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Chromatic Confocal sensors

for non-destructive measurement and inspection in nanometric scales

Presentation by STIL

Sciences & Techniques Industrielles de la Lumière

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Core Competencies

Designer & Manufacturer of Non-Contact Position Sensors

- Distance & Thickness Measurements
- Vision & Inspection

PICO	NANO	MICRO	MILLI	CENTI	DECI	METRE	HECTO	DECA	KILO	MEGA	GIGA	TERA
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Sensors Timeline: 25 years of R&D



New

ownership

New strategy

STIL Awards

- 1997 Award creative industries
- 2003 Award technology showcase
- 2008 Silver Photon Innovation showcase
- 2016 Créative Industry Nominee



Chromatic Confocal Technology

Inventor of chromatic confocal imaging, leading technology for non-contact sensors, STIL designed several ranges of sensors based on this innovative technology:

Point sensors - from 0,1 mm to 100 mm measuring range

Distance







Dimension

Inspection

Multilaver

Thickness



Semiconductors

Automotive

Key product





2005 Creation second generation Point Sensor (CCS)



From micrometric to nanometric Chromatic confocal principle



2008 Creation first generation Line Sensor (MPLS180) 2016 Creation first Multipoint Sensor (X-DM)



2012 Creation first generation Vision Sensor (MC2)





Ready-made products - Adaptive technology - Proven track record - Plug & play measurement solutions



Technology: Confocal Imaging

Confocal imaging consists in:

- Imaging a point source S on a sharply-focused spot S'
- Reversely, imaging S' on a small filtering pinhole S"

Features:

- 2 optically conjugated pinholes located at points S and S"
- Coaxial imaging
 - $\checkmark\,$ same light path for illumination and detection
 - $\checkmark\,$ double crossing of the lens
- "Single point" viewing system

 ✓ scanning along X and Y s is required in order to obtain a full-field system

 ✓ Optical sectioning'
 - ✓ 'Optical sectioning'



Technology: Confocal Imaging

Optical sectioning

Confocal systems are practically "blind" for all space except for the sharply focused point S'. Light emitted by points located beside, below or above S' cannot reach the detector located behind the filtering pinhole at S". This property is true both for scattering samples and for specular (polished) samples.

When scanned in X,Y directions, the confocal system generates a sharply focused observation plane. This property is called "Optical Sectioning". Points located above or below the sectioning plane are completely out of focus. As a result, image contrast is excellent.

« Single Point » **Viewing System**

« Optical Sectioning » Light emitted from sample points located above or bellow the 'sharp focus' position is stopped by the pinhole.



Sample outside the "sharp focus" position

Technology: Axial chromatism

In a chromatic optical system the position of the image of any given point depends on the wavelength of incident light.

Axial Chromatism is a physical property of refractive optical systems, observed for all types of glasses. It results from the spectral dispersion (dependence of the refractive index on wavelength).

In most cases, optical designers work hard to eliminate the axial chromatism which is usually considered to be a geometrical aberration of refractive optical systems.

However, in some very specific applications, the presence of a controlled amount of chromatism may be very useful. This is the case of Chromatic Confocal Imaging.

A controlled amount of chromatism may be obtained by carefully selecting the type of glass and the radii of all the surfaces in the optical system.



Technology: Confocal Imaging

Chromatic Confocal Imaging

Chromatic confocal imaging consists in introducing an optical element with axial chromatism in the setup of a confocal imaging system.

For each wavelength the system behaves as a classical confocal system, but the position of the sharply focused point S' depends on the wavelength.

When the point source S is polychromatic, the system generates a continuum of sharply focused monochromatic images S(λ i) corresponding to the spectral content of the point source.

The chromatic confocal imaging system is "blind" for all space except for the color-coded segment generated by axial chromatism. We call it the "single line" viewing system.

« Single Point »

Viewing System

For each wavelength the system is a simple confocal setup with a different focus position.



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Polychromatic Point Source

Technology: Chromatic Confocal Imaging

The Chromatic confocal viewing system presents the unique property of « perfect focus » over all the chromatic extended measuring range

Since at any given point of the axial field of view there is only one wavelength perfectly focused on the object, all the other wavelengths being inactive.

The Property of 'Perfect Focus'

Multi Confocal Extended depth of focus coded by the 'Rainbow Effect'



- Using Chromatic Confocal Imaging for 3D Metrology
- Distance measurement consists of 2 steps

COLOR-CODING OF SPACE

By using the axial chromatism of the illuminating beam

COLOR DECODING

By analyzing the spectral content (wavelength) of the beam which has passed through the pinhole

Color decoding

Line detector



There exist many different means for analyzing the spectral content of the light beam filtered by the pinhole. One of them is the traditional spectrometer, comprising a dispersive element (a grating or a prism) and a line detector.

The position of the spectral peak along the line detector indicates the location of the sample inside the measuring range.

Spectrometer Signal

When the sample moves inside the measuring range, the wavelength reaching the spectrometer changes and the barycentre as well.





Color decoding





Technology

Measuring thickness of transparent samples

Multi-layer samples

Measuring samples comprising several layers is possible using the same method.

As of today, the required computation power exceeds that of the internal processing unit of our sensors. However this operation can be carried out on the host PC, using our "Multipeak" software. This software can measure up to 10 layers simultaneously at real time.



Principle

Implementation





Sensor layout



Technology: Confocal Imaging

Distance sensor

Confocal spatial filter limits wavelengths bandwidth DI to a narrow band centered on the wavelength I_i which is perfectly focused on the sample surface.

Measurement Solutions Features:

- Dimension
- Distance
- Displacement
- Thickness
- Profilometry
- Topography
- Roughness
- Tribology
- 3D Measurement
- Waviness, Bow, Warp Shape

Spectral decoding is performed by the spectrometer (position of the quasi monochromatic beam on the CCD/CMOS linear array).





STIL sensors hardware

Axial properties

- Measuring range: Directly dependant from the choice of Chromatic Block of Lenses used.
- Working distance: Distance from the optical pen and the first point of the Measuring Range.
- Accuracy: Along the Measuring Range No Speckle Effects.
- High Axial resolution: From 7 nanometers (nm) without averaging and 2 nm with avg 10.

Lateral properties

- Spot size: Directly dependant of the Pinhole Diameter and Optical pen Magnification
- Lateral resolution: correspond to half the spot size Diameter – from less than 1 micrometer.

Optical properties

- High Numerical Aperture which allows to measure High slope angle: +/-45° on Mirror and >80° on Diffusive Surfaces.
- Coaxial Beam: No shadow effects.
- Works on Every Kind of Surfaces thanks to the AutoModulation of Light Source Intensity.
- Several ranges of Frequency: From 100Hz to 10 KHz.

Mechanical properties

- Optical pens composed of Passive components: Dimensions from 4mm Diameter and Weight from 15g
- Straight measurement or Radial measurement (90°)

STIL controllers



- CCS PRIMA: From 100Hz to 2KHz, available with 2 or 4 channels
- CCS OPTIMA+: until 10 KHz
- STIL VIZIR: InfraRed Light Source, until 2KHz

STIL Optical fibers / cables



Typical length : 3, 5 and 10m ...



STIL optical pens

Modular Line (CL + MG)	 Consist of a chromatic lens and a magnifier allowing a "spot size vs. photometry" tradeoff Measuring Ranges: 100 µm – 24 mm Easily interchangeable – same diameter 	
Dedicated Line (OP)	 Developed for specific applications, e.g. : long working distance Measuring Ranges: 300 µm –100 mm 	
Miniature Line (Endo)	 Very small diameter Measuring ranges : 100 μm - 10 mm 	

Vacuum or

Radio Active Chamber Compatible

because STIL Optical pens are composed of passive components.

STIL CL-MG references (D=27mm)



Model	unit	CL1-MG210	CL2-MG210	CL3-MG140	CL4-MG35	CL5-MG20	CL6-MG20				
Measuring range	μm	150	400	1400*	4000	12000	24000				
Working distance	mm	3,3	10,8	12,2	16,5	26,6	20				
Numerical aperture		0,71	0,46	0,41	0,32	0,2	0,12				
Max. sample slope	0	42	28	25	21	14	8,5				
Reference plate		no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no				
Axial model			standard								
90° folded model		option									
Spot size	μm	2,7	4	6,8	12,3	40	43				
Lateral resolution	μm	1,1	1,7	2,6	4,6	14	18				
Static noise	nm	7	17	50	110	425	800				
Max. linearity error	nm	25	55	150	300	550	1200				
Min. measurable thickness	μm	7,5	14	38	110	550	725				
Length	mm	243,8	243,3	208,9	145,4	130	155,6				
Diameter	mm		27								
Weight	g	268	248	215	155	160	180				

STIL Optical pen references



Model	unit	OP300VM	OP300VM/90°	OP350	OP6000	EVEREST-K1
Measuring range	μm	220	220	350	6000	1000
Working distance	mm	5	4,4	12,8	28	18,5
Numerical aperture		0,5	0,5	0,54	0,39	0,7
Max. sample slope	0	25	25	30	22	44
Reference plate		no	no	yes	no	no
Axial or folded model		axial	90° folded	axial	axial	axial
Spot size	μm	6,4	6,4	7	12,5	5
Lateral resolution	μm	3,2	3,2	3,5	6,25	2,5
Static noise	nm	25	25	30	200	50 (28)
Max. linearity error	nm	70	70	75	500	100
Min. measurable thickness	μm	25	25	25	200	50
Length	mm	127	128	257	205,5	260,5
Diameter	mm	15	15	50	60	82
Weight	g	27	39	781	760	1400

STIL Endo/Probe references



Multipoint configuration

A Multipoint chromatic confocal sensor consists of N independent channels sharing a common chromatic lens, while preserving the confocal principle and its advantages (high resolution and contrast).

Each channel projects a single point on the sample surface and focalizes the collected light on its own dedicated spectrometer.

Multipoint Confocal Chromatic sensors present a real technological challenge:

- Simultaneous acquisition and treatment of 180 spectrums
- Design of Field Chromatic lens



STIL multipoint line sensors



Model	unit	NanoView	MicroView	DeepView	WireView
Line Length	mm	1,34	1,79	4,05	1,51
Measuring range 2kHz	μm	100	500	2600	900
MR 4kHz	μm	45*	235*	1150*	450*
MR 6kHz	μm	25*	120*	650*	240*
Working distance	mm	4,6	10,1	47,8	7,8
Numerical aperture		0,7	0,5	0,35	0,75
Max. sample slope	0	40	30	20	46
Pitch (dist. between 2 points)		7,4	10	22,4	8,4
Spot size	μm	3,75	5,2	11,5	4,2
Static noise	nm	25	100	350	150
Max. linearity error	nm	50	80	150	100
Min. measurable thickness	μm	18	50	300	110
Optical Part : Length	mm	436,8	425,6	445,9	480,7
Optical Part: Diameter	mm	50	50	75	70
Optical Part : Weight	g	1600	1600	3400	2200

Chromatic Confocal Sensors

STIL multipoint sensors

Up to N independant measuring channels

- multiple optical probes (standard)
- multiple points inside the same optical probe (custom design)







Applications: Chromatic Confocal Sensors

« Single Point » Application Example

Dimension & thickness control on laminated glass (multiple layers)

THICKNESS AIR GAP SHAPE



Applications: Chromatic Confocal Sensors

Thickness measurement



Applications: Chromatic Confocal Sensors

« MultiPeak»

For multi layer thickness measurement

	STIL Sensor	
Thickness #1	(n ₁)	M
Thickness #2	(n ₂)	M
Thickness #3	(n ₃)	W
Thickness #4	(n.)	V
Thickness #5	(n ₅)	

Screenshot of the running MultiPeak Software:

(1-300 V-1-04)



- Technology: Confocal Chromatic Sensor
- Point Sensor
- Controller: STIL-DUO
- Optical pen: CL3-MG70
- Measuring Range: 1200µm
- Spot Diameter: 11 μm
- Software: <u>STIL MultiPeak</u>

Statistics:

Nane	Thick	ness						
Layor 1	Min:	59.6 µm	Maxe	59.7 µm	Auni	59.7 µm	Std Dev:	0.02 µm
Layer 2	Mant	323.2 µm	Maxt	323.2 µm	Aur-1	323.2 µm	Std Devi	0.02 µm
Layer 3	Mini	102.9 µm	Maxi	102.9 µm	Auro	182.9 pm	Std Dev:	0.00 µm
Layer 4	Min:	102.8 µm	Make	102.9 µm	Avr:	182.9 µm	Std Dev:	0.02 um
Layer 5	Min:	301.1 µm	Maxo	301.1 µm	Awn:	301.1 µm	Std Dev:	0.02 µm
Total	Plan:	889.7 µm	Maxi	689.7 µm	Avri	889.7 µm	Std Dev:	0.02 um

STIL DUO with MultiPeak Software is able to measure simultaneously the thicknesses of a multilayer sample (up to 10 layers).



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Chromatic Confocal Camera

STIL Inspection System Principle: AOI

If the spectrometer of each individual channel is replaced by a single photon detector, or a single pixel, one gets a system which can see the observed sample point at perfect focus at any axial position inside the depth of focus.

However this system is unable to determine the axial position: otherwise stated, one gets a microscope with an extended depth of focus.





Chromatic Confocal Camera

STIL Chromaline Camera



Model	unit	NanoView	MicroView	DeepView	WireView
Line Length	mm	1,35	1,8	4	1,5
Depth of field	μm	100	500	2600	900
Working distance	mm	4,6	10	47,8	7,8
Magnification		17,3	12,5	5,6	15,6
Numerical aperture		0,7	0,5	0,35	0,75
Max. sample slope	0	40	30	20	46
Pixel size on the sample	μm	0,41	0,56	1,23	0,45
Optical Part : Length	mm	393,3	382,1	403,9	437,2
Optical Part : Diameter	mm	50	50	75	70

- Maximum Frequency Acquisition: More than 100 000 lines/second
- Minimum Default Size Inspection: Less than 1 micrometer

Applications: Chromatic Confocal Inspection

Manufacturing Defects Inspection on Wafer Edge















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