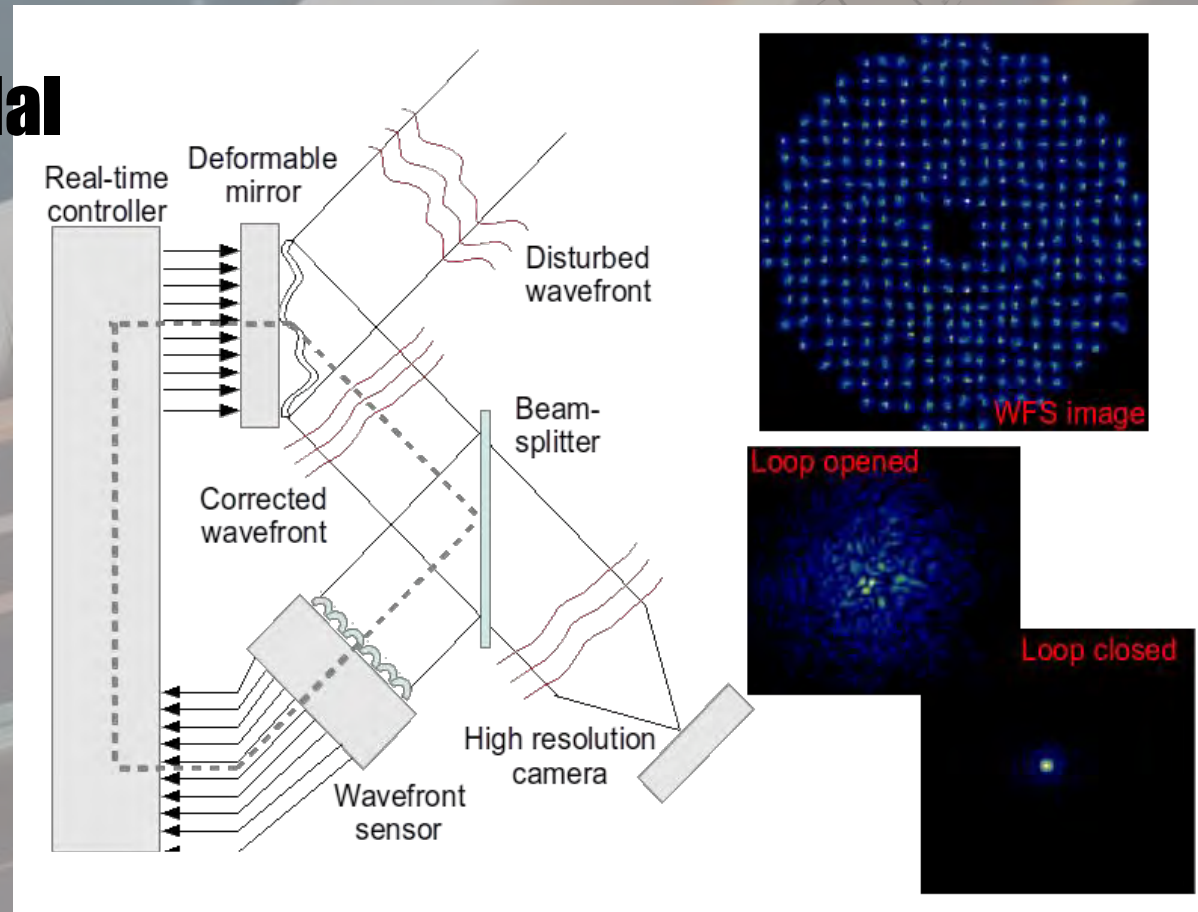


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Principles of Adaptive Optics

Control in real-time the shape of the incoming wavefront

- **Sensors:** cameras equipped with an optical device (lenslet array, pyramidal prism, etc...)
- **Thousands** of actuators to control
- **Compute pipeline**
latency below 1 millisecond
- **Stable time-to-solution is critical**
(10s of μ s of jitter)



A new brain for Adaptive Optics

Complex, multi-physics problem: requires multiple flavors of AI mixed with HPC workloads

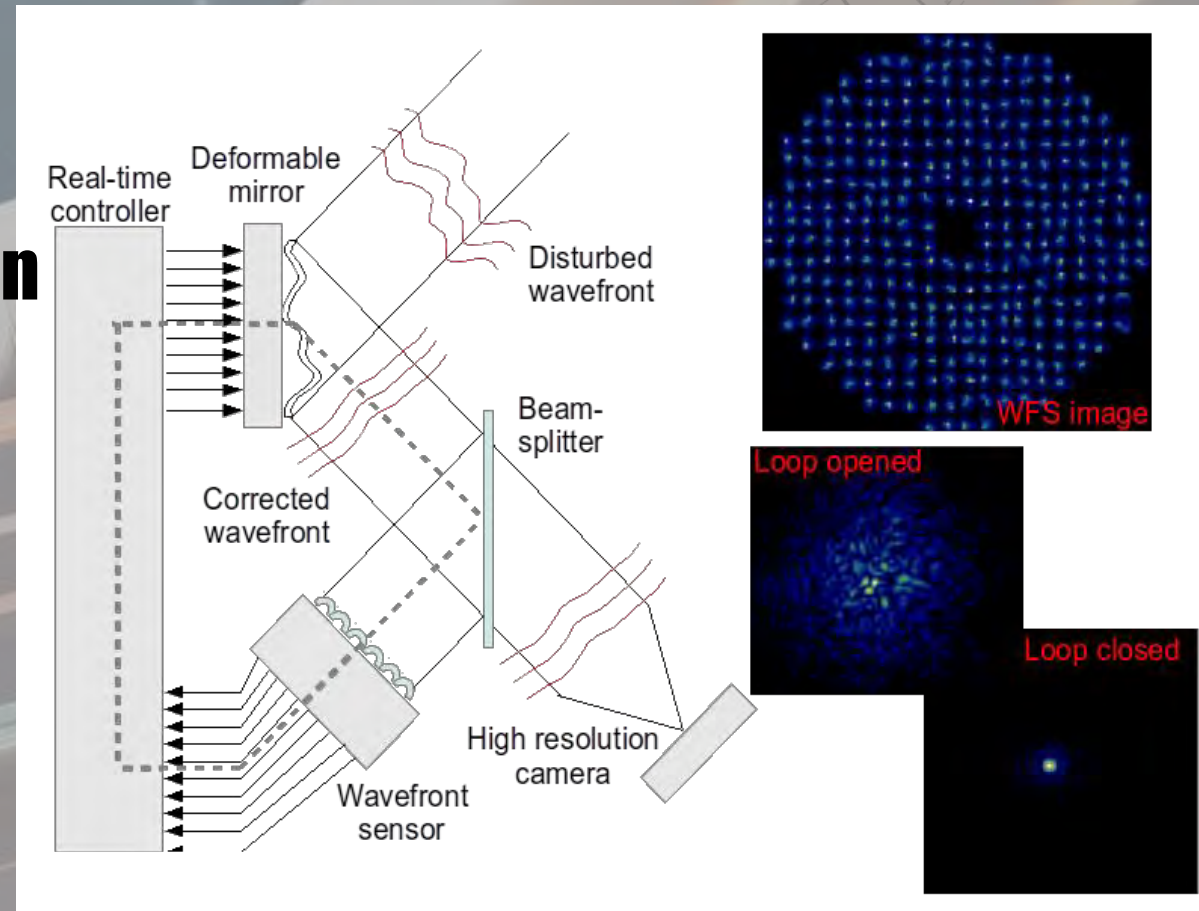
Sensors data: mitigate noise, improve linearity, merge multiple sensors

Deformable mirrors: improve resolution

Pipeline latency: enable predictive control

Variable conditions: self-adapting controller

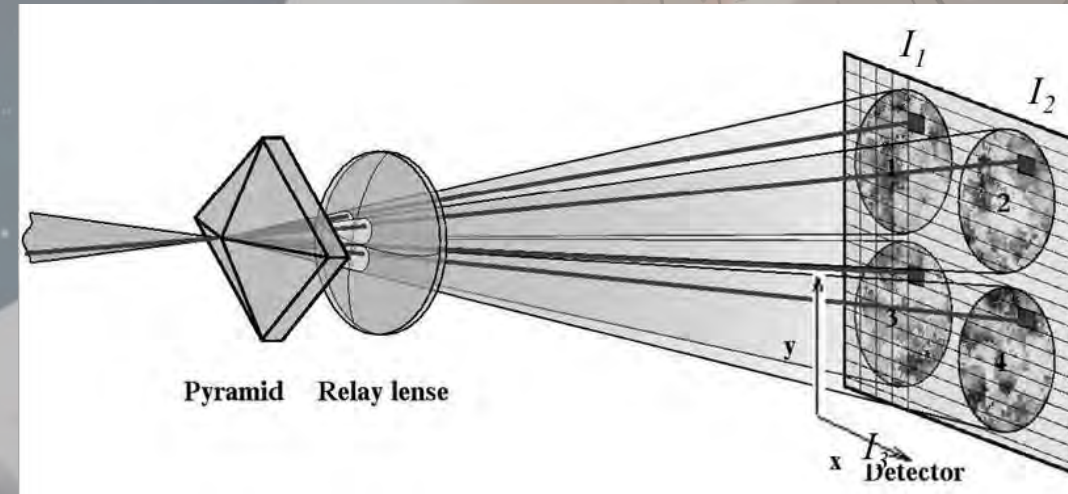
Stable time-to-solution: real-time inference



Planet hunting gear: Pyramid sensor

Based on the “Foucault’s knife” principle:
increased sensitivity

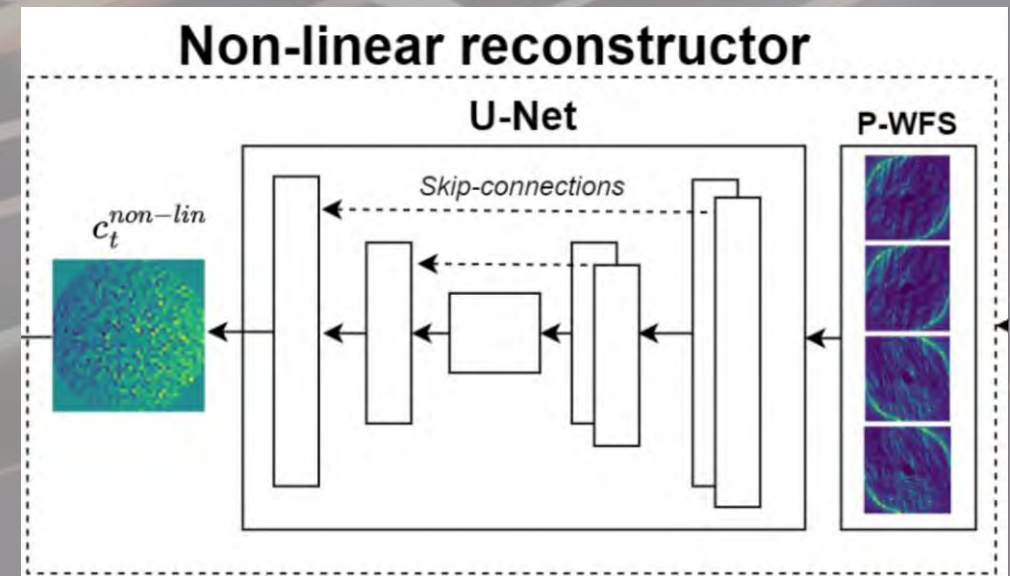
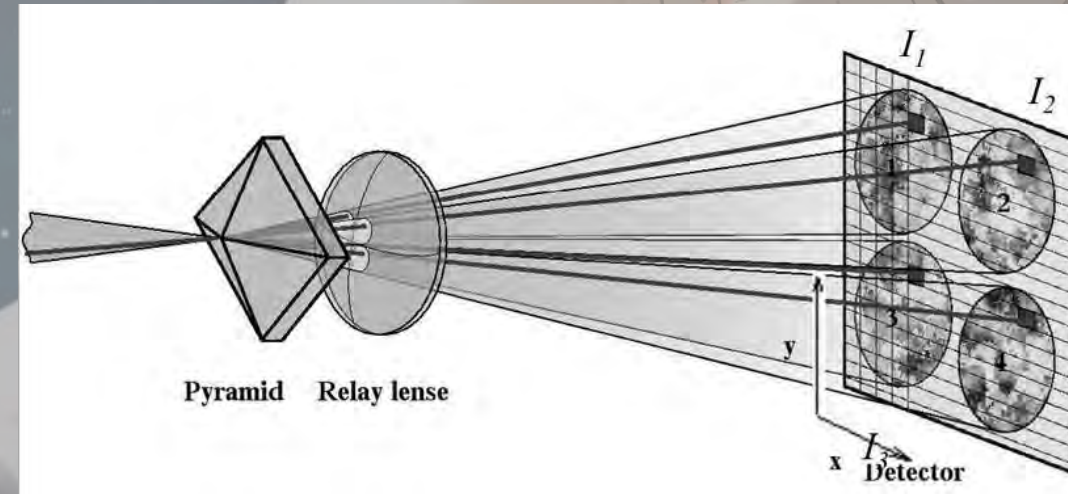
- Highly non-linear response
- Becoming mainstream (especially for planet hunting !)
- **Need to “linearize”** response to make it actionable



Planet hunting gear: Pyramid sensor

Increased sensitivity with pyramid wavefront sensors

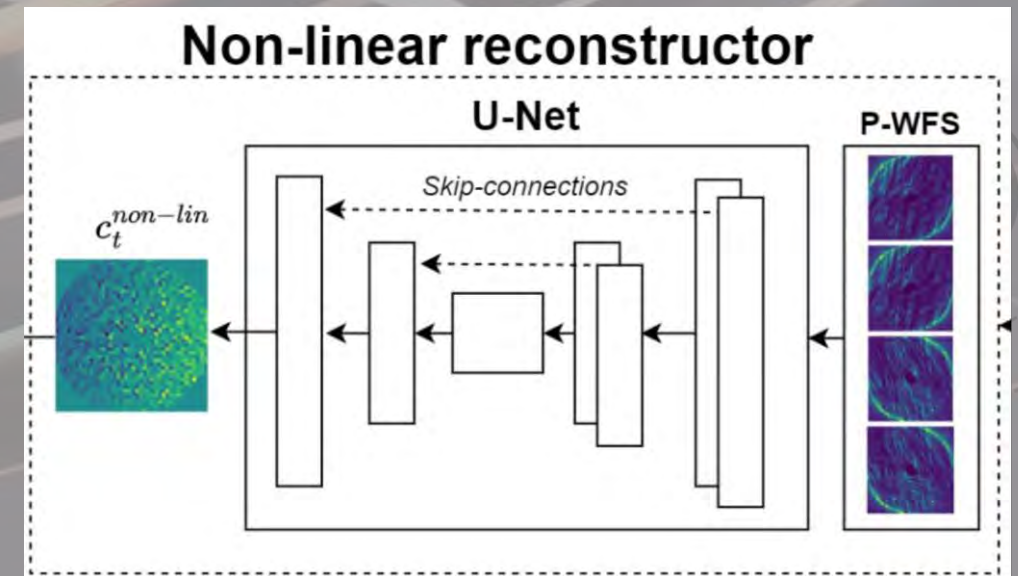
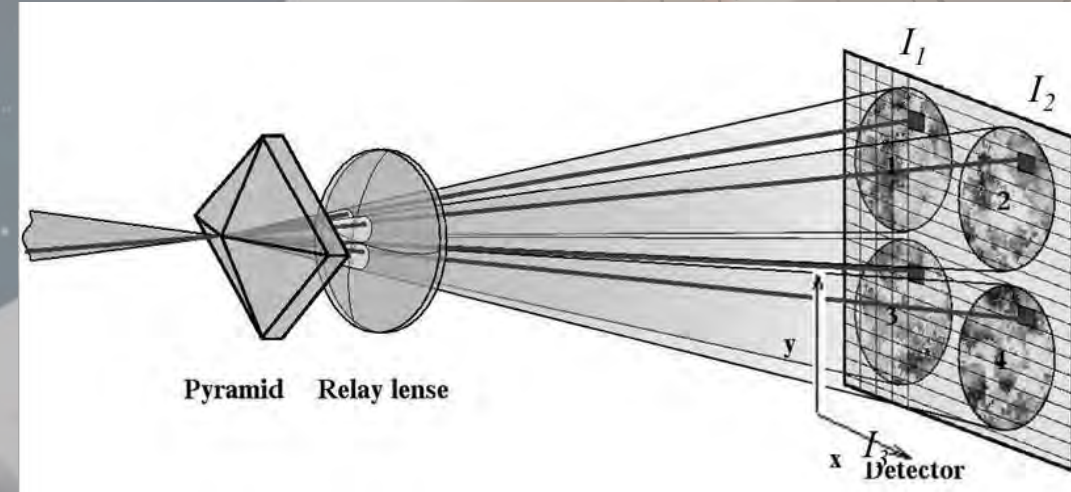
- **Highly non-linear response**
- **Becoming mainstream (especially for planet hunting !)**
- **Need to “linearize” response to make it actionable**
 - **Idea: Use a U-Net to provide non-linear reconstruction**



Training the U-Net efficiently ...

This U-Net is used to build a “**deterministic non-linear model**” of the pyramid

- Integrate the perturbation statistics out of the problem
- Use a **uniform distribution** for training



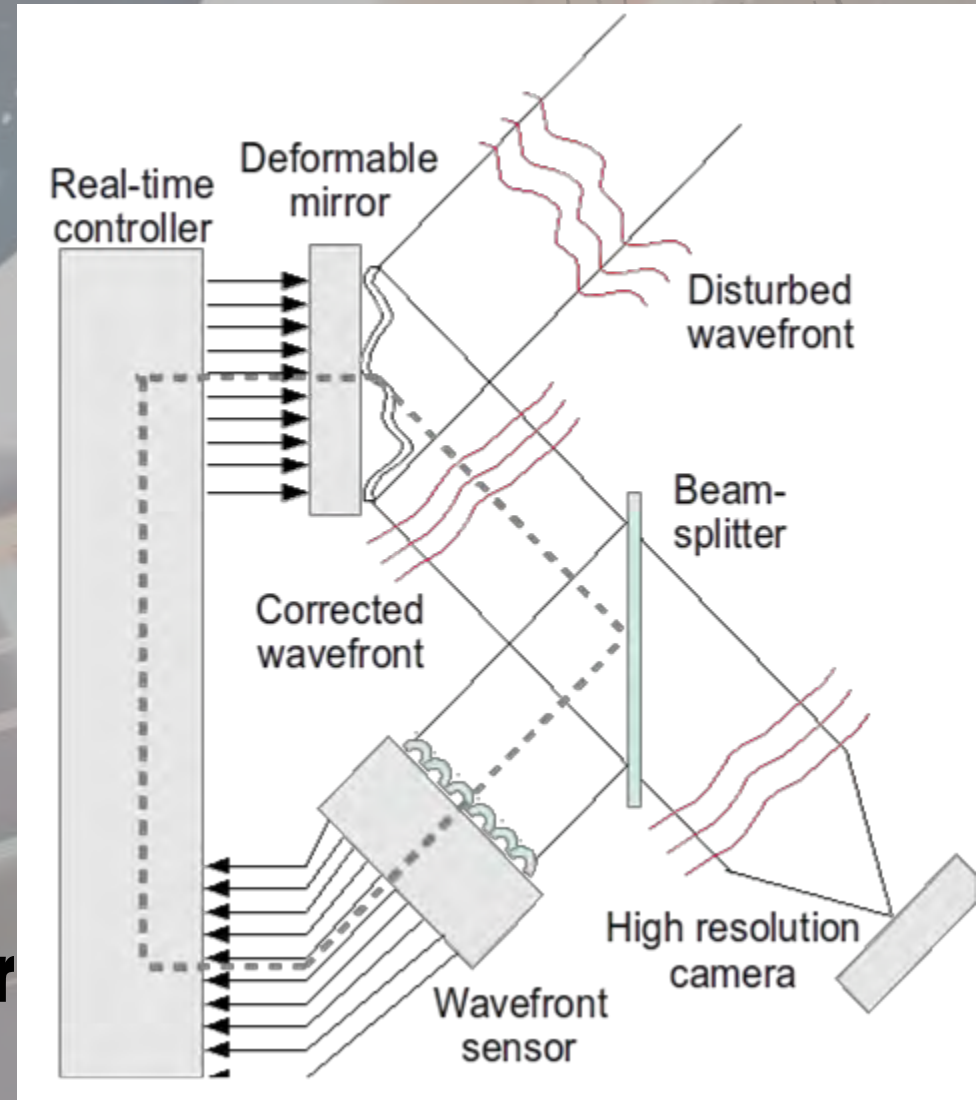
Training the U-Net efficiently ...

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This is a **control problem**:

- Max resolution needed is the mirror's actuators pitch
- **Leverage the closed loop**: training under realistic conditions with the system's mirror

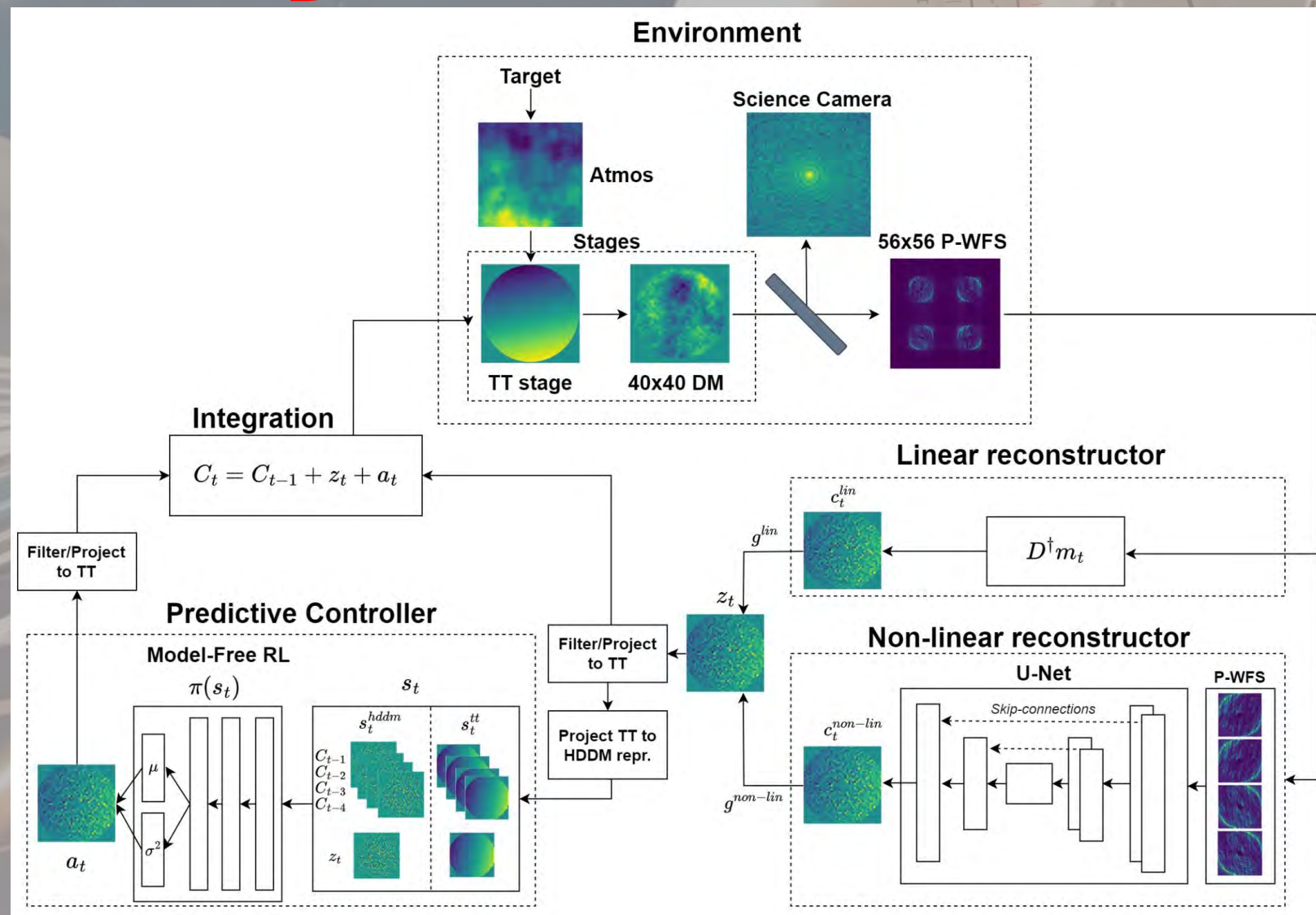


A new (**trustworthy**) brain for AO

The background is a complex, futuristic composition. It features a dark blue sky with white stars and a large, glowing white sphere on the left. Numerous glowing lines in shades of white, yellow, and orange flow across the scene, some curving and others straight. On the right side, there are several circular gauges or dials with numerical scales (e.g., 100, 110, 120, 130, 140, 150, 160, 170, 180, 190, 200, 210) and arrows. The overall aesthetic is clean, modern, and high-tech.

A new (**trustworthy**) brain for AO

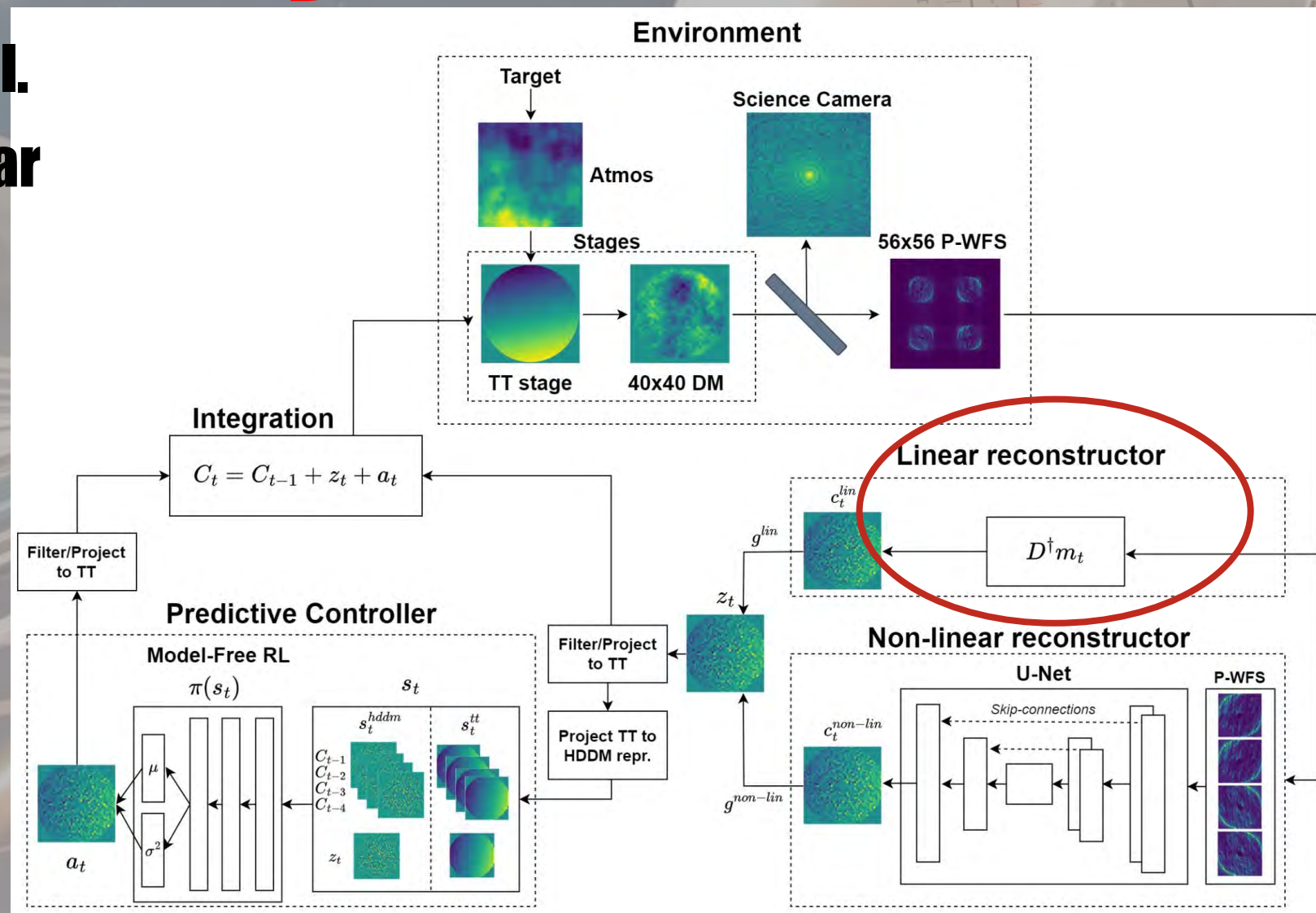
Multi-stage approach



A new (**trustworthy**) brain for AO

Multi-stage approach incl.

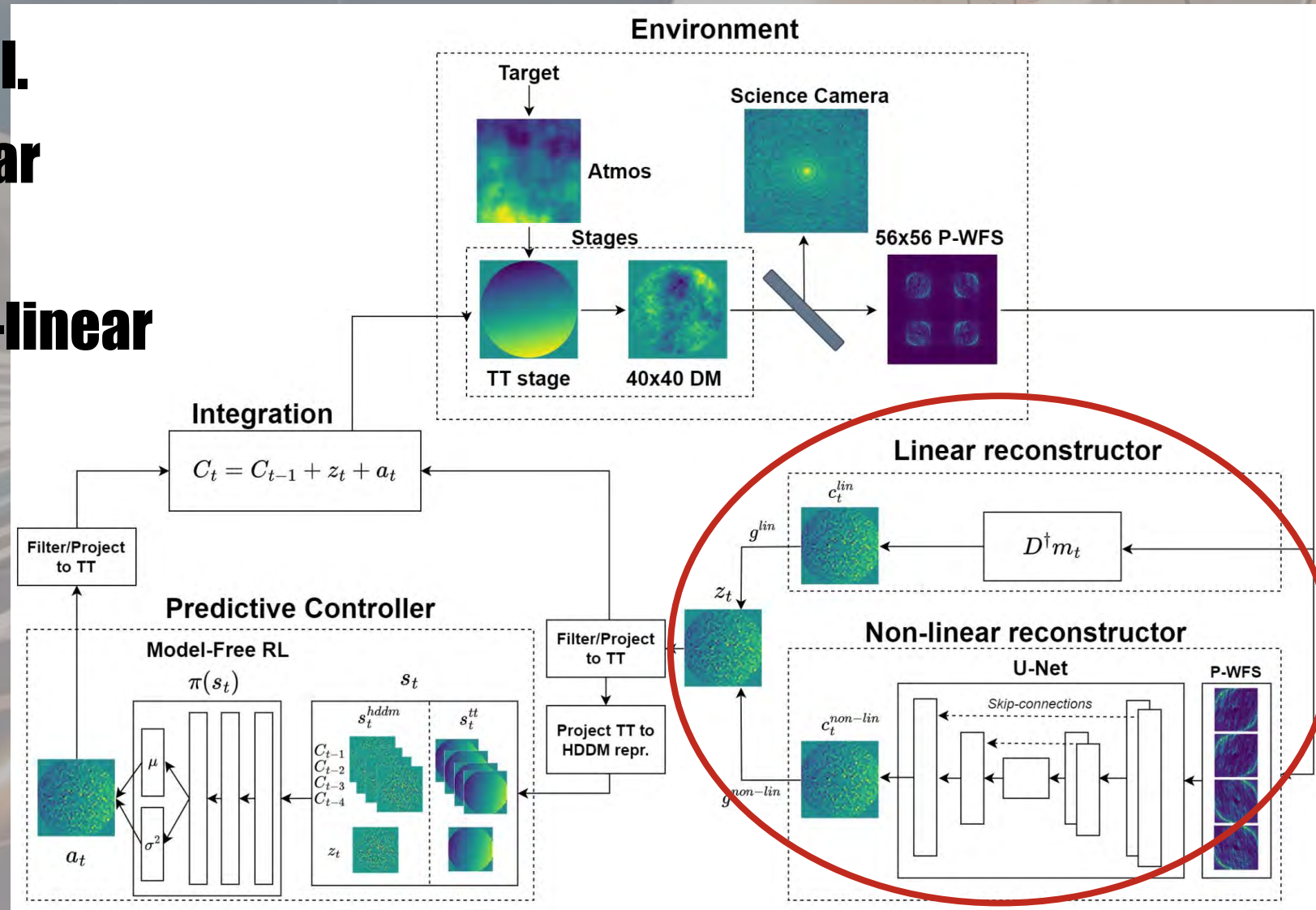
- High Performance Linear Algebra



A new (**trustworthy**) brain for AO

Multi-stage approach incl.

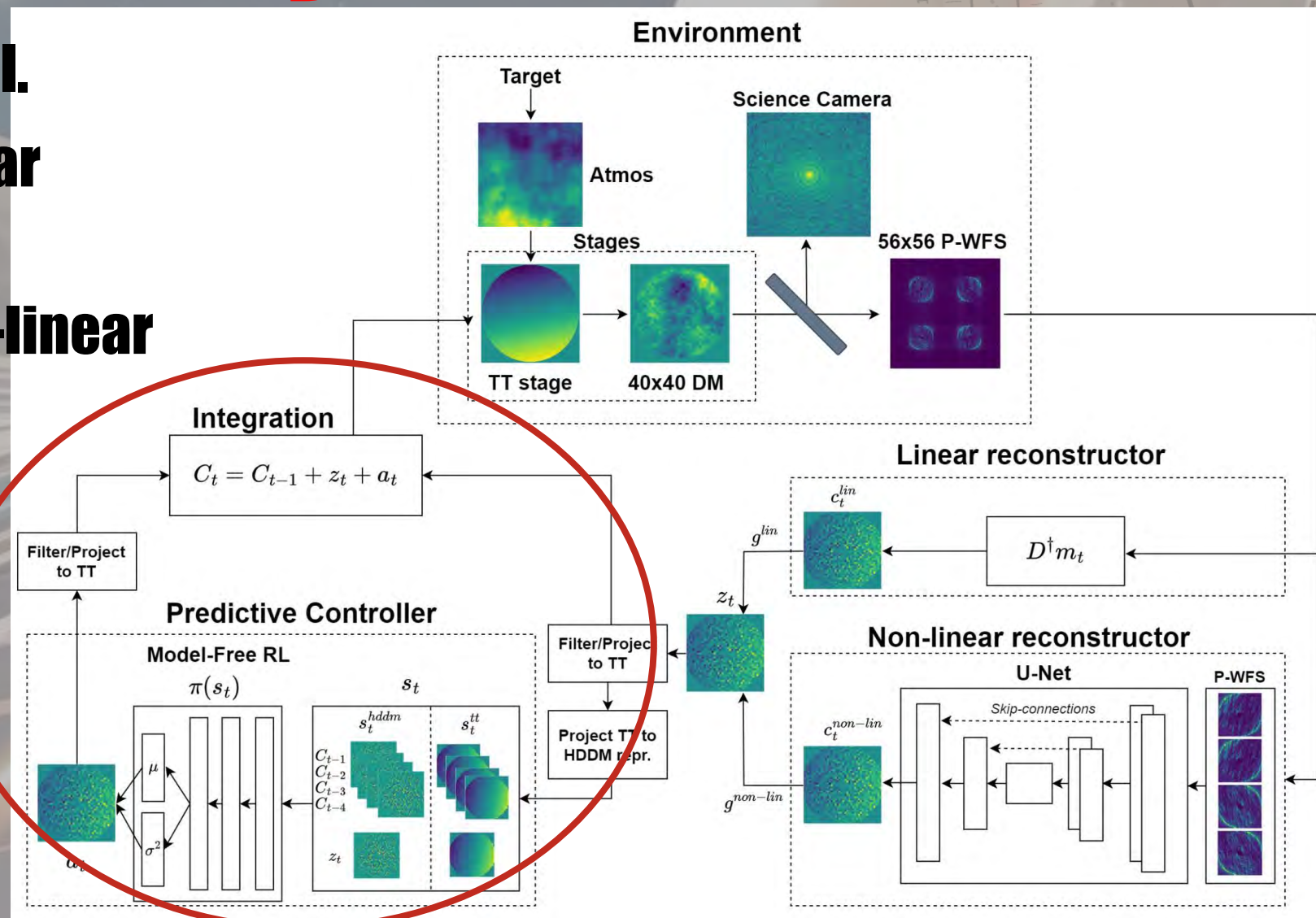
- High Performance Linear Algebra
- **Combined linear + non-linear reconstruction**



A new (**trustworthy**) brain for AO

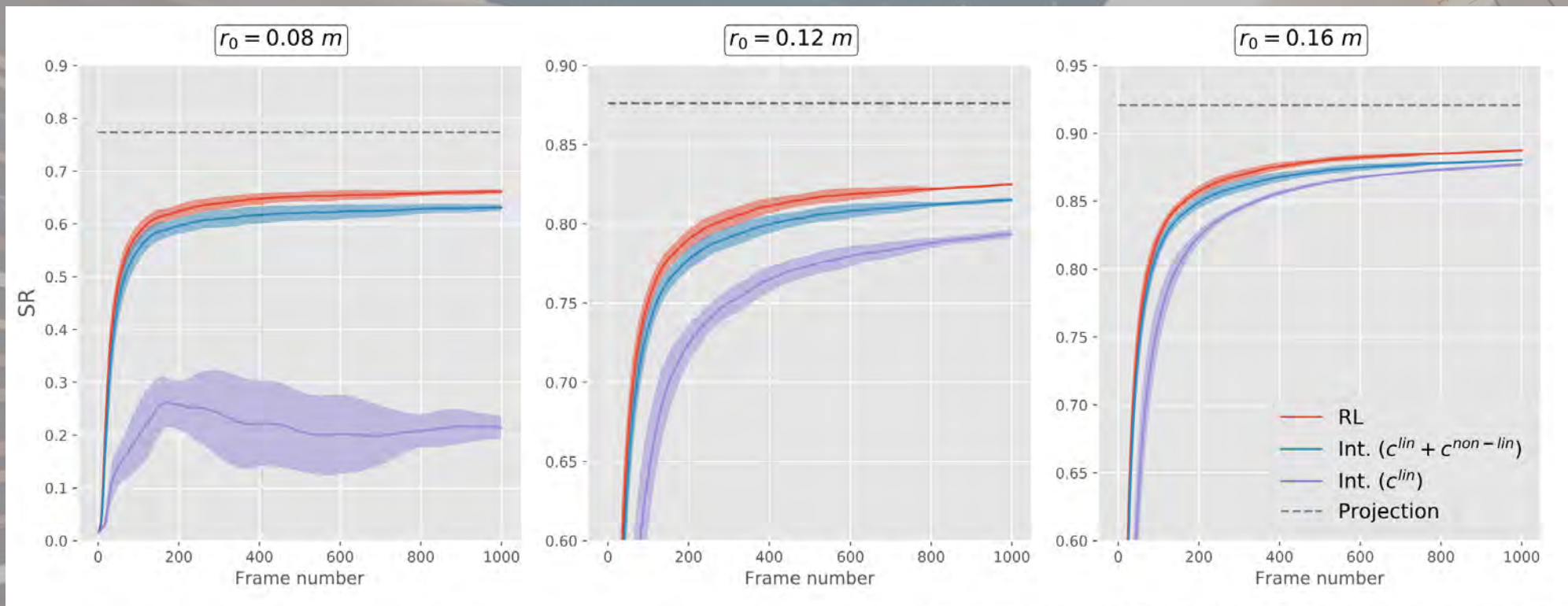
Multi-stage approach incl.

- High Performance Linear Algebra
- Combined linear + non-linear reconstruction
- **Combined linear + non-linear control**



Towards trustable operations

Provides optimal compensation level whatever operating conditions



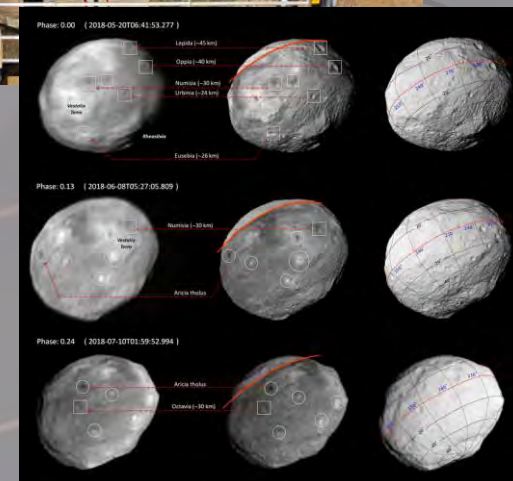
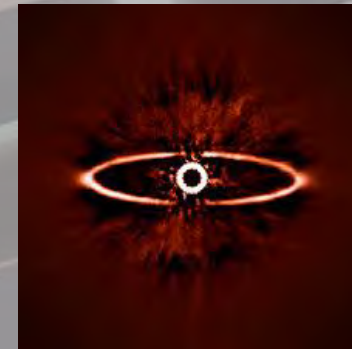
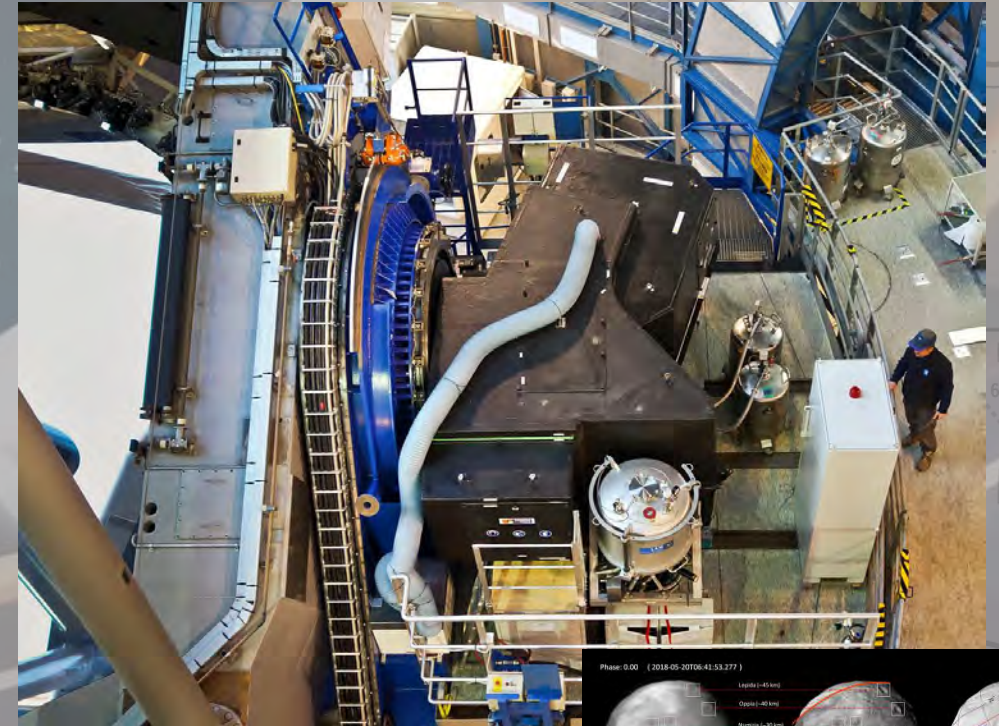
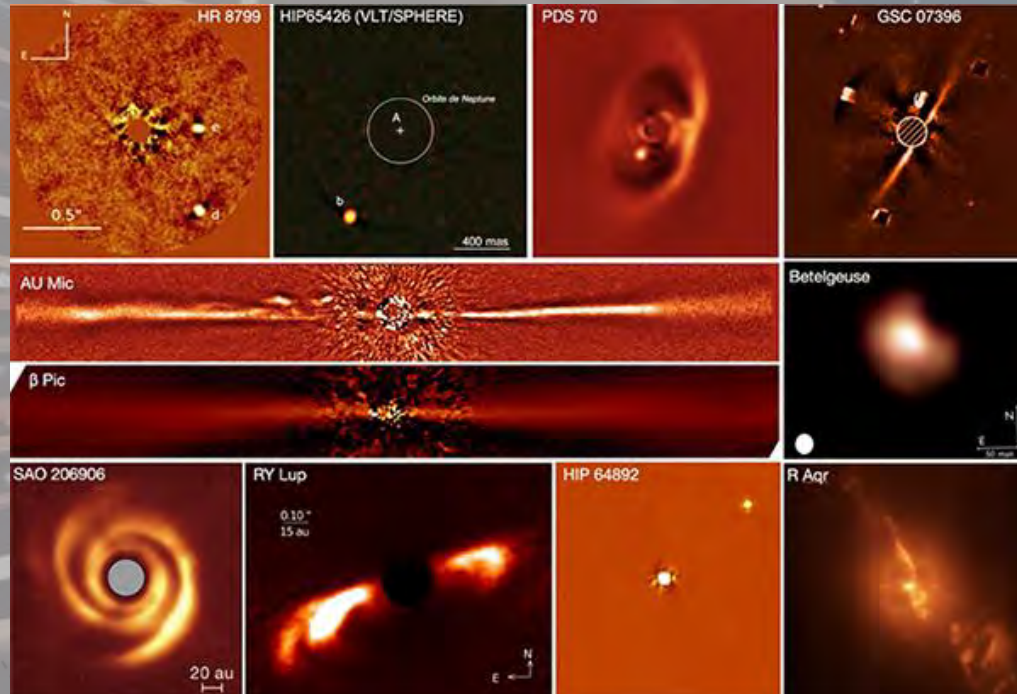
B. Pou, F. Ferreira, E. Quinones, D. Gratadour, and M. Martin, "Adaptive optics control with multi-agent model-free reinforcement learning," Opt. Express 30, 2991-3015, 2022.

Stable & self-adapting without human intervention

Towards an upgraded planet finder at the VLT

SPHERE+: **imaging Jupiters at the snow line**

- Capitalizing on success of SPHERE
- Enabling more discoveries with AI

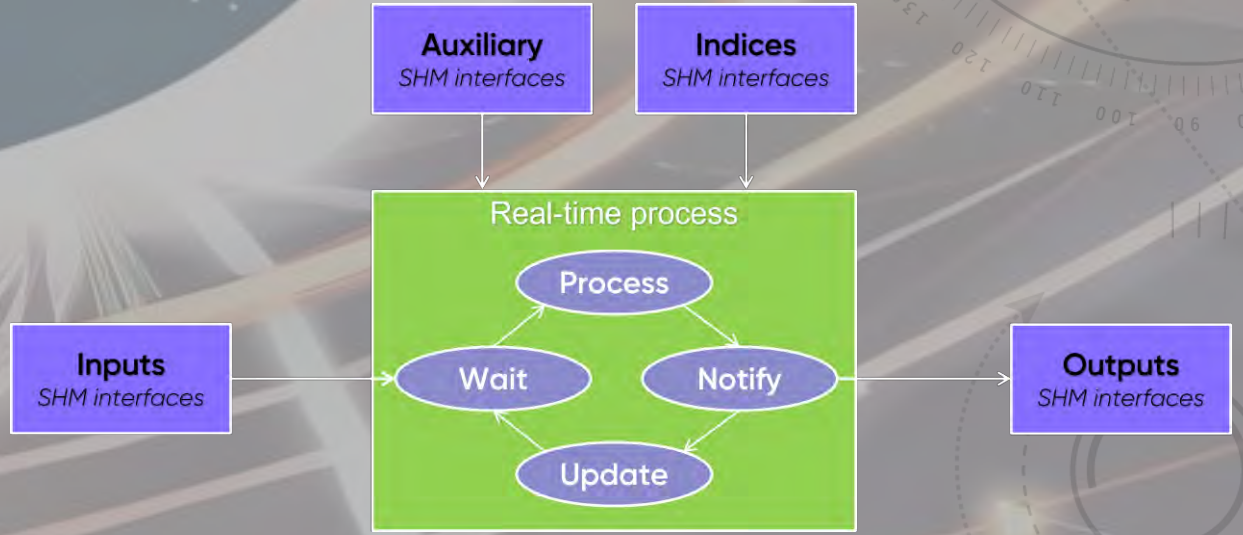
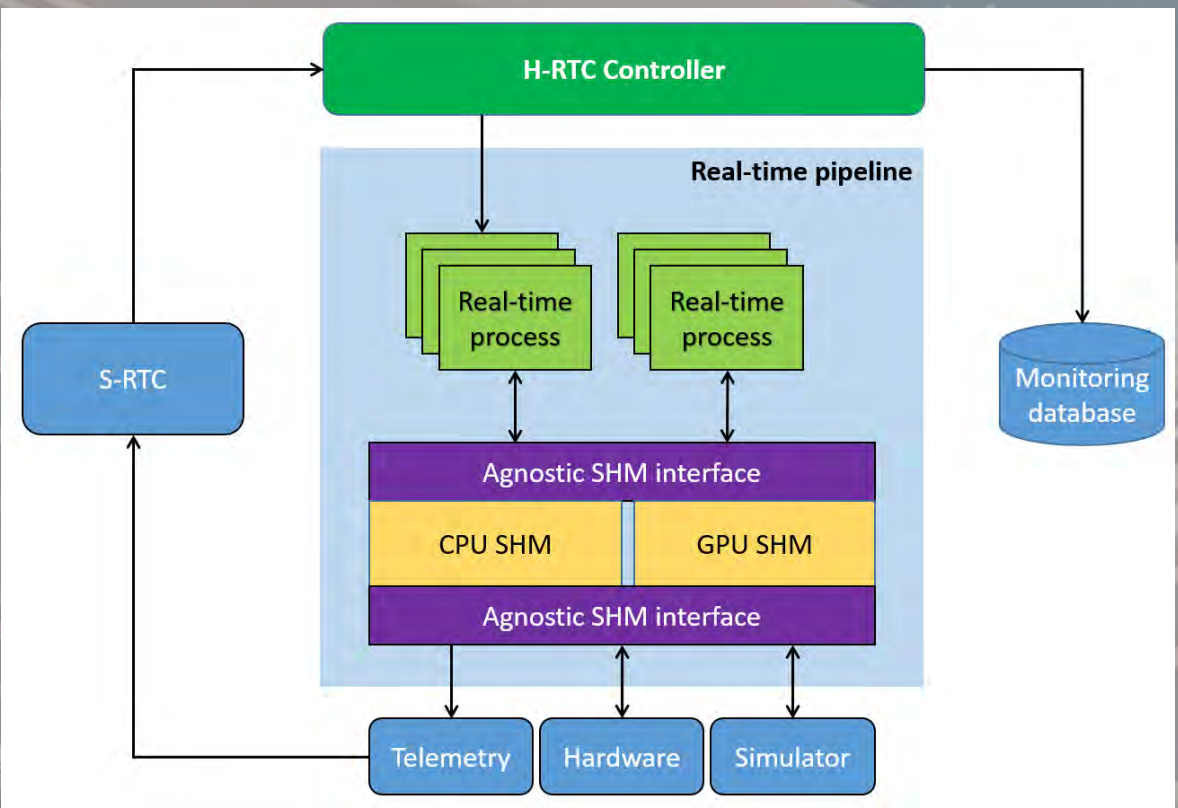


Fast-tracked project: first light in 2026.



Towards real implementation

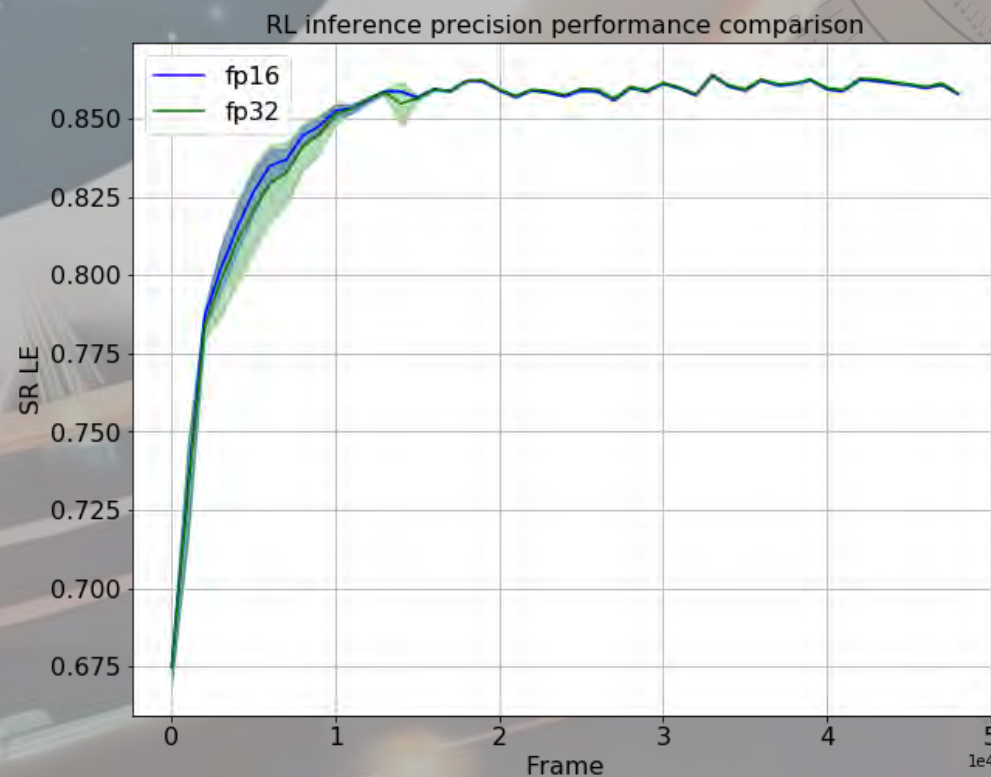
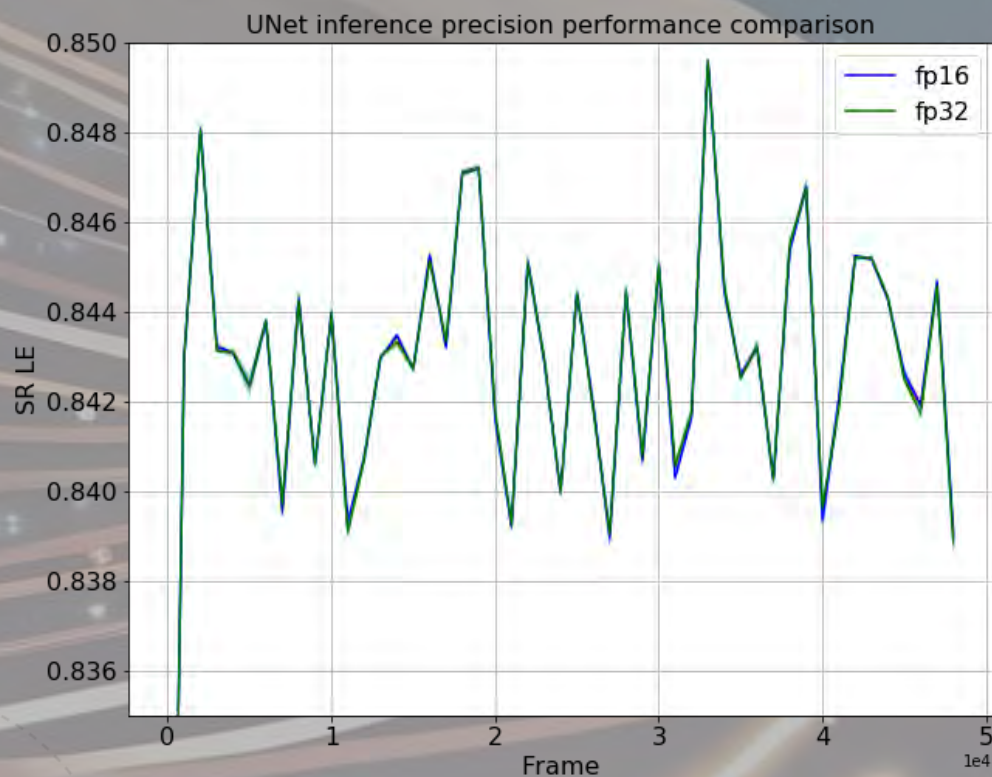
The COSMIC platform: future-proof seamless real-time computing



Modular & heterogeneous by design, baseline for several facility instruments

Towards practical implementation

Effect of quantization on U-Net and RL Inference



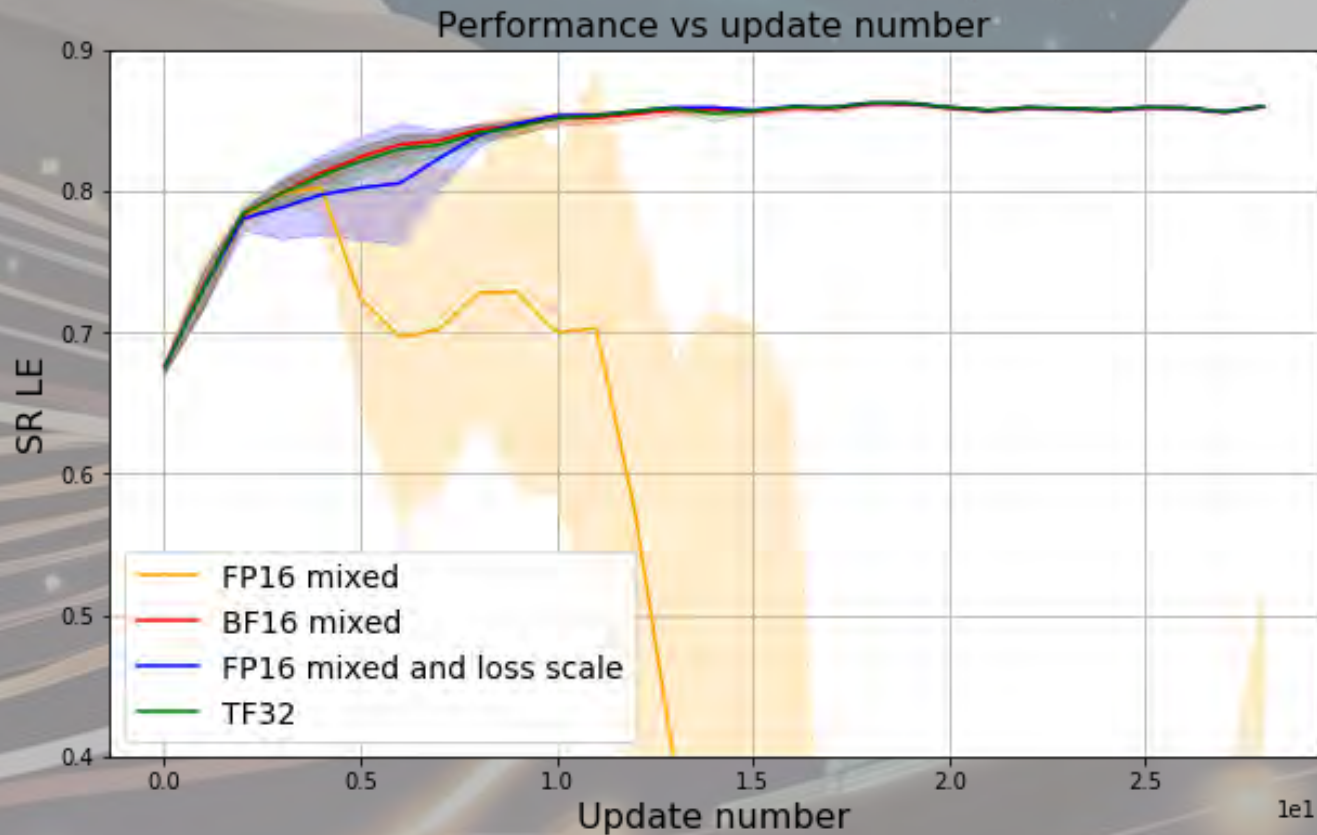
No significant effect from quantization

Integrating deep neural networks with COSMIC and CACAO
on SCEXAO for real-time control

B. Pou^{a, b, c}, F. Ferreira^c, V. Deo^d, K. Ahn^d, S. Vievard^d, J. Lozi^d, O. Guyon^{d, e, f}, E.
Quinones^a, M. Martin^b, and D. Gratadour^e

Towards practical implementation

Effect of quantization on RL training



Stable with BF16, portability concerns ?

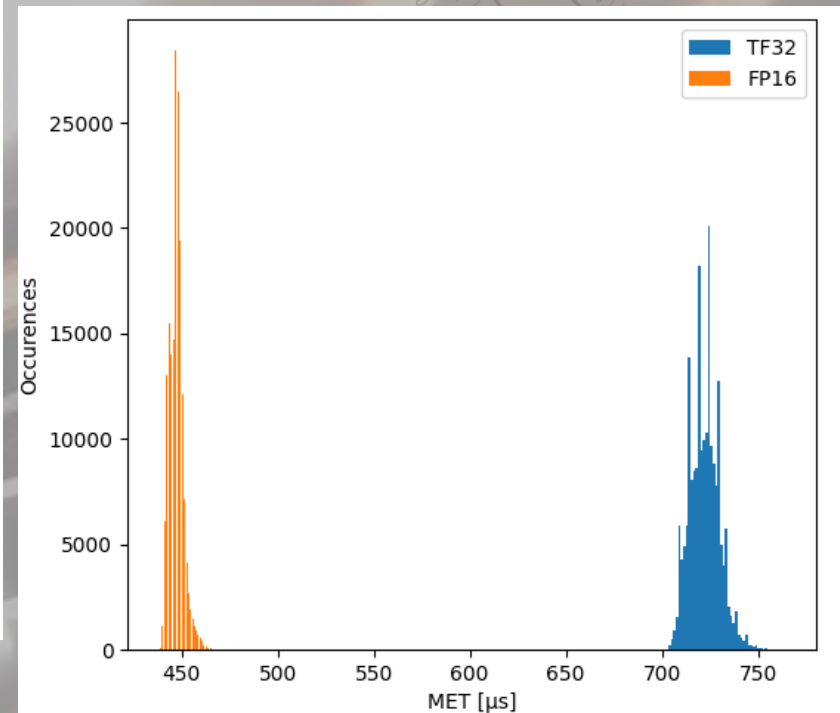
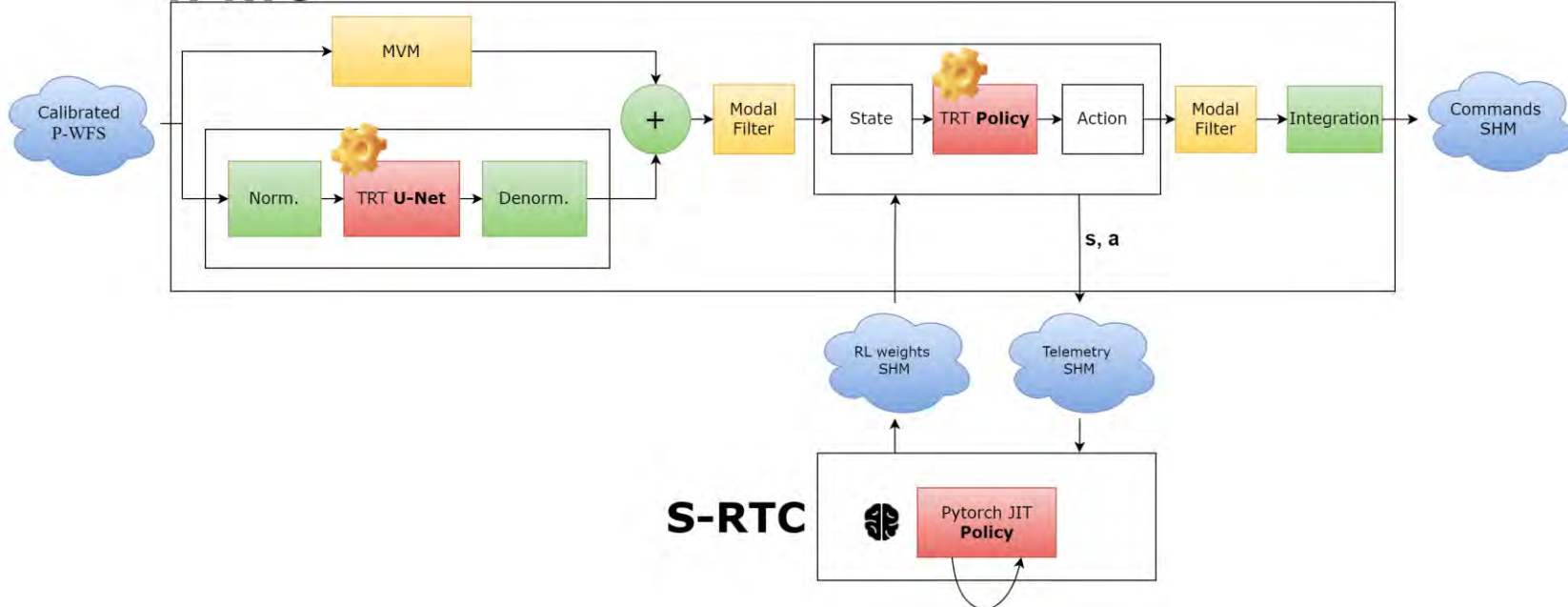
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Towards practical implementation

Critical path inference time: full pipeline (HPC + AI) on A100 GPU

H-RTC



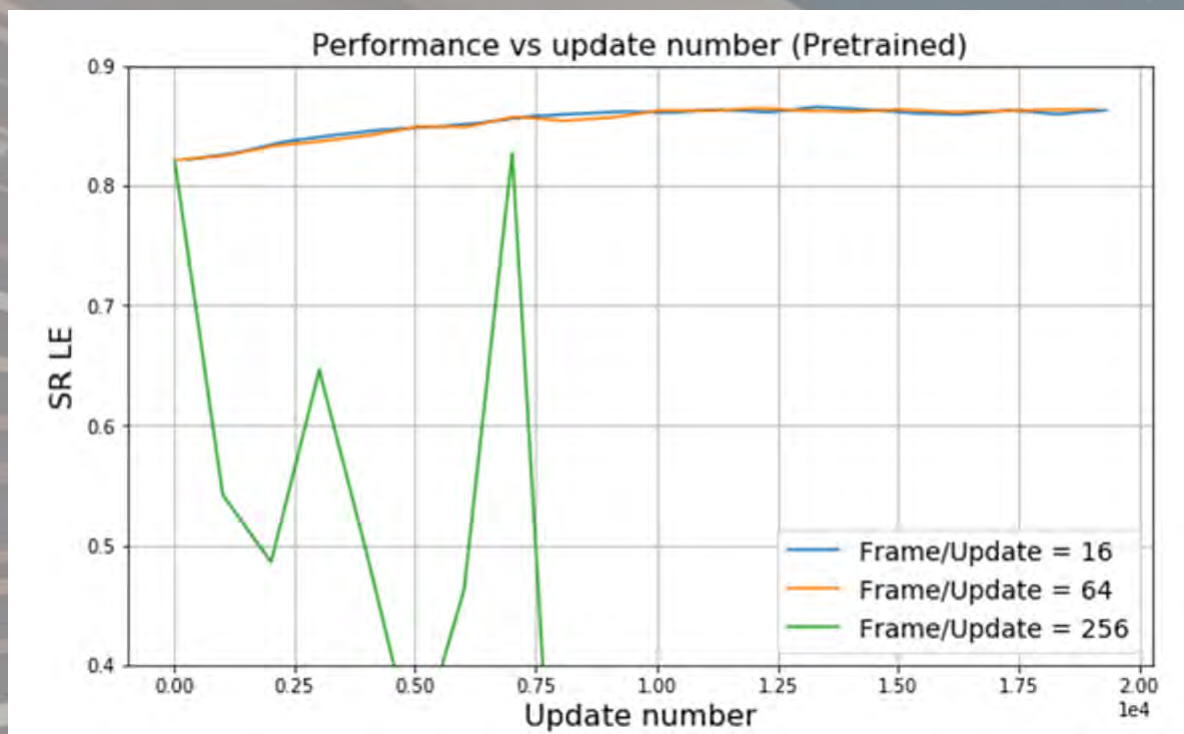
Pipeline	Mean latency [μs]	Mean jitter [μs]	Max. jitter [μs]	Jitter P2V [μs]
DSRL TF32	722	7	42	65
DSRL FP16	447	3	27	36

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Towards practical implementation

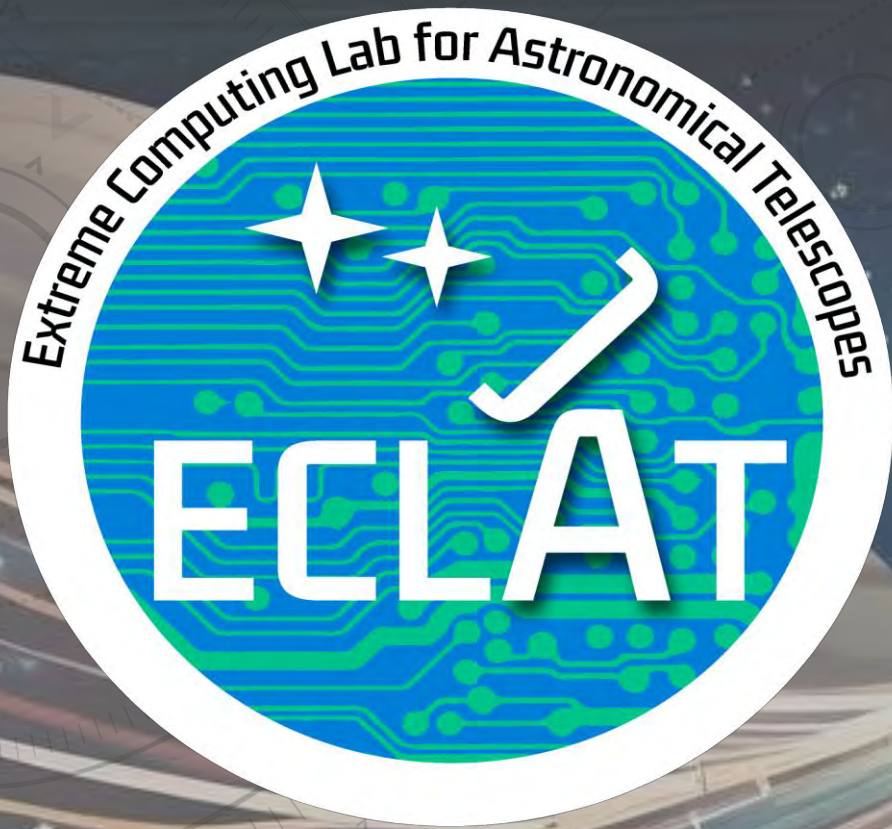
Training requirements and update time



Compatible with specifications < 20ms on A100

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SUPPORTING INITIATIVES