## **DHS Applications of PaX Source**

#### Rajiv Gupta, MD, PhD

Neuro and Cardiac Radiology Massachusetts General Hospital Harvard Medical School Boston, MA





## Why should DHS Care?

- X-ray phase provides an independent signature:
  - Attenuation: Eff. Z
  - Phase: Eff. ED

Threats and stream-of-commerce may have different signatures

MGH/MIT PaX source enables PCI

**Overview** What is Phase Contrast Imaging? Is there experimental demonstration? How can we harvest phase? How can we achieve coherence? How does PaX do PCI?

### What is Phase Contrast Imaging?



#### **Phase Effect on Wave front**

#### Complex refractive index: $\eta = 1 - \delta + i\beta$



### **Contrast Mechanisms**

# Complex refractive index: $\eta = i\beta + (1 - \delta)$

- Attenuation:
  - Depends on β
  - Path length
  - Photoelectric effect
  - Compton scattering
  - Depends on Z

Phase change:

- Depends on  $\delta$
- Path length
- Depends on
  Electron Density

# Magnitude of Attenuation and Phase Contrasts

Material	µ (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) at 60keV	Ф (ст <sup>-1</sup> ) at 60keV	Ratio
H2O	0.2061	195.5	949
dH2O	0.2267	215.1	949
Ethenol	0.1582	156.6	990
Glycerin	0.2477	140.7	568
Fat	0.1793	180.7	1008
Liver	0.2174	205.2	944
Sources:			
ICRP (1975)			
Woodard and White (1986)			

#### Attenuation vs. Phase Contrast



**Refractive index of soft tissue** 

Overview What is Phase Contrast Imaging? Is there experimental demonstration? How can we harvest phase? How can we achieve coherence? How does PaX do PCI?

## PCI at Photon Factory, KEK Tsukuba

□ Beam-line BL-14Cmono Vertically polarized 31KeV X-ray beam □ Filed-of-view: 2.5x3cm Rotational stage for the specimen



## **XDFI: X-ray Dark-Field Imaging**



## XDFI: X-ray Dark-Field Imaging



## **Experimental Setup**

X-ray Window MC

Specimen LAA

CCD



## **Coronary Plaque Imaging**



Catheter Angiography: LAO cranial view CT Angiography: LAD, LCX and RCA

## **Plaque: Absorption and Phase**





## **Plaque: Phase CT**



Overview What is Phase Contrast Imaging? Is there experimental demonstration? How can we harvest phase? How can we achieve coherence? How does PaX do PCI?

### TIE-based PCI imaging



# Overview

What is Phase Contrast Imaging? Experimental demonstration of PCI

How can we harvest phase?

How can we achieve coherence?

PaX Architecture

#### MGH/MIT PaX Source: Basic Concept



Trick 1: Use ultra-small focal spot size for x-ray Trick 2: Keep the object far away from the source, and the detector far away from the object Trick 3: Deduce phase from intensity images

## Experimental results Plastic microspheres (Cospheric, Inc):





#### **Projection image**

#### Reconstructed phase image

Overview What is Phase Contrast Imaging? Is there experimental demonstration? How can we harvest phase? How can we achieve coherence? How does PaX do PCI?

## PaX Source – System Architecture

Collimated electron beams with µm-sized focal spot

X-ray beam



Electron gun array with ballasted, double gated field emitters

Micro-channel cooled, copper anode with W-Be windows

### Field-emission Cathode Array



## **Fabricated Chip Layout**



Side view

## MGH/MIT PaX Source



## First Image: Cadaver Wrist



### Summary

X-ray phase represents an untapped contrast mechanism that can distinguish materials that look similar on conventional X-ray imaging

- There are ways to:
  - Make coherent X-rays
  - Deduce phase signatures

# Team



Rajiv Gupta

Yongjin Sung Synho Do

Julien Dinkel Irene Wang





#### Richard Lanza



Jonah Jacob SRL







Geoff Campbell



John Pasour NRL

# THANK YOU!

## Proof that Micro-focus can do PCI



## PCI with a micro-focus source

Polyethylene bead (~ 520 micron): Creates a gradually varying phase Cover glass (1 mm thick): Creates a discrete jump in phase





PCI makes the bead and cover glass, which are essentially transparent in attenuation X-rays, visible.

Voltage: 40 kVp; Source-to-sample: 44 cm; Sample-to-detector: 159 cm

#### How to derive Quantitative Phase Information



# Pohang Light Source (So Korea)



#### Siemens Phantom at different distances

Z = 0.00 (m)



## Transport of Intensity (TIE) Equation



Continuity Equation for Intensity Transport

I: intensity  $\phi$ : phase

$$\frac{2\pi}{\lambda}\frac{\partial I}{\partial z} = -\nabla_{\perp} \cdot (I\nabla_{\perp}\phi)$$

M. Teague, JOSA (1983).  $\nabla_{\perp} \equiv \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial}{\partial y}\right)$ 

- 'Conservation of intensity'
- Phase recovery from intensity derivative
- Partially coherent illumination