

The FleX-ray Lab: Past, Present and Future

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X-ray Computed Tomography (CT)



Image credit: Daniël Pelt and University of Antwerp



Medical X-ray CT





Computational Imaging







The beginning of FleX-ray







The opening





The FleX-ray Lab







The FleX-ray Lab





Selected Highlights



















Michelangelo...or not?





Explorative imaging





Explorative imaging





RECAST3D

- Real-time quasi-3D reconstruction and visualization of arbitrary slices
- Plugin infrastructure for on-the-fly analysis
- Active experimental adaptation & control







Did someone say live demo?



Well...Murphy's law







Dynamic real-time imaging and scan adaptation





Imaging dynamic processes





Imaging dynamic processes



non-linear







AI in tomography



- data collections
- scaling
- robustness

- task-adaptation
- software coupling
- real-time



Open data collections for machine learning









Open data collections for machine learning





Open data





On-the-fly Machine Learning for superresolution











Efficient ML-based large-scale 3D tomography



(a)







Benchmarking AI





Imaging for the Industry 4.0











Source

Tomosynthesis

Emulation of X-ray light-field cameras



Lenslets

Main lens



Emulation of X-ray light-field cameras



(d) z = 917.527 mm

(e) z = 947.496 mm

(f) Depth map light-field

Looking at colours the eye can't see

Spectral X-ray imaging with Medipix3 in FleX-ray

Martin Fransen

Nikhef









Conventional X-ray image



X-ray source (broad spectrum)

X-ray detector



grey scale image

X-ray transmission

Unique for each element!



X-ray transmission

- Easy to identify materials, right?
- Not with conventional X-ray imaging, pixels record total amount of X-ray energy!
- \rightarrow about the same shade of grey.

Also:

- Spectrum changes as X-rays traverse sample → beam hardening.
- Response to thickness and density variation is sensitive to thickness and density itself!



X-ray detection

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Possible detector improvements:

- Photon counting (increasing 'weight' of low energy photons for better contrast)
- Even better: Measure each photon's energy

Common alternative: modifying X-ray spectrum by means of 'colour filters'. Some drawbacks:

- Limited choice in energy bands
- Lower X-ray intensity
- Multiple scans for multiple energy ranges

• ...

(Spectral) X-ray imaging with 'Medipix3'



- Each absorbed X-ray photon releases charge proportional to it's energy.
- Charge detected by pixels \rightarrow detecting individual X-ray photons.
- Set 8 different detection thresholds \rightarrow 8 energy bins.



Medipix3 detectors (electronics developed at Nikhef).

From grey scale to spectral

Metal foils (sample 3 x 3 cm).



X-ray energy scan

Small egg.

Metal foils.



Example 3d CT reconstruction



Beam hardening and CT scans

35 keV full spectrum.

Density gradient?

16-20 keV band.

Nope!

Medipix3 in FleX-ray

- Photon counting and energy binning.
- In addition to conventional X-ray imaging.
- Medipix3 detector in FleX-ray cabinet.
- Medipix3 based micro CT scanning set-up @ Nikhef.

The Future

A collaborative platform

Adaptive scanning

Quantitative imaging

Beyond images

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Tea & coffee time

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