

Improvements of Grating-based X-ray Phase Contrast Imaging with a Microfocus X-ray Source by a SOI Pixel Detector, SOPHIAS

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X-ray radiography

industrial application, materials science, and biology...

X-ray absorption imaging (conventional)
incident x-ray → transmitted x-ray → x-ray absorption

X-ray phase contrast imaging (XPCI)
incident x-ray → transmitted x-ray → x-ray phase shift ($\Delta\phi$) → diff. phase

× Insufficient sensitivity to light element materials
○ High sensitivity to weakly absorbing objects

XPCI with a microfocus x-ray source

Introduction

XPCI methods with a microfocus x-ray source

Talbot interferometer

M. Engelhardt *et al.*, Appl. Phys. Lett. 90, 224101 (2007).

× Limit of optical system design (total length, grating pitch, source size...)
× Only single wavelength shooting

XPCI using single amplitude grating

○ Flexible placement (independent of x-ray energy)
○ Multi-wavelength shooting → Substance identification

SOI (Silicon On Insulator) pixel detector

Y Arai, *et al.*, Nucl. Instrum. Methods Phys. Res., Sec. A, 636, S31-S36 (2011).

- Required Functions for XPCI
 - ✓ Noise free
 - ✓ Energy resolution
 - ✓ Small pixel size

- Monolithic Pixel Detector (based on SOIPIX technology)

High spatial resolution & spectro-imaging detection

Purpose of this work

Application of "SOI pixel detector" to "XPCI using single amplitude grating"

① Energy resolution
Grating image: Multi-wavelength information

② Spatial resolution (sub-pixel analysis)
Pitch of grating image

RIKEN : SOPHIAS (for SACLA/SPring-8)
T. Hatsui, Proc. Int. Image Sensor Workshop 3.05, (2013).

- Wide dynamic range
- Large detection area

• pixel size: 30 μm
• detection area: 64.8 \times 26.7 mm
• energy resolution: 3.2, 4.0 keV FWHM (7, 12 keV)

Experimental Result & Discussion

① 1shot energy-resolved XPCI

Energy-resolved shadowgraphs of grating

Confirmation of grating image formation

Energy-resolved x-ray imaging

- Analysis method (ex. PMMA, 10-15 keV)

- Imaging results: PMMA & Si spheres

Energy-resolved images extracted after single measurement → Important for material characterization

② High spatial resolution XPCI using sub-pixel analysis

Sub-pixels analysis

- Analysis method

- Photon counting image (1 frame, w/o optical elements)
- Grating image (10-20keV) pitch: 2 pixel (6 sub-pixel)

High spatial resolution XPCI

- Setup
- PTFE fiber & mechanical pencil lead

Summary & Future plan

- ★ Energy-resolved imaging by single measurement → Important for material characterization
- ★ Subpixel analysis (Shortening pitch of grating image) → Improvement of spatial resolution

Energy-resolved x-ray phase tomography