

Optical properties of Laue lenses for hard X-rays (>60 keV)

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Laue lens working principle



A crystal, through Bragg diffraction, can deviate photons of an angle $2\theta_{\rm B}$

The process is energy selective

Some photons proceed undiffracted

Some are absorbed

Laue lens working principle



Laue lens examples

Broad band Laue lenses (HAXTEL) Smooth response in a broad energy band (>60 keV) to investigate the continuum source spectra (see talk by F. Frontera)

Nuclear lines Laue lenses (MAX) Very high thoughput in a narrow energy band to investigate nuclear lines (see talk by P. von Ballmoos)

Lens optical properties

Even if some properties of Laue lenses can be calculated analitically or with good approximation, full knowledge of the lens response can be obtained only with Monte Carlo simulations.

Monte Carlo concept



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Monte Carlo software

Coded objects

Optics

- Crystal materials
- Crystal properties
- Crystal disposition

Crystal

- Material
- Size
- Position
- Orientation
- Mosaic spread

Photon

- > Wavevector
- Position
- Source

Builtin methods to make the object interact with each other (resonant scattering, photoelectric, Compton, ...)

Monte Carlo software

Developed in Python

- Object oriented
- Data types
- Scientific libraries (scipy¹, xraylib²,...)
- Interaction
- Code readability
- Rapid development

1 - www.scipy.org

2 - Spectrochimica Acta Part B 59 (2004) 1725–1731

Possible outputs via data analysis

- Photon history
- > PSF on-axis and off-axis for different energies
- Diffracted photon spectrum
- Diffraction efficiency
- Effective area
- Sensitivity

Crystal disposition and characteristics

- One ring of Cu (111) crystals with the same orientation
- > 20 m focal length
- Crystal size 1×1×0.2 cm³
- FWHM 1 arcmin

Photon source

- Flat spectrum in a narrow energy band centered around the optimal energy for on-axis photons
- Photon offset 0, 0.5, 1, 1.5, 2., 2.5, 3. arcmin

Point Spread Function (PSF)

- > Peak point for off-axis sources
- Standard deviation of photon distribution

Focal spot shape



















240 keV

120 arcsec -----





240 keV

150 arcsec ------



x - cm

Centroid position



distance - cm

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Center counts



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normalized counts

Focal spot at different energies

0 arcsec -----

0 arcsec ----



480 keV



x - cm

-5 1 -4 0.8 -3 0.6 -2 -1 0.4 0 n 0.2 1 0 2 3 4 0.8 -5 5 -1 -3 -2 2 3 4 5 -1 n

150 arcsec

150 arcsec

480 keV

120 keV



x - cm

120 keV

Focal spot at different diffraction orders







120 keV

120 keV

150 arcsec

0.8

0.6

04

0.2

-5

-4

-3

-2

-1

0

1

2 3

4

5

5



x - cm



120 keV





x - cm