Wavefront sensing at an ellipsoidal mirror shell with a micron-sized soft X-ray source

C. Braig¹, J. Probst², H. Löchel², L. Pína³, T. Krist², and C. Seifert¹ nano optics berlin ¹Institut für angewandte Photonik (IAP) e.V., Rudower Chaussee 29/31, 12489 Berlin

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Schematic of the ellipsoidal mirror (not to scale) with parameters



What we can learn from the measured and simulated focal spot size



minor semi axis: b = 8.75475 mm | focus: e = ± 500. mm Major semi axis: a = 500.077 mm

geometrical solid angle for acceptance of source photons: 2.20 msr Au coating \rightarrow reflectivity (76.2 ± 2.6) % for $\sigma = \pm 1$ nm (E = 277 eV)

Experimental CCD images in defocus (940 \times 940 pixels à 13.5 μ m)



mirror simulated with normal distribution of geometrical slope errors measured (pseudo Voigt fit) vs. simulated (interpol.) 1-D intensities:

experiment \approx ray tracing for statist. slope error $\sigma = \pm 8.8$ arcsec (rms)

Reconstructed focal intensity distribution by WF slope propagation

focal spot size (rms) = 69.6 μ m @ $\Delta x \approx +$ 3.5 mm

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Reconstructed figure error of the ellipsoid by WF error mapping

deformation $\delta r(x, \varphi)$ related to WF error WFE_{fig} and inc. angle $\theta(x)$

rotate radial scan I(r) in each plane for $0^{\circ} \le \phi \le 178^{\circ}$, increm. $\delta \phi = 2^{\circ}$ 10 CCD planes within – 250 mm $\leq \Delta x \leq +$ 250 mm \rightarrow 5 eval. samples

Experimental 1-D radial cross section (r, φ) as ray density distribution

• no absorption: (re-)equalizing the sum of pixel entries in all planes • no cross over: sorted list of rays along radial cross section line I(r)

Wavefront retrieval at 277 eV and fit using Zernike polynomials

 $WFE_{fig.} = -2 \lambda^{-1} \delta r(x, \varphi) \sin \theta(x)$

averaged over full mirror surface: $\langle \delta r(x, \varphi) \rangle_{x, \varphi} \approx \pm 1.14 \, \mu m \, (rms)$

Reference

J. Probst, H. Löchel, T. Krist, C. Braig, and C. Seifert, "Soft X-ray spectroscopy in the lab with an ellipsoidal mirror and a wavefront corrected reflection zone plate," Proc. SPIE 12576, 125760C (2023).

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Further affiliations

[2] Nano Optics Berlin GmbH, Krumme Strasse 64, 10627 Berlin, Germany (www.nanooptics-berlin.com). [3] Czech Technical University in Prague, Brehova 7, 11519 Prague 1, Czech Republic (kfe.fjfi.cvut.cz/kfe).