## Synthetic Wavefront Generation for Aero-Optics Correction

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#### **The Aero-Optics Problem**

Turbulent flow over an aircraft causes wavefront aberrations in propagated laser beams.



The Aero-Optics Problem, Figure 1 from [1]

[1] M. Wang, A. Mani, and S. Gordeyev, "Physics and Computation of Aero-Optics," *Annual Review of Fluid Mechanics*, Vol. 44, No. 1, 2012, pp. 299–321.

## **Adaptive Optics for Aero-Optical Effects**

- The Kolmogorov-Taylor model is **not sufficient** to describe aero-optics ([2]).
  - Development of Adaptive Optics (AO) systems for atmospheric turbulence *relies on* this model ([2]).

- We *need wavefront data* to accurately design AO systems for addressing aero-optic effects.
  - Wind tunnel experiments are *costly*; data acquisition is *time-limited*.

# • We implement an algorithm for generating synthetic wavefronts on long time-scales.

## **Metrics for Synthetic Wavefront**

Our synthetic wavefront needs to match the following:

1. (Temporal) Power Spectral Density (PSD) of **deflection angle**  $\theta_x: S_{\theta_x}(f).$ 

2. (Temporal) PSD of **optical path difference** (**OPD**):  $S_{OPD}(f)$ .

3. Spatial Structure Function for *Kolmogorov turbulence* ([2]), evaluated on **optical path difference** (**OPD**).

$$D_{OPD}(r) = \langle [OPD(\mathbf{x} + \Delta \mathbf{x}) - OPD(\mathbf{x})]^2 \rangle \quad (r = |\Delta \mathbf{x}|)$$

[2] C. Vogel, G. Tyler, and D. Wittich, "Spatial-temporal-covariance-based modeling, analysis, and simulation of aero-optics wavefront aberrations," *J. Opt. Soc. Am. A*, Vol. 31, No. 7, 2014, pp. 1666-1679.







Notre Dame Wind Tunnel Experiment, Figure 1(b) from [3]

We have three experimental data sets:

- F04: **1.02 sec** of data
- F06: **1.51 sec** of data
- F12: **1.93 sec** of data



Notre Dame Wind Tunnel Experiment, Figure 1(b) from [3]

#### **Experimental Data: Visualization**

Quantize each sub-aperture as a pixel value.



## **Statistical Model for OPD**

• We model **OPD** as a zero-mean timestationary Gaussian random process  $X_n$ .



## • We employ *Principal Component Analysis (PCA)* to *decorrelate OPD* values at each time:



#### **Data Analysis: PCA**









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## **Converting Experimental Data**

At each time step *n*, we convert the 2-D spatial *OPD* to a column vector in *raster order*.



## **Converting Experimental Data**



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[4] H. Lütkepohl, New Introduction to Multiple Time Series Analysis, 2005, Springer-Verlag Berlin, pg. 13-14, 69-71.

## **VAR Modeling: Linear Prediction**



#### **Data Analysis: Linear Prediction**



#### $\xi_n$ is white in *time*, correlated in *space*.

#### **Data Analysis**



#### **Synthesis**

## **Drive** model with white noise $W_n$



Inverse PCA gives correlated noise  $\xi_n$ 

#### **Synthesis: Linear Prediction**



## **Synthesis: Inverse PCA**

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### **Synthesis**

## **Drive** model with white noise $W_n$



### **Post-Processing Synthetic Data**

After generating synthetic data, remove a (*weighted*) moving average:

## **Algorithm Overview**



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### **Results: Data Set F04** ( $N_L = 5$ )



## **Results: Data Set F06** ( $N_L = 3$ )



## **Results: Data Set F12** ( $N_L = 3$ )



## **Algorithm Run-Time**



- 6.5 mins to analyze 0.8 sec of experimental data
- 2.4 mins to generate 1 sec of synthetic data



3.5 mins to *analyze* 1.2 sec of *experimental* data
53 sec to *generate* 1 sec of *synthetic* data



- 3.3 mins to analyze 1.6 sec of experimental data
- **38 sec** to *generate* **1 sec** of *synthetic* data

#### Conclusion

• Development of AO systems to address aero-optic effects requires aberrated wavefront data on long time-scales.

• Our VAR Model algorithm is computationally efficient and generates high quality synthetic wavefronts.



#### References

- [1] M. Wang, A. Mani, and S. Gordeyev, "Physics and Computation of Aero-Optics," *Annual Review of Fluid Mechanics*, Vol. 44, No. 1, 2012, pp. 299–321.
- [2] C. Vogel, G. Tyler, and D. Wittich, "Spatial-temporal-covariance-based modeling, analysis, and simulation of aero-optics wavefront aberrations," *J. Opt. Soc. Am. A*, Vol. 31, No. 7, 2014, pp. 1666-1679.
- [3] M. R. Kemnetz and S. Gordeyev, "Optical investigation of large-scale boundary-layer structures", 54th AIAA Aerospace Sciences Meeting, 4 -8 Jan 2016, San Diego, California, AIAA Paper 2016-1460.
- [4] H. Lütkepohl, *New Introduction to Multiple Time Series Analysis*, 2005, Springer-Verlag Berlin, pg. 13-14, 69-71.