3D Coherent X-ray Diffraction Microscopy: The Present and the Future

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The Principle of Diffraction Microscopy



Laue, W. Bragg and L. Bragg, 1912



Shannon Sampling vs. Bragg-peak Sampling



Shannon Sampling vs. Bragg-peak Sampling



Bragg-peak Sampling vs. Oversampling



Bragg-peak Sampling vs. Oversampling



Miao, Sayre, Chapman, J. Opt. Soc. Am. A 15, 1662 (1998).

Reciprocal Space Real Space Ν N FFT⁻¹ N Ν 2N -N -FFT⁻¹ 2N N

A Pictorial Representation of the Oversampling Method



Fienup, Opt. Lett. 3, 27 (1978).

The First Experimental Demonstration



(c) An image reconstructed from (b).



(b) An oversampled diffraction pattern (in a logarithmic scale) from (a).

Miao et al., Nature 400, 342 (1999).

Direct-illuminated CCD cameras.

- High quantum efficiency: $\sim 80\%$.
- Low dynamic range: ~ 10^2 photons/pixel.
- Slow read-out: ~ 1 s.
- Pixel size: ~ $20 \times 20 \ \mu m^2$.
- Number of pixels: 1K x 1K
- Good linearity and sensitivity.
- Very low noise with LN cooling

Imaging Nanostructures at 7 nm Resolution



(a) A SEM image of a non-crystalline sample made of Au





(b) A coherent diffraction pattern from (a) (the resolution at the edge is 7 nm)

(c) An image reconstructed from (b)

3D Imaging of a Nanoscale Material



(c) An image reconstructed from (b)

(d) An iso-surface rendering of the reconstructed 3D structure

Miao et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 89, 088303 (2002).

Imaging *E. Coli* Bacteria



(a) Light and fluorescence microscopy images of *E. Coli* labeled with manganese oxide



(c) An image reconstructed from (b).



(b) A coherent X-ray diffraction pattern from *E. Coli*

Miao *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* **100**, 110 (2003).

Quantitative Image Reconstruction of a Single GaN Quantum Dot from Oversampled Diffraction Intensities Alone



7°



2.50 2.50 0 2.50 5.00

Image reconstruction of the diffraction patterns

An AFM Image of GaN quantum dots Risbud, UC Davis

X-ray Free Electron Lasers



Radiation Damage

Solemn & Baldwin, Science 218, 229 (1982).

Neutze et al., Nature 400, 752 (2000).

When an X-ray pulse is short enough (< 10 fs), a 2D diffraction pattern could be recorded from a molecule before it is destroyed.

Orientation Determination

Use the methods developed in cryo-EM to determine the molecular orientation based on many 2D diffraction patterns.

Crowther, Phil. Trans. Roy. Soc. Lond. B. 261, 221 (1971).

Use laser fields to physically align each molecule. Larsen *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 85, 2470 (2000).

Potential of Imaging Single Molecule



(a) The 3D electron density map of a rubisco molecule and its active site (from PDB)





(c) The reconstructed 3D electron density map

(c) A section of the oversampled 3D diffraction pattern with Poisson noise, assembled from 3×10^5 simulated 2D diffraction patterns.

Miao, Hodgson, Sayre, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 98, 6641 (2001).

- High quantum efficiency: > 90%.
- High dynamic range: $> 10^4$ photons/pixel.
- Fast read-out: \sim ms.
- Pixel size: $50 \times 50 \ \mu m^2 100 \times 100 \ \mu m^2$.
- Number of pixels: $\geq 2K \times 2K$
- Sensitivity: Single photon counting
- Very good linearity

Pixel Array Detectors!

- Oversampling the diffraction intensities \Rightarrow the phase information.
- Methodology of x-ray crystallography has been extended to image non-crystalline specimens.
- Imaged nanostructures and biological samples in two- and three-dimensions with a highest resolution of 7 nm.
- Future: 3D imaging of single particles at near atomic resolution in a combination of brighter X-ray sources with pixel array detectors.

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