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X-ray phase contrast imaging applied to laser driven shocks

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X-ray phase contrast imaging (XPCI) is an imaging technique based on the phase-shift of an X-ray photon induced by the refractive index. In particular, the phase-shift is related to the real part of X-ray phase contrast imaging (XPCI) is an imaging technique based on the phase_shift of an X-ray photon induced by the refractive index. In particular, the phase-shift is related to the real part of the refractive index, while the imaginary part is related to the absorption. A coherent X-ray source such as a synchrotron or X-ray free electron laser are the best choice for XPCI, however, it is possible to use broadband incoherent X-ray sources by limiting the source size and careful positioning of the experiment and detector. The interaction of high power laser with matter produces X-rays according to the intensity, energy and pulse duration. These sources can be used for XPCI. In this work we present the characterization and the application of XPCI using a laser-produced bremsstrahlung source to a shock. The X-ray source was created by irradiating a 5 μm diameter tungsten wire with a Nd:Glass laser pulse 0.5 ps long and energy of 25 J in first harmonic. This produces a strong bremsstrahlung radiation. We applied this source to XPCI static objects and a laser-driven shock-wave in a plastic target. In both cases the XPCI clearly indicates the presence of density interfaces with 5 μm spatial resolution. This proof-of-principle experiment shows how this technique can be a powerful tool for the study of warm and hot dense matter on large scale high-energy-density facilities. therefractive index, while the imaginary part is related to the absorption. A coherent X-ray source such as a synchrotron or X-ray free electron laser are the best choice for XPCI, however, it is possible to use broadband incoherent X-ray sources by limiting the source size and careful positioning of the experiment and detector. The interaction of high power laser with matter produces X-rays according to the intensity, energy and pulse duration. These sources can be used for XPCI. In this work we present the characterization and the application of XPCI using a laser-produced bremsstrahlung source to a shock. The X-ray source was created by irradiating a 5 μm diameter tungsten wire with a Nd:Glass laser pulse 0.5 ps long and energy of 25 J in first harmonic. This produces a strong bremsstrahlung radiation. We applied this source to XPCI static objects and a laser-driven shock-wave in a plastic target. In both cases the XPCI clearly indicates the presence of density interfaces with 5 μm spatial resolution. This proof-of-principle experiment shows how this technique can be a powerful tool for the study of warm and hot dense matter on large scale high-energy-density facilities.

Primary authors: Mr BARBATO, Francesco (EMPA); Dr ANTONELLI, Luca (University of York)

Co-authors: Dr SCHIAVI, Angelo Schiavi (SBAI Department, Sapienza University of Rome); Dr ZIELBAUER, Bernhard (GSI); Dr BRABETZ, Christian (GSI); BATANI, Dimitri (INFN); Mr MANCELLI, Donaldi (University of Bordeaux); Mr ZERAOULI, Ghassan (CLPU, University of Salamanca); Dr BOUTOUX, Guillaume (CEA); Prof. VOLPE, Luca (CLPU, University of Salamanca); Prof. WOOLSEY, Nigel (University of York); Mr BRADFORD, Philip (University of York); Prof. ATZENI, Stefano (Università di Roma "La Sapienza" and CNISM); Mr JOCELAIN, Trela (University of Bordeaux); Dr BAGNOUD, Vincent (GSI)

Presenter: Dr ANTONELLI, Luca (University of York)

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