

Temporal and Spatial Characterization of Polymer Membrane Deformable Mirrors

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Outline

- Introduction
- Spatial Response Characterization
- Temporal Frequency Response
- Conclusions & Future Work

AOS Products

Hartmann & S-H Wavefront Sensors



Webcam HWFS

\$1.5k

Deformable Mirrors



Firewire HWFS

\$6k



Membrane DM

\$1.5k

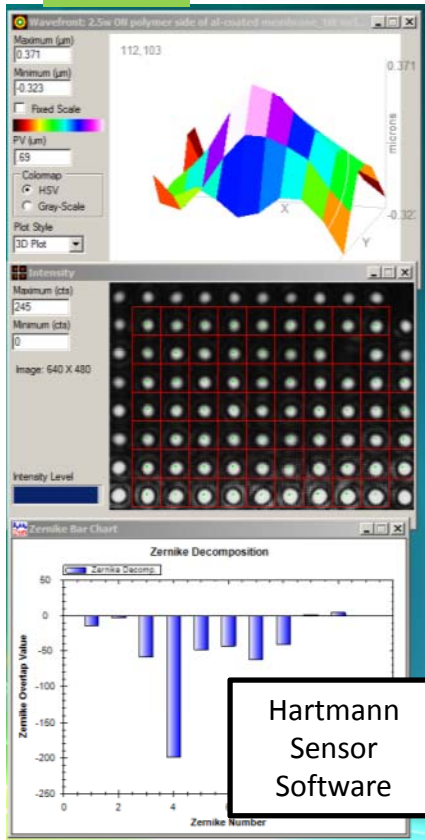
Computer Interface Electronics



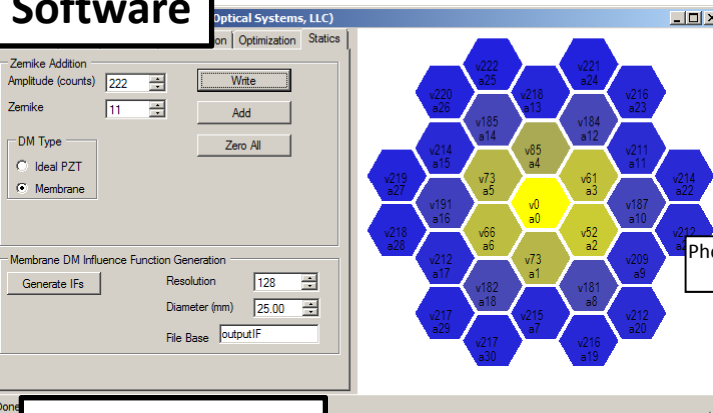
\$5k

USB Drive Electronics

Software

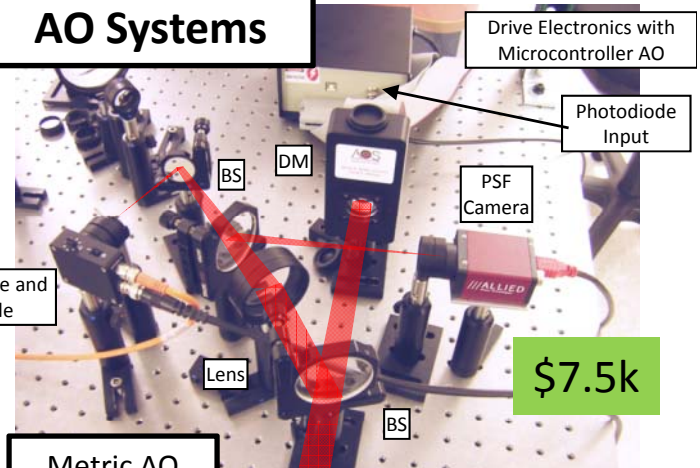


Hartmann Sensor Software



DM Controller

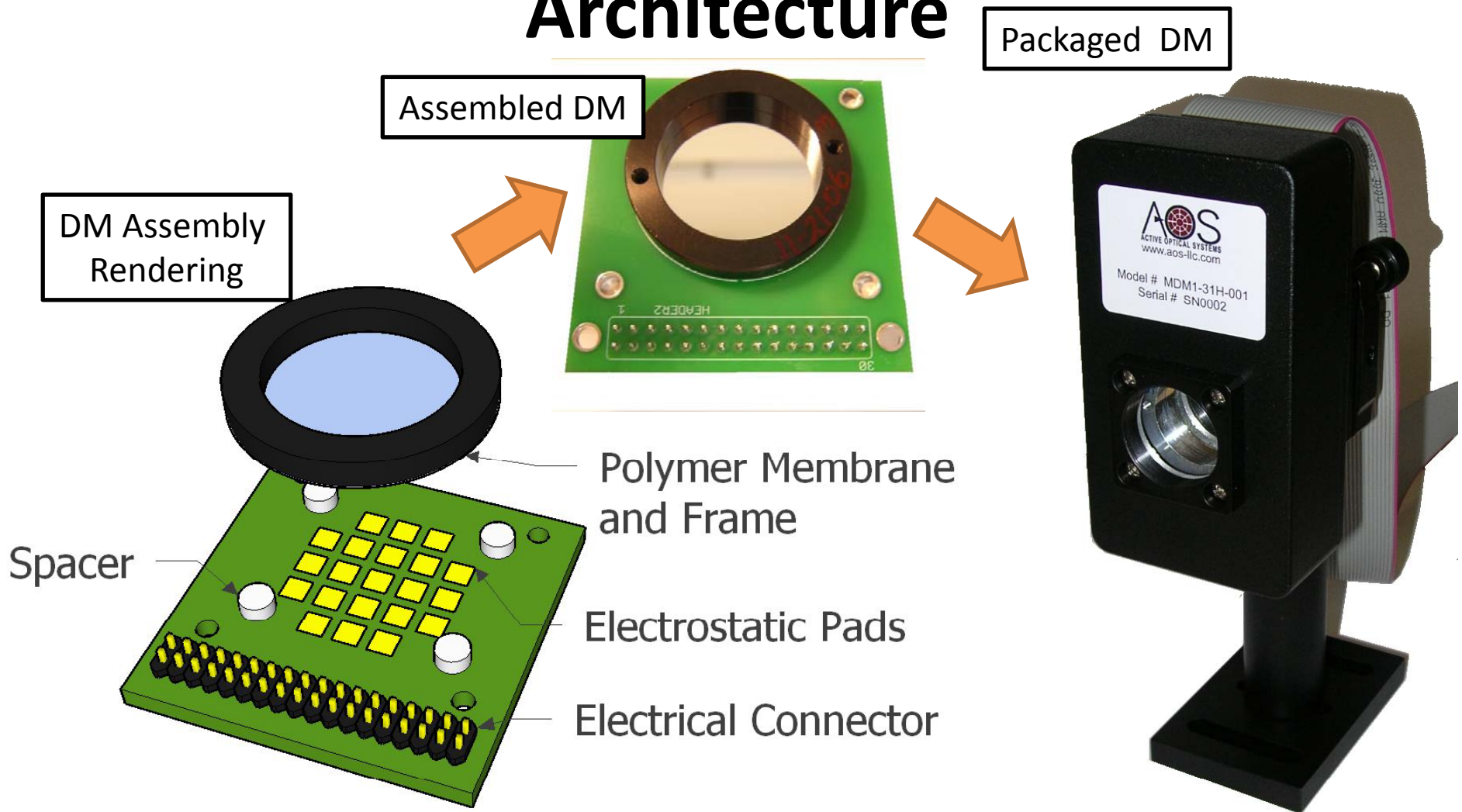
AO Systems



\$7.5k

Metric AO System

Membrane Deformable Mirror Architecture



Why Polymer Membrane DMs?

- One of the barriers mass use of AO technology is cost.
- MEMS DMs are low-cost in high volume, but the requirement of a clean-room makes the NRE and initial costs very high.
- Polymer Membrane DMs are much less expensive and are very effective at laser beam shaping, and aberration compensataion.

Typical 1" DM Specifications

Parameter	Min	Typical	Max	Notes
<i>Mechanical</i>				
Number of Actuators	1	25		
<i>Surface</i>				
Aluminum Coating Reflectivity (Visible)	80%			High Reflectivity Possible
Surface Quality		$\lambda/2$		per inch - typically
HR Coating Damage Threshold (J/cm ²)				measured with a 11ns 64 nm laser pulse
HR Coating Cost		\$4500		per Lot of ~10
<i>Actuation</i>				
Focus Throw (um)		10		300 V, 25 mm diameter
Resonance Frequency (Hz)		500		25 mm diameter (Al-coated)
Focal Length (m)		3		25 mm diameter

Can we quantify this better?

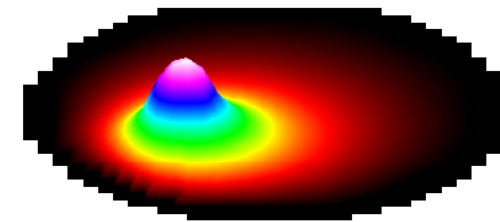
Spatial Response of Polymer Membrane DMs

Membrane DM Influence Functions

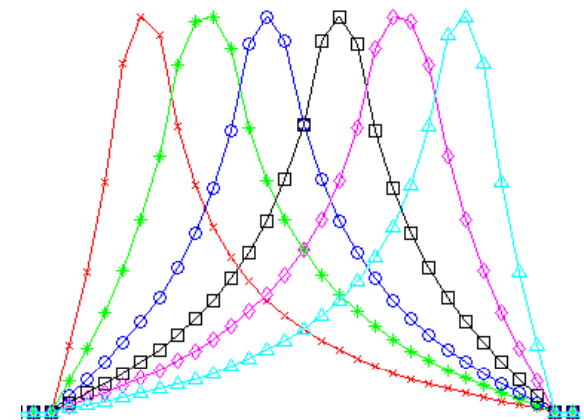
- The membrane DMs architecture behaves the same independent of the architecture because the physics of the shape is the same including:
 - MEMS
 - Metal Membranes
 - Polymer Membranes

$$\nabla^2 z = \frac{F}{T}$$

Membrane DM
Influence Functions

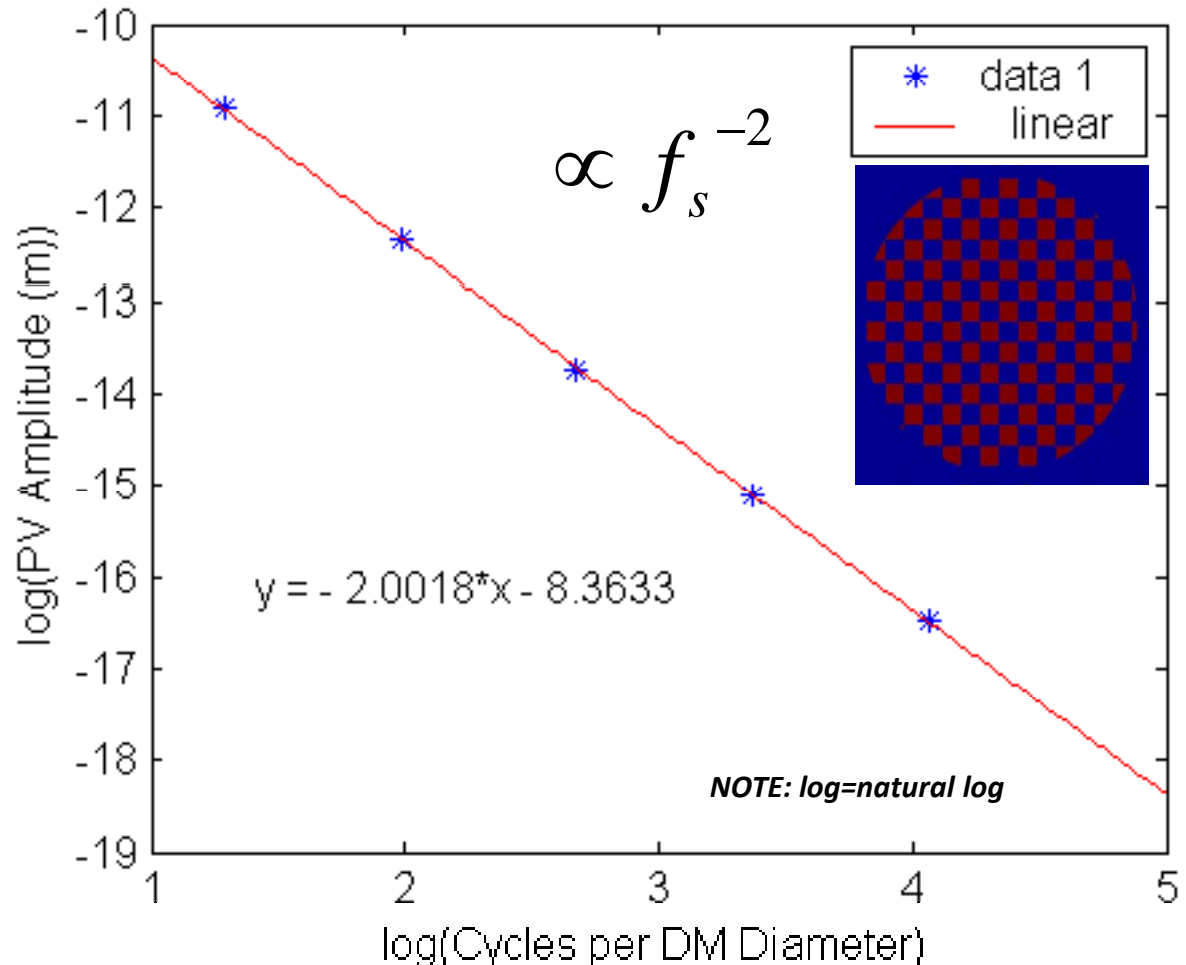


Normalized Influence
Function Cross-Sections



Prior Analysis of Membrane DM Spatial Frequency Roll-Off

- We applied a varying spatial frequency waffle pattern to a membrane DM.
- The amplitude of the response fell off as $1/f_s^2$.

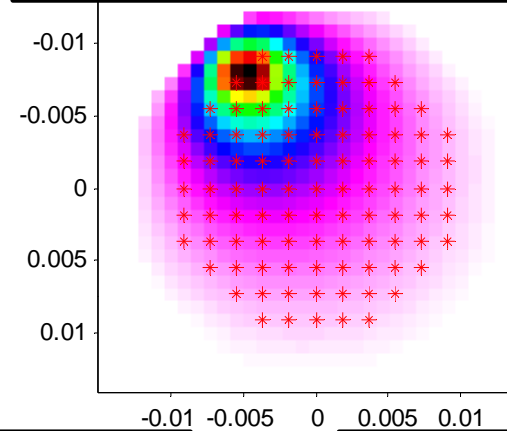


Modeling Procedure

- Scale IFs such that the sum of all IFs = 10 microns PV of focus.
- Sample ~90 points over central 80% of the DM diameter on a set of IFs from a membrane DM to create a poke and control matrix.
- Use matrix-based phase control to create a representation of a set of Zernikes.

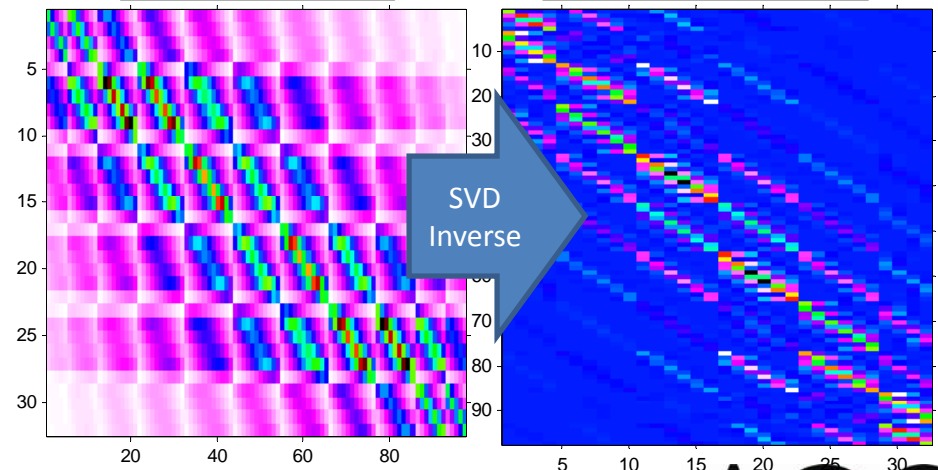
$$commands = \Gamma \cdot \phi_{Zernike}$$

Phase Sample Points on a DM Influence Function (IF)

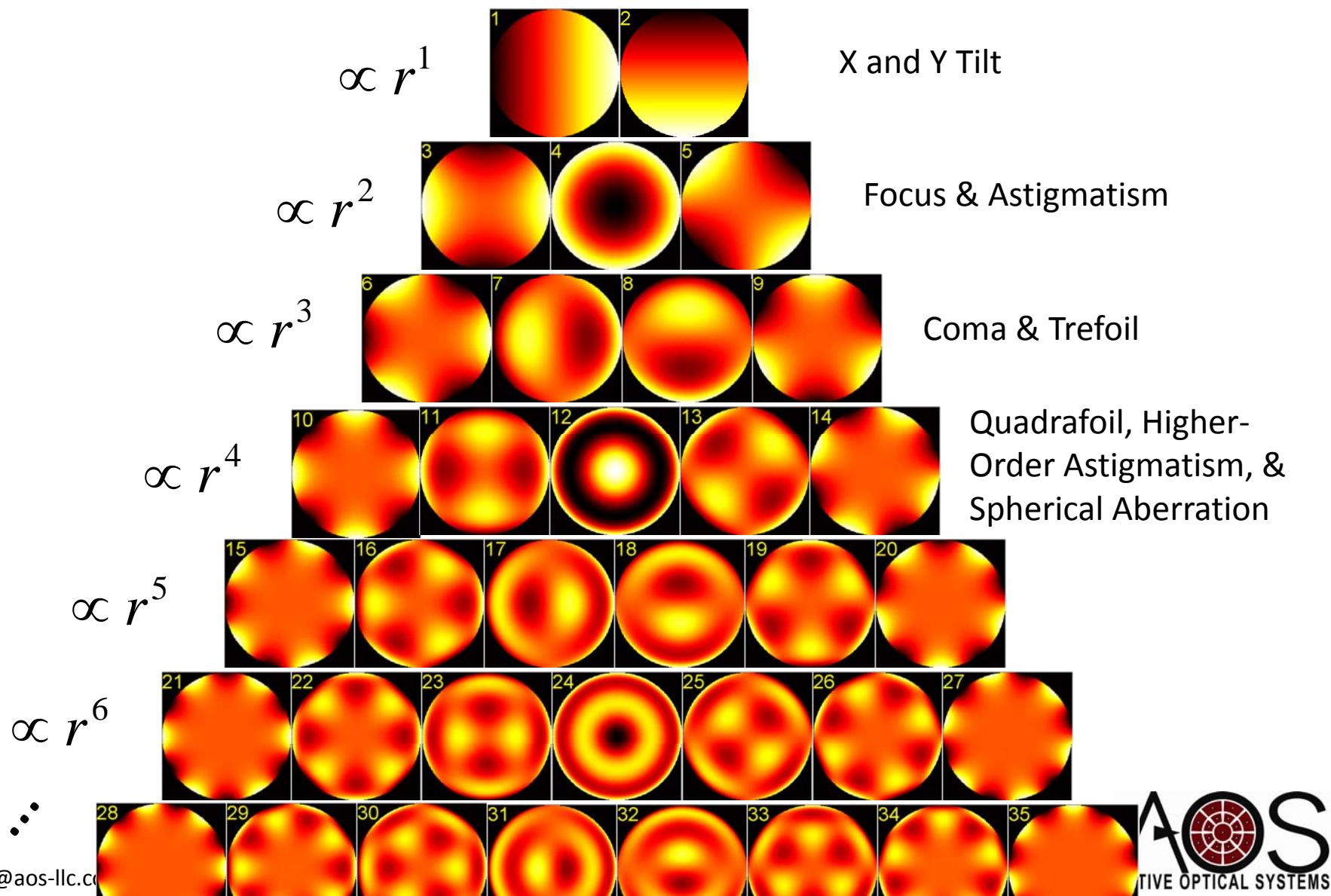


Poke Matrix

Control Matrix

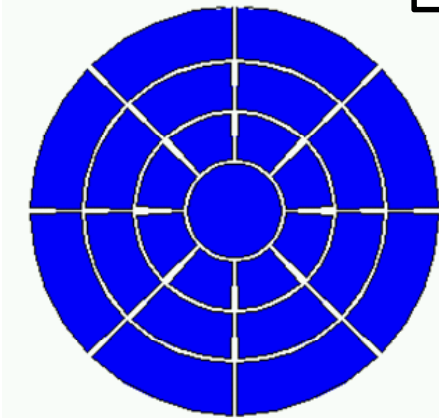


Zernikes Grouped Into Radial Order

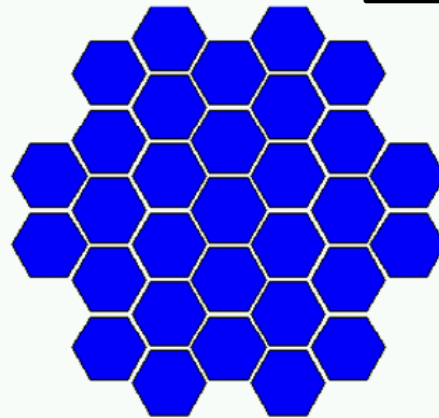


Tested Actuator Patterns

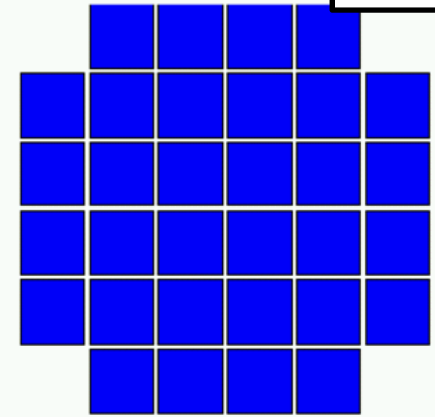
25 A



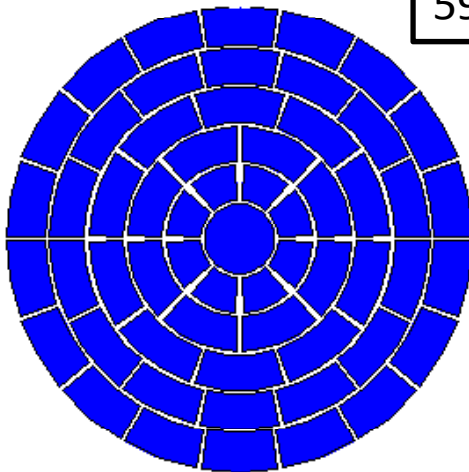
31 Hex



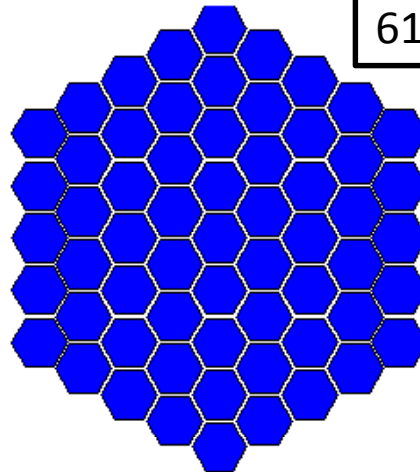
32 Sq



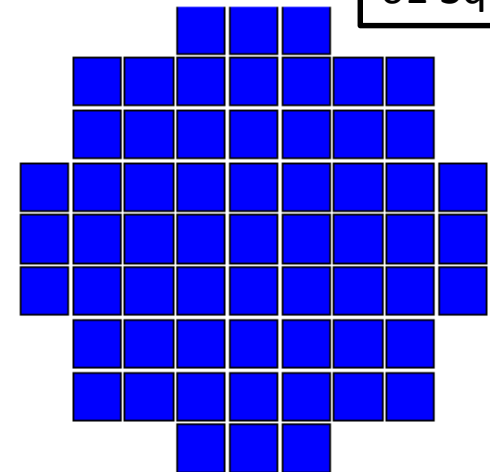
59 A



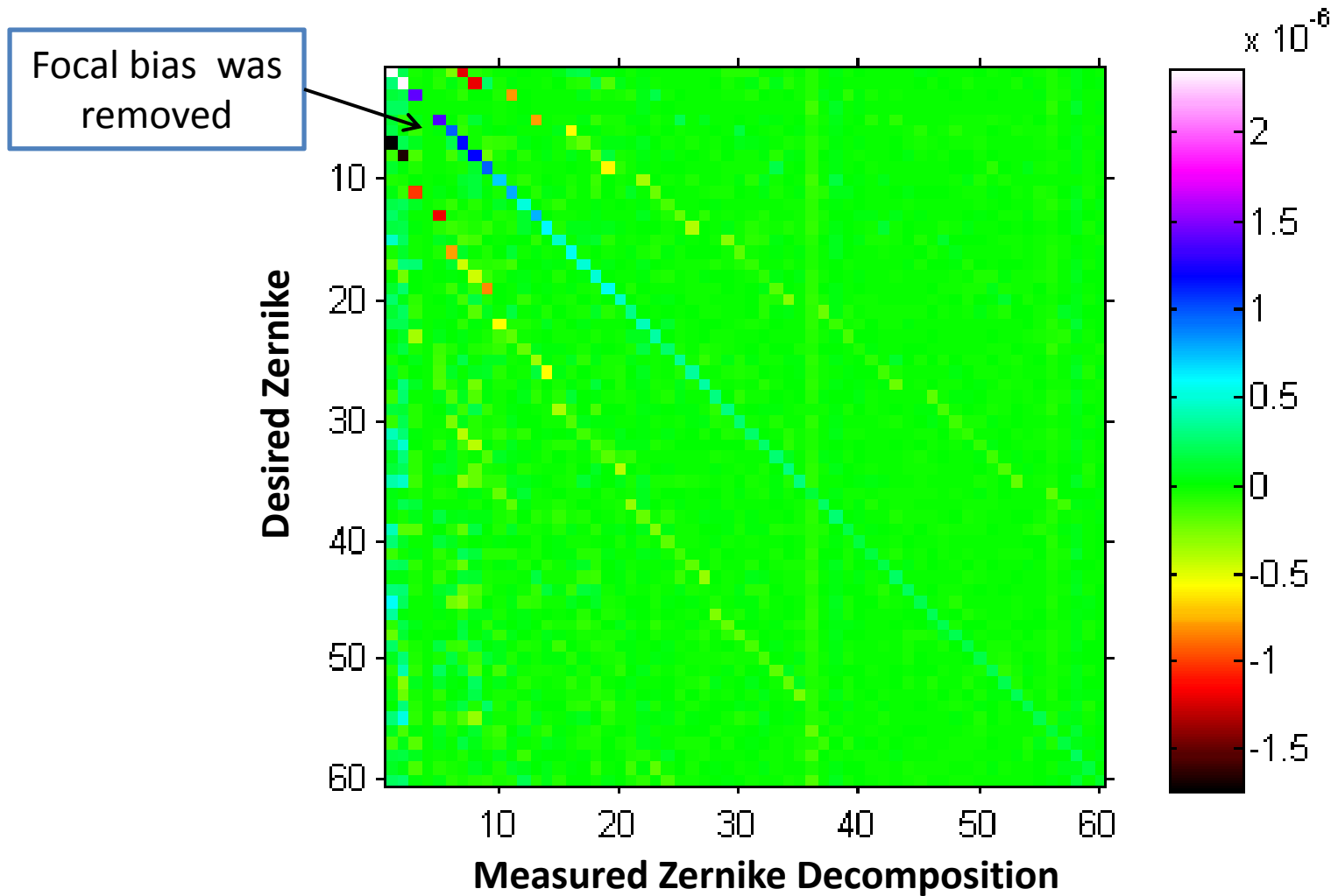
61 Hex



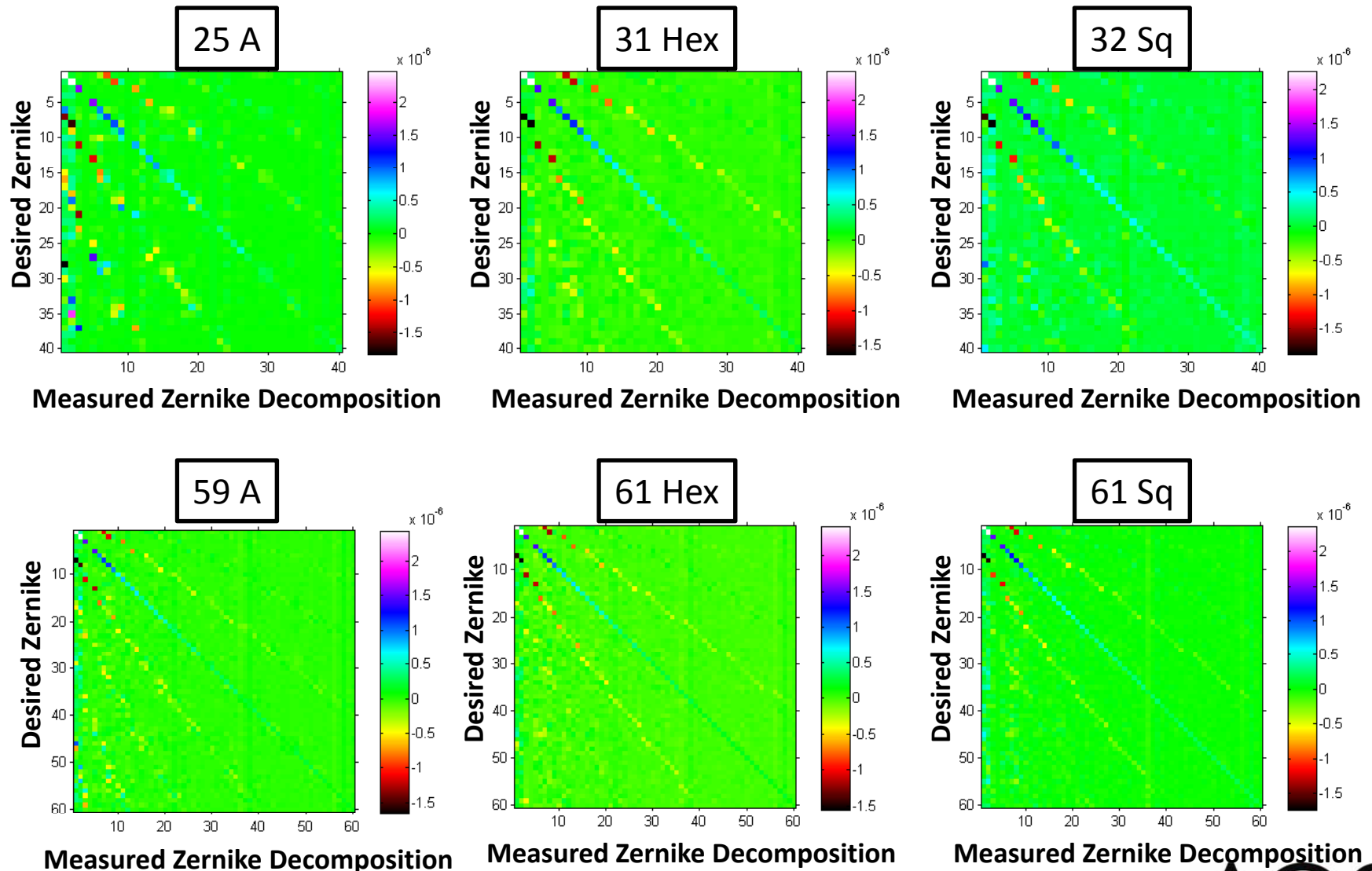
61 Sq



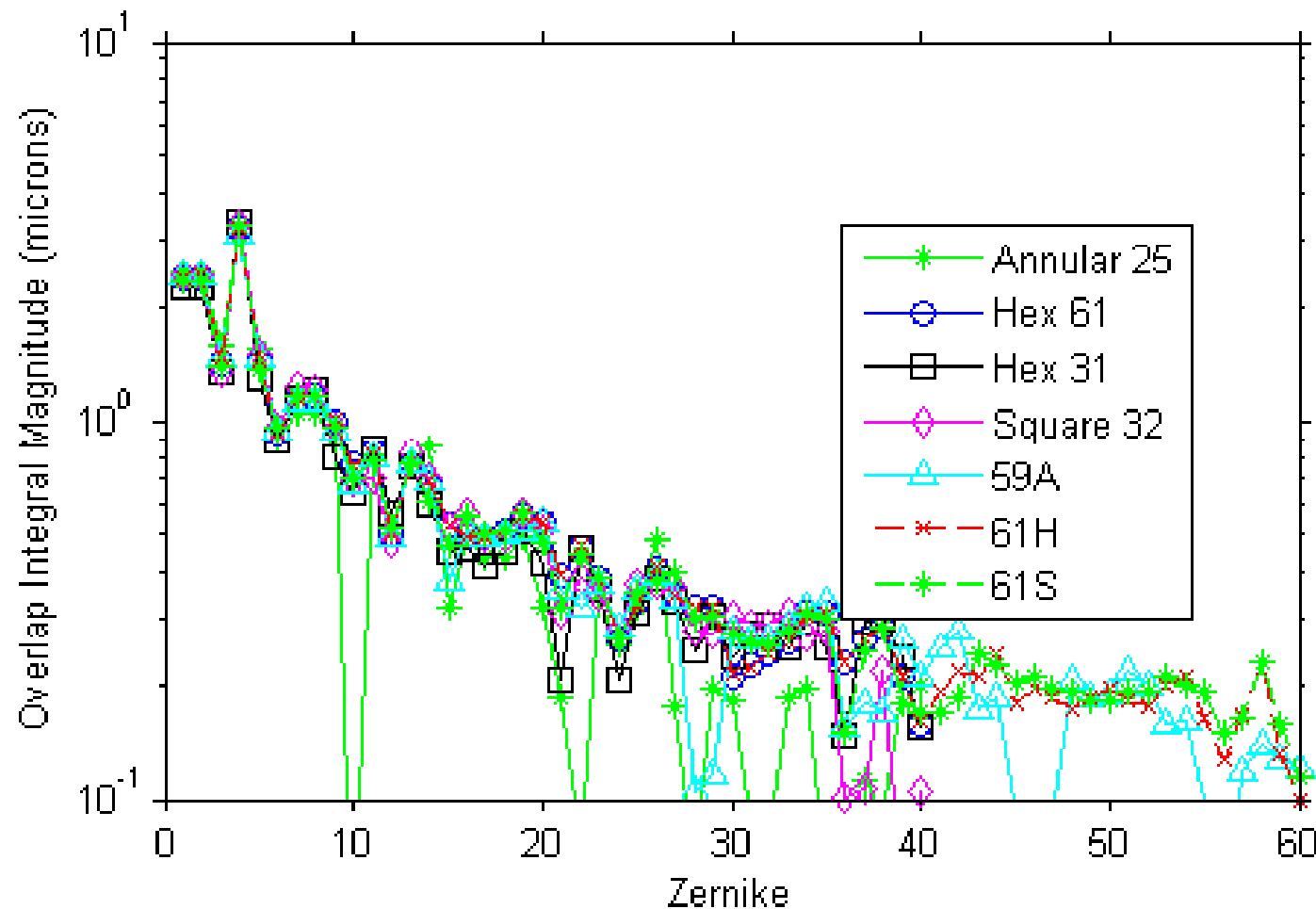
Zernike Fitting Results for a 61-Actuator Square Grid DM



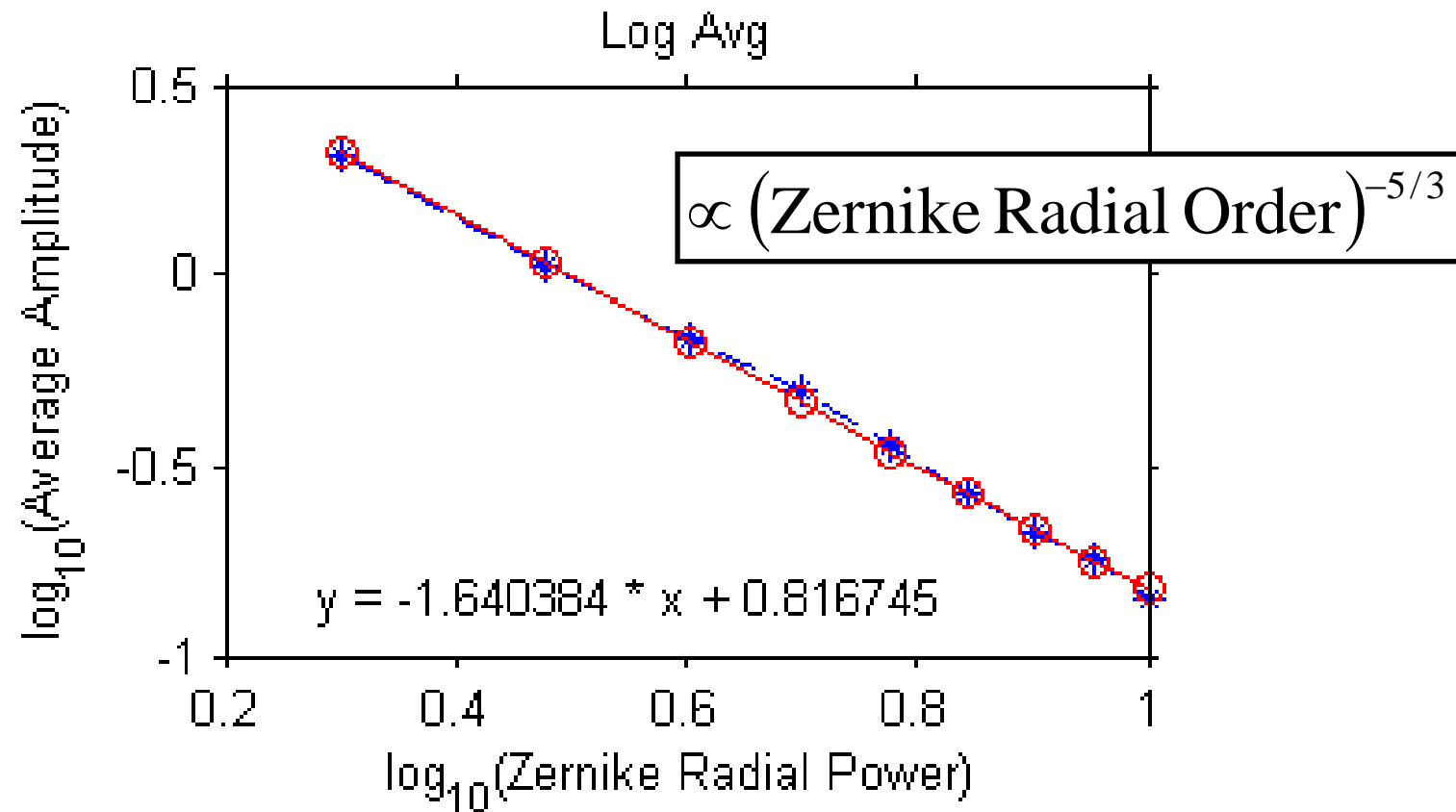
Summary for All Actuator Patterns



Summary for Various Actuator Patterns



Analysis of Zernike Fitting Results



Spatial Frequency Response

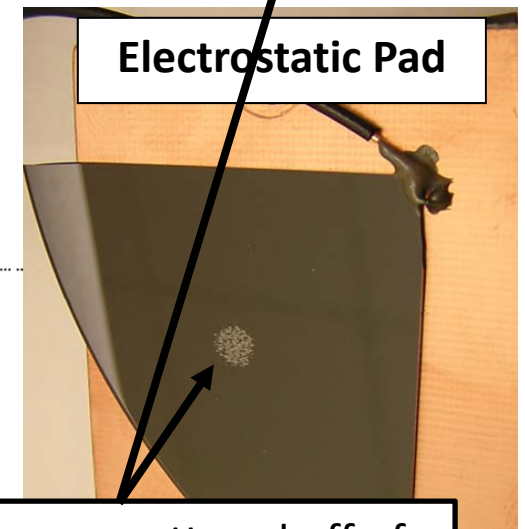
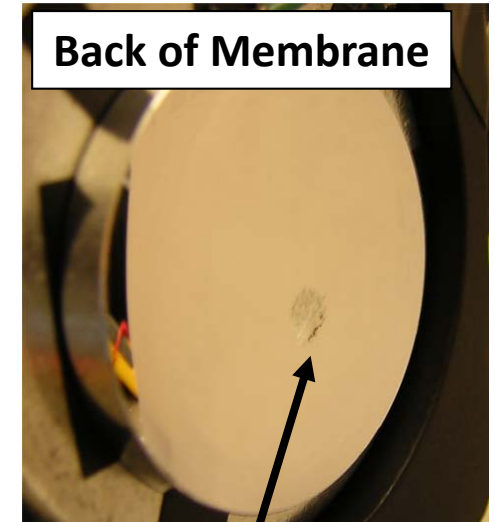
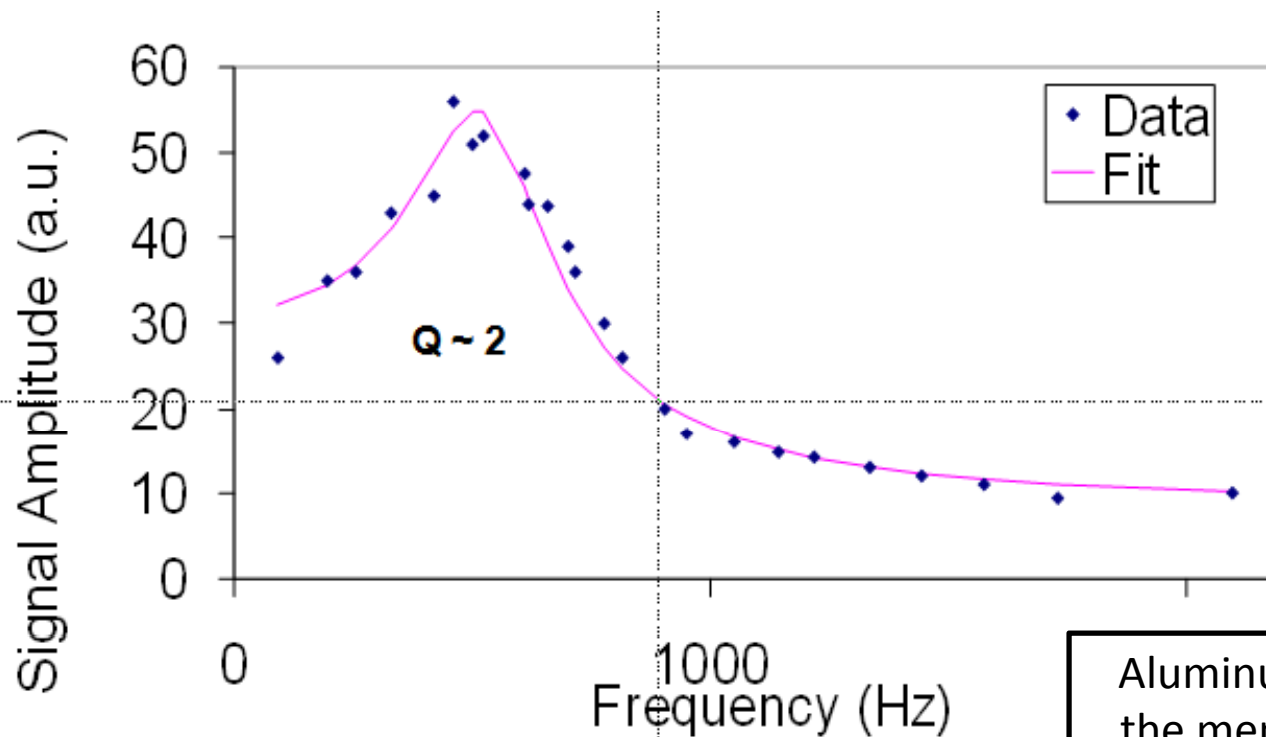
Conclusions

- Most actuator patterns were able to recreate the low-order Zernike patterns well.
- The amplitude of the Zernike fits fell off with higher orders.
 - Fall-off in amplitude was proportional to the (Zernike radial order)^{-5/3}.
- Future Work:
 - Examine maximum number of actuators that are useful for compensation or generation of Kolmogorov turbulence

Temporal Frequency Response of Polymer Membrane DMs

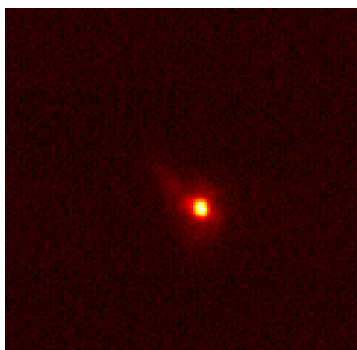
Prior measurements showed a 550 Hz resonance.

- Our prior work on frequency response done with a solid silicon electrode pattern showed a ~ 550 Hz resonance.

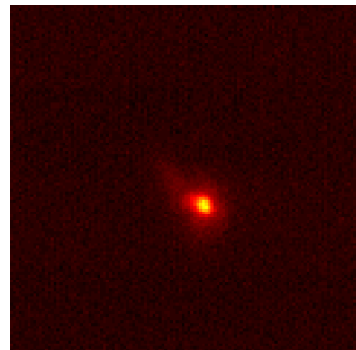


Aluminum was sputtered off of the membrane onto the silicon during electrostatic snap-down.

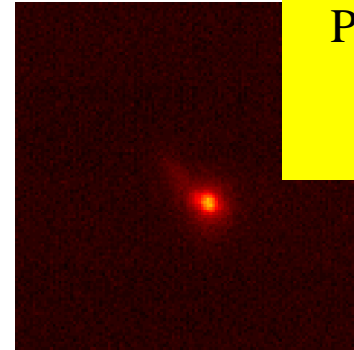
Long Exposure Closed Loop Strehl Ratio



Strehl=0.28

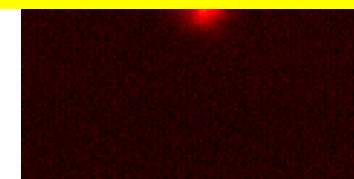


Strehl=0.20

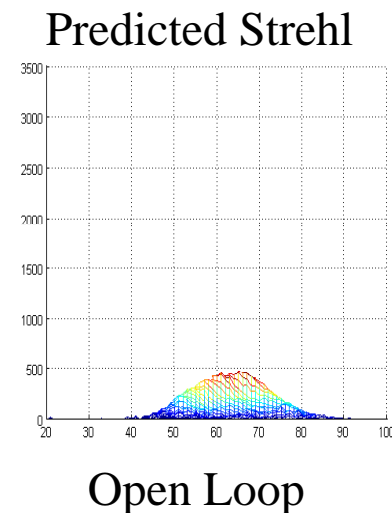
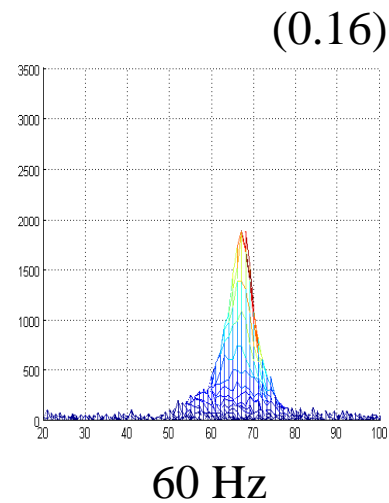
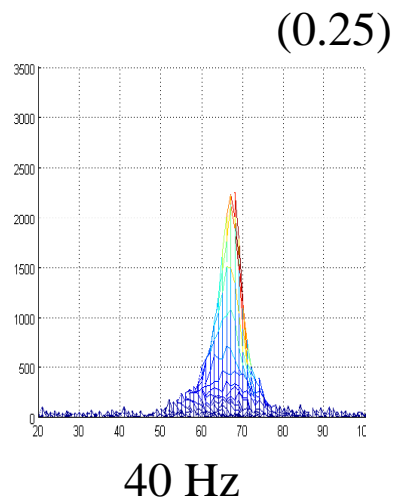
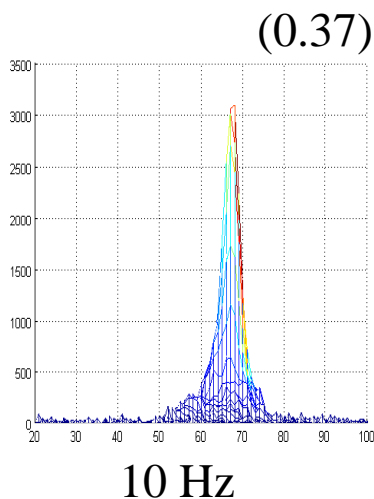


Strehl=0.15

Prior laboratory work showed
capability to compensate
Kolmogorov turbulence

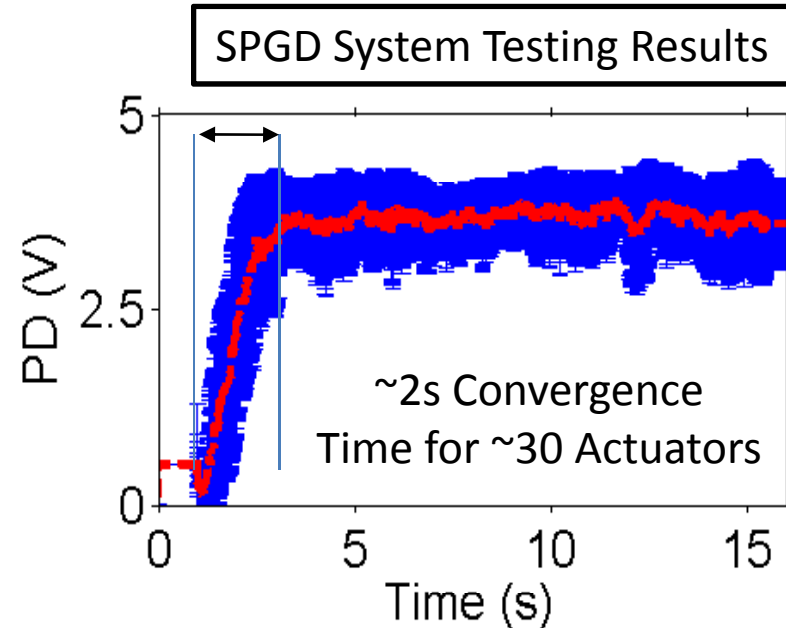


Strehl=.05

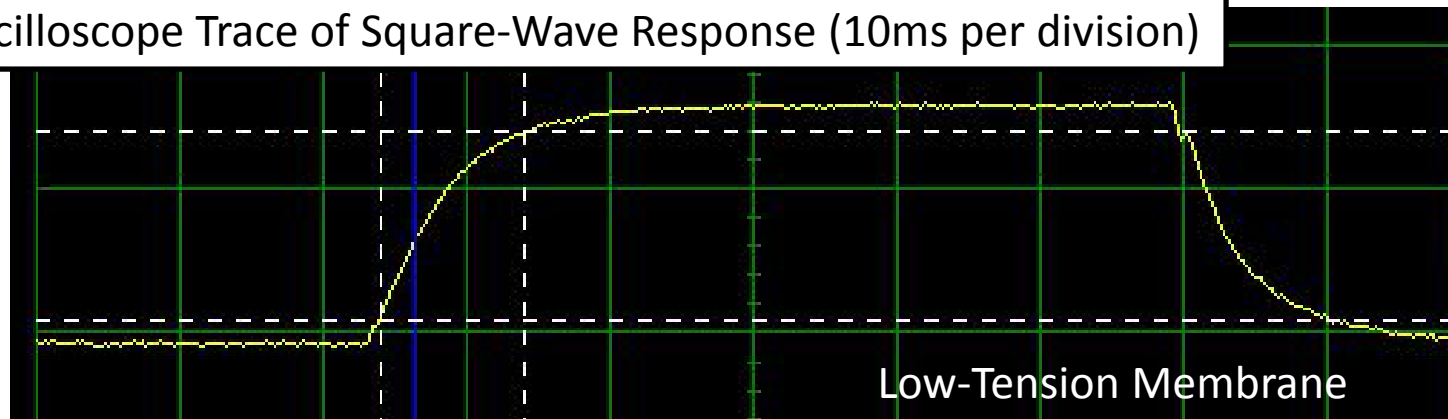


We measured a 10 ms rise and fall time on a membrane DM.

- During the 2007 work on making a metric AO system we found that we needed a settling-time delay.
- After this work we measured a 10%-90% rise time of ~10 ms.

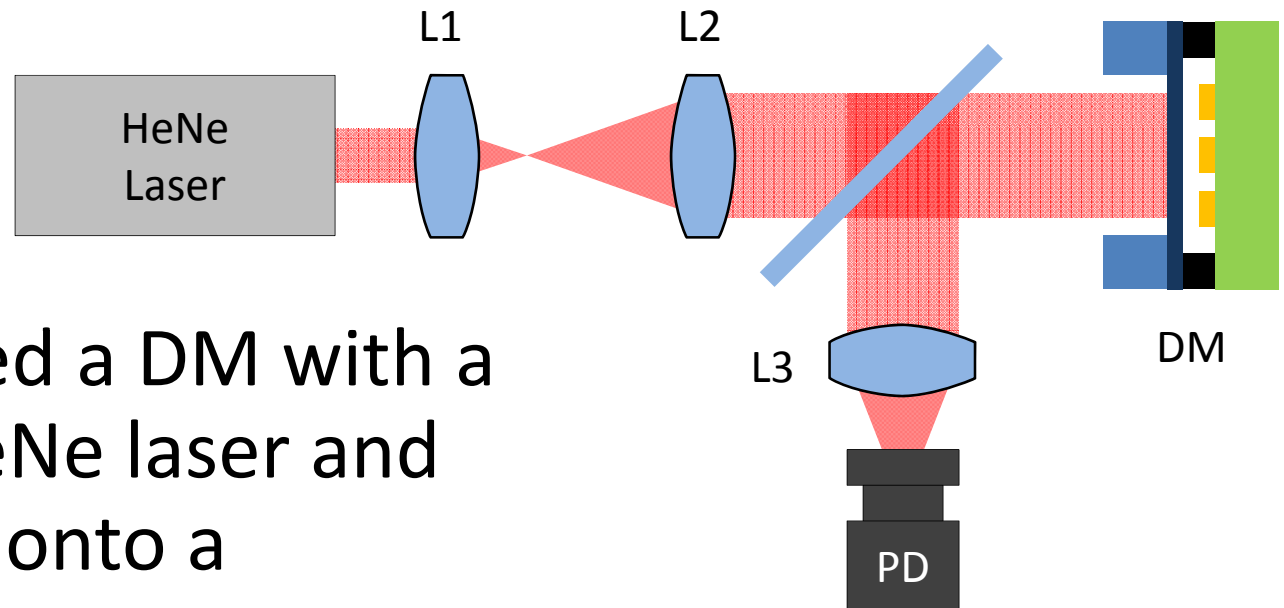


Oscilloscope Trace of Square-Wave Response (10ms per division)



10 ms

Measurement Setup



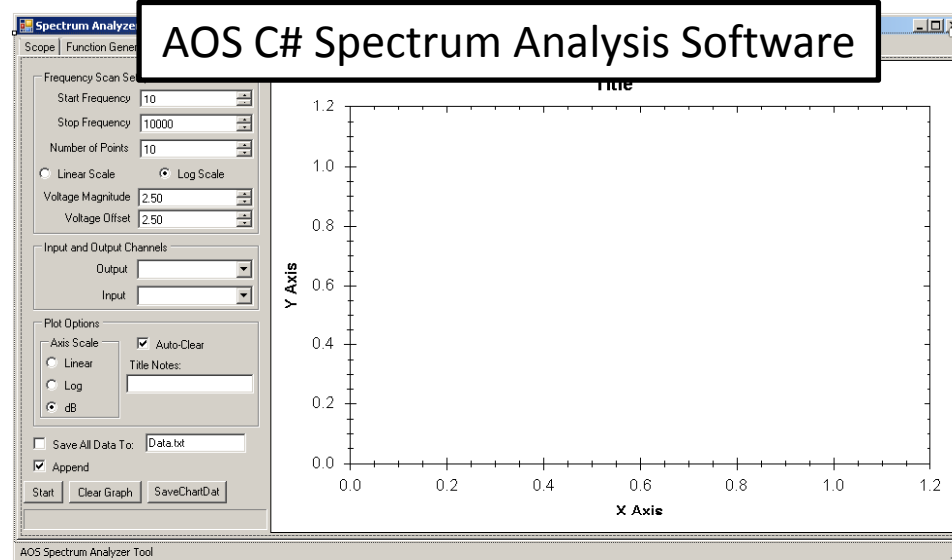
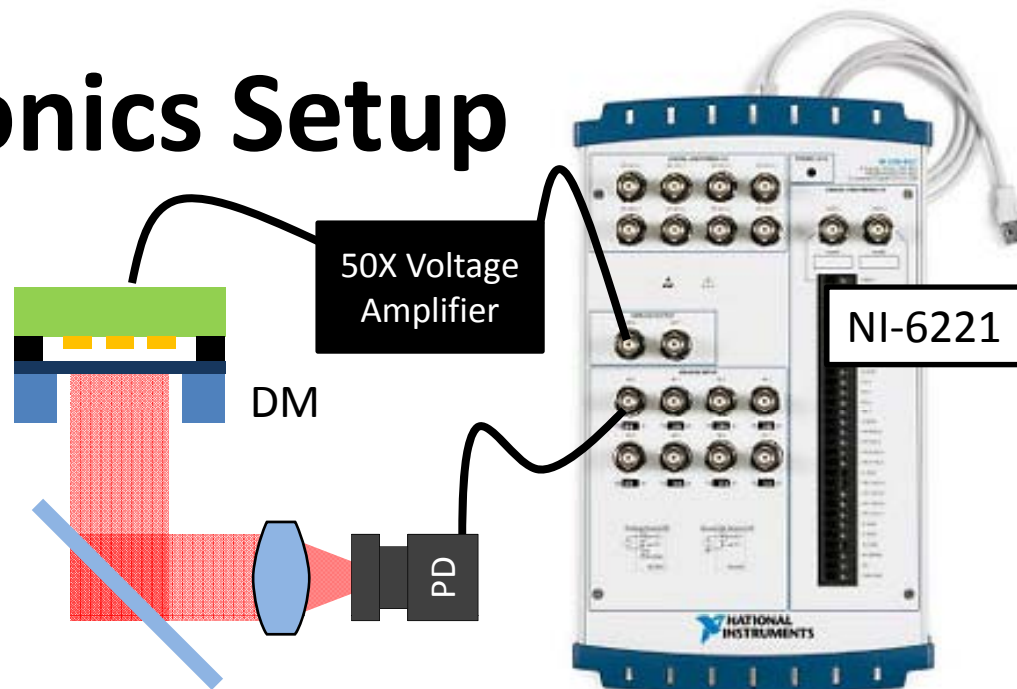
- We illuminated a DM with a collimated HeNe laser and sent the light onto a photodiode.
- The modulated spatial phase caused an intensity variation in the photodiode.

Intensity Transport
Equation Approximation

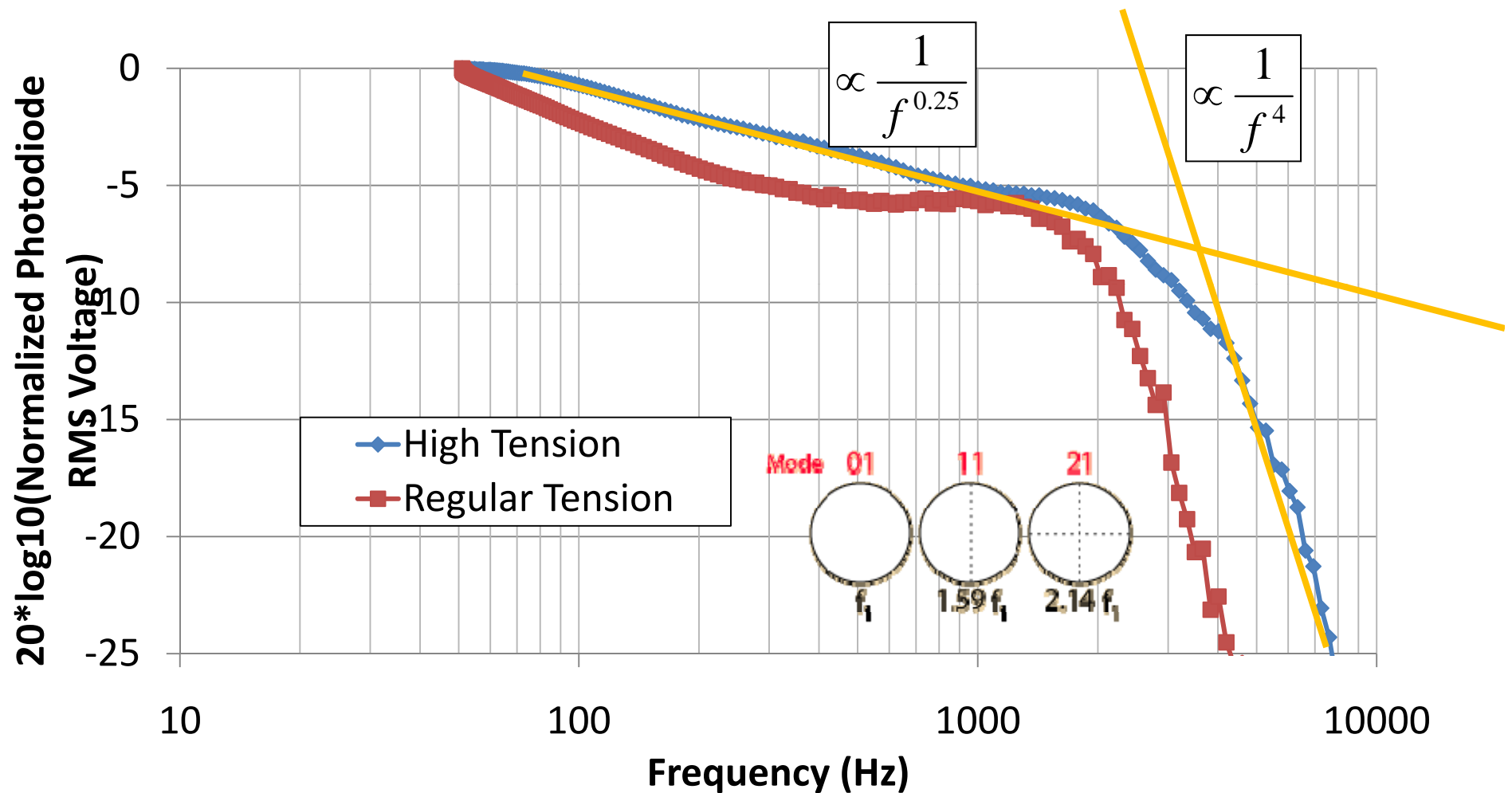
$$\nabla \phi \propto I(+\Delta z) - I(-\Delta z)$$

Electronics Setup

- **Drive Electronics:** Used a National Instruments (NI) 6221 driving an Apex op-amp non-inverting amplifier
- **Photo-Diode:** Signal from the silicon photodiode was digitized by the 6221.
- **Software:** Wrote custom C# application to scan drive frequency and measure results.



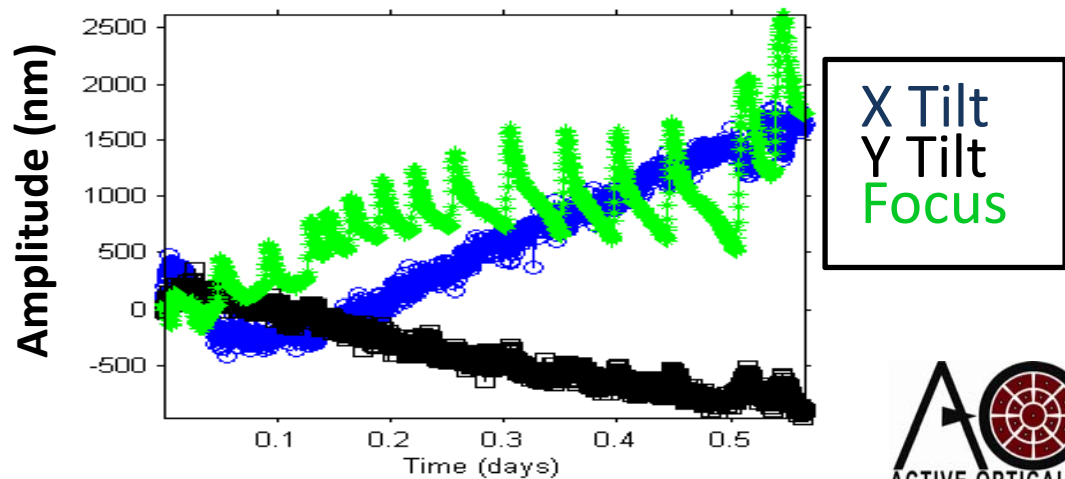
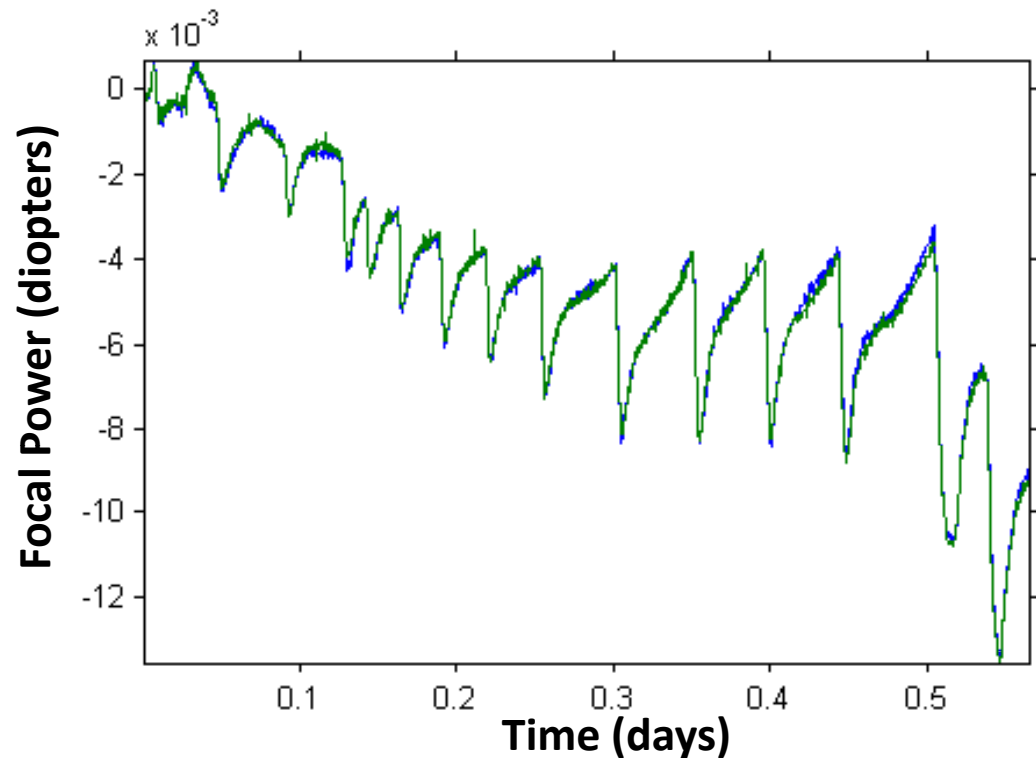
Measurement Results



<http://hyperphysics.phy-astr.gsu.edu/Hbase/music/cirmem.html>

Long Term Drift in Focal Bias

- We placed a DM under 50% displacement bias and measured the change in the focal length over time.
- The focal power varied a small amount over time consistent with an air conditioning variation.



Observed Environmental Effects

- Air Damping
 - We found that there was a slow $\sim f^{-0.25}$ roll-off in frequency response before the resonance that we are attributing to air damping
- Humidity
 - We have observed a reduction in tension in high humidity. This is a known issue with nitrocellulose.
- Temperature
 - We found a slow low-amplitude variation in the bias state of the DM over hours that correlates well with air conditioning.

Temporal Frequency Response

Conclusions

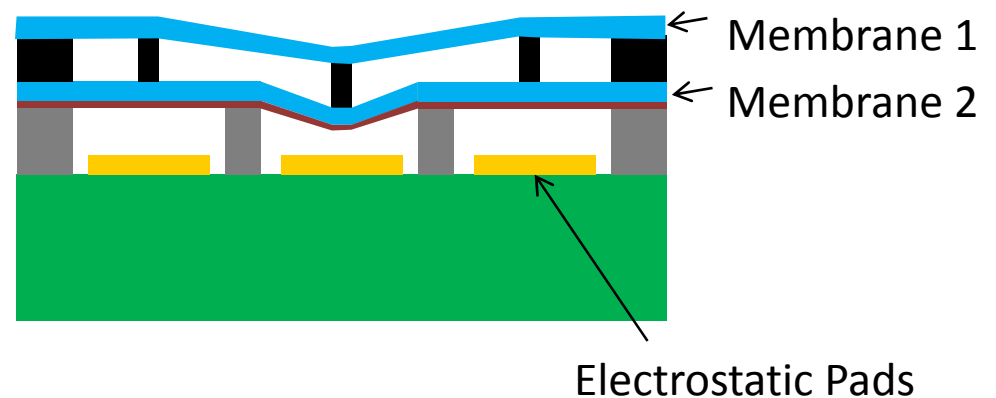
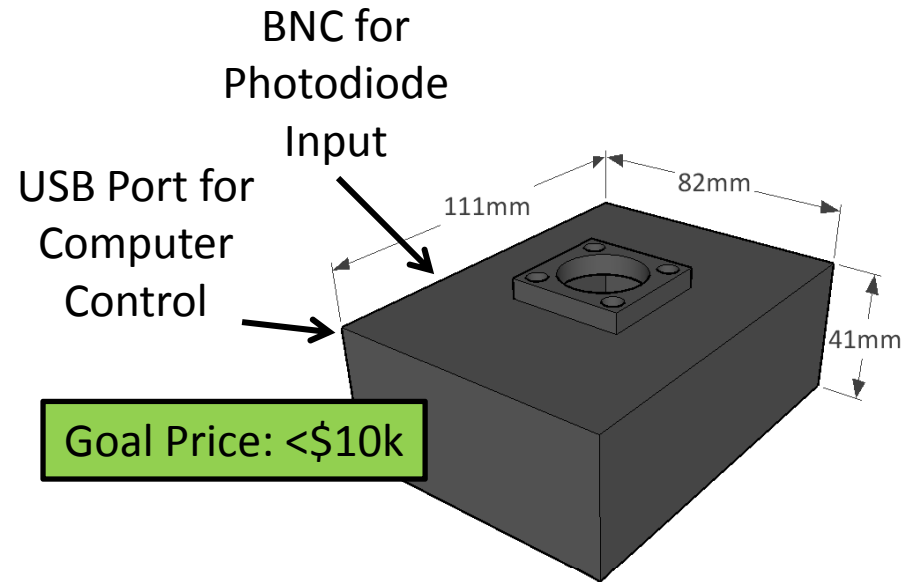
- With the new high-tension membrane DMs we see a higher resonance frequency and a reduced effect of the air damping.
- Future Work:
 - Fix humidity and air damping issues by investigating different membrane material, sealing the membrane in metal coatings, and investigating low-pressure operation

Conclusions

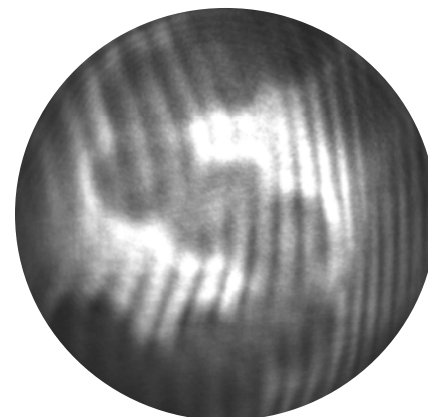
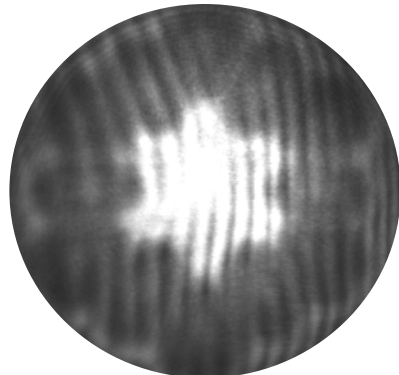
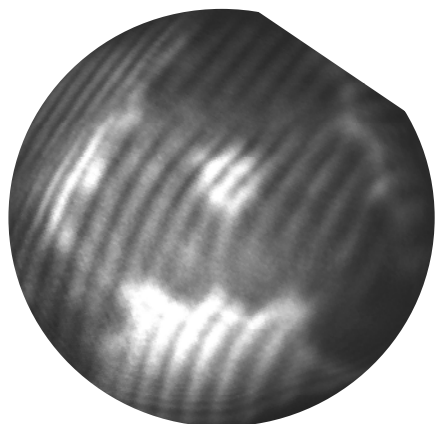
- Spatially, we find that the polymer membrane DM performs like other membrane DMs.
 - (Zernike Order)^{-5/3}
- Our polymer membrane DMs have shown enhanced temporal frequency response capability by increasing the membrane tension.
 - Resonance > 500 Hz
- We are working to mitigate humidity and air damping effects.

Select Future Work

- Integrated Drive Electronics, Metric AO & DM
- Inexpensive High-Speed Wavefront/Metric Camera Sensors
- 3-Layer Architecture Membrane DMs
 - Higher-Power
 - Faster
 - Larger Actuator Count

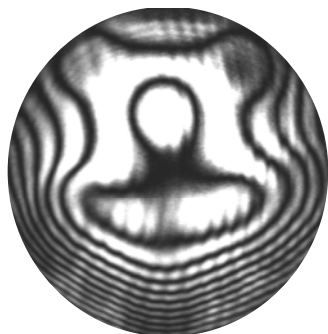


Intensity Shaping Demonstration



Questions?

Happy DM
Interferogram



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