Two-photon Interference — From HBT interferometer toward incoherent diffraction imaging

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Light propagates as a straight line



"景光之人煦若射,下者之入也高,高者 之入也下。" ——《墨经》

X-ray attenuate imaging





X-ray Computed Tomography



X-ray CT scan taken through the kidneys. G. N. Hounsfield, "Computed medical imaging", Nobel Lecture, 8 December, 1979.



Light propagates as Electromagnetic Wave





X-ray Diffraction Pattern From a Haemoglobin Crystal



Max F. Perutz, "X-ray analysis of haemoglobin", Nobel Lecture, December 11, 1962

Diffraction patterns from yeast cells



(Results from Stony Brook group)



Attenuate Imaging, Phase-contrast Imaging and Fourier-transform Diffraction



- Near contact: only absorption contrast
- Fresnel: feature of size ζ appears in phase contrast
- Fraunhofer: ψ Fourier transform of q (e.g., protein crystallography)

(One-photon absorption and interference)

Transverse Coherent Length for Thermal Source and Fraunhofer Distance

Transverse coherence length:

 $X_{coh} = wavelength^{*}D_{obj}/(2^{*}pi^{*}R_{source});$

Fraunhofer distance:

 $Z >> D_F = pi^* X_{sample}^2$ /wavelength;

For $R_{source} = 100um$, wavelength=1nm, $D_{obj}=60m$, $X_{sample} = X_{coh}$:

$$X_{coh} = 100 um, L_F = 30 m$$

Coherent X-ray Diffractive Imaging

Is it possible to get coherent diffractive pattern with incoherent illumination? No limits on the source size\sample size! Unnecessary for long objective distance!

Is it possible to get Fourier-transform diffraction pattern at Fresnel distance?

Unnecessary for long Fraunhofer distance !

Conventional Optics



HBT Interferometer The two photon interference



Ordinary (Amplitude) interferometry measures $G^{(1)}(r,t,r',t') = \langle E^{(-)}(r,t)E^{(+)}(r',t') \rangle$ Intensity interferometry measures $G^{(2)}(r,t,r',t') = \langle E^{(-)}(r,t)E^{(-)}(r',t')E^{(+)}(r',t')E^{(+)}(r,t) \rangle$

Two-photon Interference in Imaging



In 1994, Belinsky and Klyshko found that "ghost" imaging (diffraction) can be performed with entangled incoherent light by exploiting the spatial correlation between two entangled photons.

"Ghost" Imaging or Quantum Imaging

"Ghost imaging" is named because the imaging of an object, diffractive or geometrical, would appear as a function of the position in the path that actually never pass the object.

Is the quantum entanglement necessary for "ghost" imaging?

Can we perform "ghost" imaging with thermal incoherent light?





Experiment on Lensless Fourier-transform "Ghost" Diffractive Imaging



The pseudo-thermal source is obtained by illuminating a pulsed Nd:YAG laser beam with the wavelength of 0.532 um into a slowly rotating ground glass disk.

A non-polarizing beam splitter splits the radiation into two distinct optical paths.

Experimental setup for the lensless Fourier-transform ghost diffractive imaging

$$d = d_1 + d_2$$

Experiment on Lensless Fourier-transform "Ghost" Diffractive Imaging





Second correlation function of the pseudo-thermal light: $g^{(2)} = 1 \longrightarrow$ coherent light; $g^{(2)} = 2 \longrightarrow$ thermal light;



The two slits are separated by 302um and have a width of 105um.

Fresnel diffraction pattern recorded in the test arm when the Young's double-slit was illuminated by laser;



Instantaneous intensity distribution (top) and the cross-sections of averaged intensity distribution (bottom) of 1-reference arm, 2-test arm when the object was illuminated by pseudo-thermal light;



Fourier-transform diffraction pattern obtained by the correlation of the intensity fluctuations when the object was illuminated by pseudo-thermal light.



Standard Fourier-transform pattern got by a singlelens 2-f system (f=75mm) illuminated by laser





The purephase object was made by etching two grooves with width of 225um and separated by 375um on a quartz glass

Fresnel diffraction patterns recorded in the test arm when the pure-phase double-slit was illuminated by laser



Instantaneous intensity distribution (top) and the cross-sections of averaged intensity distribution (bottom) of 1-reference arm, 2test arm when the object was illuminated by pseudo-thermal light



Fourier-transform diffraction pattern obtained by the correlation of the intensity fluctuations when the pure-phase double-slit was illuminated by pseudo-thermal light.



Standard Fourier-transform pattern got by a singlelens 2-f system (f=75mm) illuminated by laser



部分实验结果



(a) (b) (c) (a) 反射式"中"字圆环样品图;(b) 反射式"中"字圆环强度关 联无透镜傅立叶变换像;(c) 反演恢复得到成像物体。

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