





## 360° snapshot imaging with a convex array of long-wave infrared cameras

Laura. V. Cowan<sup>1</sup>, James Babington<sup>2</sup>, Guillem Carles<sup>1</sup>, Miguel A. Perciado<sup>1</sup>, Andy Wood<sup>2</sup>, Andrew. R. Harvey<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, UK G12 8QQ <sup>2</sup>Qioptiq Ltd, St Asaph, Denbighshire LL17 OLL, UK

Author e-mail address: Laura.Cowan@glasgow.ac.uk

Postdoc and PhD positions available in Glasgow in computational microscopy and computational imaging: <u>andy.harvey@glasgow.ac.uk</u>

Q: If we use the soldiers helmet as a 360° panoramic imager, what information can we gather ?

~10m

#### What we have done:

00

~10m

#### Answer:

- 360 Situational Awareness
- Passive Ranging
- Super Resolution
- Imaging through obscurants



A scalable arrangement of low-cost infrared cameras that can be used to immersively image a scene.

#### Presentation Outline

- Context and big picture application
- Traditional approaches to panoramic imaging
- 360° Infrared Panoramic Imager
- Other modalities of the Imager
- Review and Conclusion

# Traditional approaches to Panoramic imaging





[1]



- Total Pixel count limited by detector
- Trade field-of-view for angular resolution
- Optical aberrations limit resolution
- Optical aberrations increase lens complexity, size, weight, cost

#### **Curved Detector Array**



- Curved detector reduces optical aberrations and enables simpler optics
- Can be achieved by using single or multiple detectors.
  - Multiple cameras mean scalable architecture, no longer limited by detector pixel count
  - Multiple Cameras reduce aberrations
  - Multiple cameras allow for versatile modalities and parallelized imaging

#### 360° Panoramic Imager







- 9 low-cost LWIR (8-12μm) 50° FOV FLIR Lepton cameras in convex array
  - Each camera 80x60 pixels
  - 17µm pixels
  - Silicon lens replaces expensive germanium lens.
- Powered by a Raspberry Pi
- Snapshot imaging



#### Panoramic Images and Videos



link to interactive panoramic video... https://youtu.be/Bilq44osxlo







#### Other Modalities

- Super resolution
- Passive ranging
- Imaging through obscurants

#### Time sequential super resolution







- Natural Jitter from handheld imager
- Lepton (50° FOV) pixel size is 17µm which undersamples a a LWIR scene, allowing the scene to be aliased.
- Ability to super resolve the scene by a factor of 2 in X and Y.



## Passive Ranging and imaging through

#### obscurants





SR @ d=3 m



SR @ d=6 m

SR @ d=4.50 m



- Passive Ranging from disparity
  - Baseline between cameras is 4.5cm, give disparity of 0.5 pixels at 7m. Footstep could create baseline of 1m, allowing passive ranging of ~800m
- Imaging through obscurants
  - Super resolution sensitive to distance of registration

[1] Miguel A. Preciado, Guillem Carles, and Andrew R. Harvey, "Video-rate computational super-resolution and integral imaging at longwaveinfrared wavelengths," OSA Continuum1, 170-180 (2018)

#### Review and Conclusion





PHOTO: KEVIN. J. MITCHE



- Traditional approaches to panoramic imaging
  - Highly aberrated images and complex optics
- Curved Detector array and parallelised imaging
  - Reduction of complexity and aberrations
  - Snapshot imaging
- 360° Panoramic imager
  - Scalable architecture
- Versatile modalities
  - Super resolution and passive ranging

[1] J. S. Chahl and M. V. Srinivasan, "Reflective surfaces for panoramic imaging," Appl Optics (1997)

### Thank you for your attention

Laura.Cowan@glasgow.ac.uk







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imaging: andy.harvey@glasgow.ac.uk





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