Fresnel Lenses - why not?

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Boniifacio Sept 2005

- 1) Review of focusing
- 2) Focusing by control of phase
- 3) What does a Fresnel lens for astronomy look like
- 4) Pros and cons
- 5) Overcoming the cons to take advantage of the pros

Fermat's Principle , or the point-to-point race theory of optics







2 3 4

n=1

The surface of a nested stack of grazing incidence mirrors form a subset of such surfaces

Multilayer mirrors have layers which also form a subset of such surfaces

n a Laue lens, the lanes of atoms in rystals approximate ne same surfaces



Real part of the refractive indices

 $\mu = (1 - \delta)$

$$\delta \approx 2 \times 10^{-10} \left(\frac{\rho}{1 \text{ gcm}^{-3}}\right) \left(\frac{E}{1 \text{ MeV}}\right)^{-2}$$
$$\frac{\lambda}{\delta} = t_{2\pi} = \left(\frac{\rho}{1 \text{ gcm}^{-3}}\right)^{-1} \left(\frac{E}{1 \text{ MeV}}\right) 6 \text{ mm}$$

E = Energy ρ = density

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Some examples of the thickness necessary for a phase change of 2π :

Plastic Aluminium Titanium Energy 6 keV 100 keV 500 keV

 $t_{2\pi}$ 30 microns 225 microns 0.7 mm

96 % 99 % 97 %

Transmission





Example parameters

d ~ 5 m $t_{2\pi} \sim 1 \text{ mm}$ (for E= 500 keV in aluminium) p ~ 1 mm

> Effective area 15 m² Angular resolution 0.12 micro arc sec



Accretion disk around an extreme Kerr Black Hole Ben Bromley, CFA



A « Black Hole Imager » is foreseen as part of NASA's 'beyond Einstein' planning. Ambitious systems are being considered for this rôle.



Advantages of Fresnel lenses

At every radius in the lens, you can adjust the phase to be ideal

 → perfect lens with close to 100% efficiency

• Its a true imaging system

Geometrical aberrations are negligible



Because the refractive index is close to 1, surface profile errors have little effect eg at 500 keV, $\lambda/50$ optical precision \Leftrightarrow 20 micron tolerances - lens 'polishing' can be done with any decent machine tool

It is a low f-number, 'thin', lens

Lens 'tilt' is relatively unimportant (eg 1° tolerance)

Focal depth is very large





Example parameters

 $\begin{array}{ll} d & \sim 5 \text{ m} \\ t_{2\pi} & \sim 1 \text{ mm} \end{array} \quad (\text{ for E= 500 keV in aluminium}) \\ p & \sim 1 \text{ mm} \end{array}$

Effective area 15 m² Angular resolution 0.12 micro arc sec ΔE ~ 0.1 keV f ~ 10⁶ km



What is the width of the rocking curve of (a sample of) a Fresnel lens?

Dispersion by a mosaic Crystal

Different crystallites within the rocking curve do indeed diffract different energies, but they diffract them through angles which are not quite the same Fresnel lens equivalent

No need to rotate the sample One moves the detector One measures a slightly different waveleng



Some useful formulae

For diameter d and finest pitch p:

Focal length $f = p d / 2\lambda$

Focal spot size = 0.66 p

Angular Resolution limits

Diffraction $1.22 \lambda/d$

Detector spatial resolution $\Delta x/f$

Chromatic Aberration

 $0.15 (d/f) (\Delta \lambda / \lambda)$

Angular Resolution limits for a Fresnel gamma ray lens





Chromatic aberration

1) Increase of bandpass by subdividing the surface

Subdivision of the surface area, azimuthally, radially, or by unit, can provide zones optimised for different energies



Chromatic aberration

3) Is it such a bad thing to have a narrow passband?

a) Radio astronomers frequently make images or characterise emission by measurements at one or a few spot frequencies.

b) Sensitivity can actually be better using a narrow band,

- even for broad lines or continuum emission

Proportional to

Signal ΔE

BG in a given volume of the detector ΔE

Size of chromaticity-limited focal spot ΔE

Volume of detector used ΔE^2

Overall BG

Signal/Noise (BG limited)





 ΔE^3

Problem 2





Example System Parameters

Lens

Energy
Diameter
Material
Thickness
Minimum pitch
Efficiency
Focal Length

500 keV 5 m Aluminium (e.g.) 1.7 mm 2 mm 98% 2x10⁶ km

Angular Resolution (µ a	arc sec)	
Diffraction limit	0.12	
Detector resolution limit	t 0.1	
Chromatic Aberration	0.5	(∆E/E = 0.5%)
Net	0.6	

Effective area

 $\Delta E = 2.5 \text{ keV}, 5\text{mm spot} \qquad 15 \text{ m}^2$ $\Delta E = 20 \text{ keV} \qquad 70 \text{ mm detector} \qquad 15 \text{ m}^2$ $\Delta E = 100 \text{ keV} \qquad " \qquad 3 \text{ m}^2 \text{ by dividing surface}$ Sensitivity

Broad lines: 1.5×10^{-8} Photons cm⁻² s⁻¹ (5 σ in 10⁶ s at 847 keV) Detect SN Ia out to z = 0.1

Narrow line : 2 x 10⁻⁹ Photons cm² s¹ (5 o en 10⁶ s at 847 keV) . SN II out to 70 Mpc

Angular Resolution

Resolve the structure of space-time around black holes in AGN

Image and study the expansion of SN < 50 Mpc

Investigate the region where jets are accelerated (including imaging their development in read time of the jets in micro quasars)

The End

Or is it the beginning of the era of imaging at pico metre wavelengths with micro arc second resolution using giga metre focal lengths