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Superhigh resolution microscopy using microlenses CHUANHONG ZHOU, Department of Physics and Astronomy, Youngstown State University, P. KOHLI, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Southern Illinois University — We report a new super-resolution microscope for optical imaging which attains an upmost resolution <100nm with a broad-band white light source. The noninvasive microscope uses liquid plano-convex microlens (ML) to collect diffractive light from specimen. The deliquescent salt added in the liquid maintains the atomic smooth surface and the high refractive index of microlens. The microlens works in the near proximate to the objects and picks up both propagation and evanescent light diffracted from the objects. The produced super-resolution and enlarged images are then magnified by the conventional microscope. We also demonstrate that the microscope provides superior for fluorescence imaging where a resolution of ~ 90 nm and ~ 4 enhanced emission intensity was obtained. This microlens based microscope is easy to fabricate and use, inexpensive and no special requirement to illumination. It has potential applications in diverse fields of life-, bio-, and nano- sciences.

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