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Abstract. We used a system that exploits the Mach–Zehnder interferometer structure and Young’s double-pinhole interference principle to measure the three-dimensional topographies of small objects at high precision. Next, we performed phase profilometry to measure small objects and achieve a height measurement within a 10 × 10-cm area. The accuracy of the measurement system improved by 44.1%, and the measurement time was reduced by 63.2%. © 2018 Society of Photo-Optical Instrumentation Engineers (SPIE) [DOI: 10.1117/1.OE.57.9.094105]

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1 Introduction

Image processing, computer, and multimedia technologies are widely applied to numerous fields, such as industry, national defense, healthcare, security, and entertainment; therefore, these technologies require the three-dimensional (3-D) shape information of objects to address and display data directly. A new optical information method developed using 3-D shape measurement technology exploits an optical image to detect and transmit information and extract relevant details from captured images, thus completing the recovery and measurement of the 3-D shapes of objects in a computer.^{1–3} Therefore, phase measurement profilometry based on fringe-structured light projection satisfies the demand for 3-D object surface topography measurement in the previously mentioned application domains. This technology applies the principle of optical triangulation measurement, which can also be applied to the 3-D surface topography measurement of static and dynamic objects.^{4–6} However, the demand for the 3-D topography measurement of small objects is increasing, particularly in current industry applications for measurements, such as the detection of fine pits on bearings, small deformations of springs, and defects on the surfaces of battery casings. However, modern optical 3-D topography measurement techniques have certain limitations in measuring small objects. In particular, the accuracy and speed of phase extraction need to be improved. The self-adaptability and degree of automation of object shape measurement are low because the density of stripes owing to digital light processing (DLP) technology is low in small regions and is thus unsuitable for small-sized objects. Laser interference projection can dynamically control the density of interference fringes and is conducive to the integration of measurement systems. Therefore, laser interference projection is suitable for measuring the 3-D topography of small-sized objects and has a high application value and range.^{7–11}

The first component of the measurement system is a structured light projection device. In previous years, physical grating and mechanical equipment have been used as the main modes of achieving fringe pattern projection and phase shifting. However, the density of the projected fringes and the accuracy of the phase shift are low. In recent years, DLP has been commonly used for projecting fringe images generated by programming. The density of the fringes is limited by the projection view field and resolution of the DLP. Therefore, the DLP is unsuitable for measuring small objects. Thus, we utilized two beams of coherent light to produce the structured light patterns of interference fringes, thereby forming high-density fringe-structured light in a small field-of-view and projecting them onto the surface of the measured object. However, the structure of the fringe projection system based on the previously mentioned method is relatively complex, and the positional relationship among the optical elements considerably affects the nature of the projected fringe patterns. Moreover, the fringes are susceptible to temperature fluctuations, environmental vibrations, and other factors. Thus, the optical interference system requires stabilization control. Numerous scholars explored phase stability control of the optical interferometer. Matthews and Mercer used the PTDC (DC phase tracking) and PTAC (AC phase tracking) technologies, respectively, to achieve phase stability control of the optical interferometer.^{12,13} Freschi and Frejlich¹⁴ utilized optical high-frequency phase modulation and phase-locking technologies to enable the interferometer to function at all stable operating points. Kudryashov and Seliverstov¹⁵ used photodiodes to detect the optical intensity of the interferometer fringe and achieve phase control by changing the output wavelength of the laser. Moore et al.¹⁶ controlled the interferometer to achieve an orthogonal steady state by using a piezoelectric ceramic transducer (PZT). Wu et al.¹⁷ used a photoelectric detection circuit to detect the light intensity

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changes of the stripes and achieve phase stability control of the interference fringes.

In this work, we focus on the high-accuracy measurement of small-object 3-D surface topography. A new 3-D shape measurement technique based on optical fiber interference fringe-structured light projection, which utilizes the Mach-Zehnder fiber interferometer structure and Young's theory of double-hole interference, is developed. The purpose is to achieve the projection of interference fringes with high density and cosine distribution. The interference fringe images modulated by the measured object are obtained by using an array camera. Thus, preprocessing the acquired fringe images on the basis of undamaged cosine distribution feature in normal direction generates a high signal-to-noise ratio. Thus, the extraction accuracy of the fringe phase is improved. The 3-D surface shape of the measured object combined with the mathematical model of the measurement system is recovered.

Optical fiber is used as the optical transmission medium. The measurement system integration is improved by enhancing the compactness of the projection system. Unlike the commonly used methods applying DLP and physical gratings, this study utilized optical fiber interference to generate a high-density fringe structure light-image in a very small range, which exhibits remarkable spatial cosine distribution characteristics. Therefore, the small size and flexibility of the fiber probe renders this material suitable for measuring complex and small objects in tight spaces or harsh environments. This system has favorable application prospects.

2 Optical Geometry Model of Double-Fiber-Optic Interference Fringe Projection

The diameter of the optical fiber is minute; the diameter of this single-mode fiber is $4.3 \mu\text{m}$. Thus, the optical fiber projection-end can be viewed as two associated point-lights that satisfy the conditions of optical interference. According to the principle of Young's double-hole optical interference, the brightness level of the interference fringes forms a hyperboloid family with the two projection ends as the focal points. Theoretically, a set of hyperbolic graphs form on the rear projection screen in the interference light field. However, the background screen in an actual interference system appears as a group of light-staggered and dark-staggered distribution and straight fringe graphs. In this work, we use the mathematical model of the optical fiber interferometer fringe projection system and discuss the conversion of the shape of the brightness-level fringe curve on the background screen into a linear one.

We assume that two coherent light sources emit a spherical optical wave at identical frequency and vibration direction. In the overlay area of the optical wave, the light intensity of a point in the interference field is

$$I = I_1 + I_2 + 2\sqrt{I_1 I_2} \cos(\Delta\theta), \quad (1)$$

where I_1 and I_2 denote separate intensities in the field of the two light sources, and $\Delta\theta$ is the corresponding phase difference. In Eq. (1), I is the maximum, and the brightness fringes at this point are present when $\Delta\theta = 2k\pi$, $k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$. I is the minimum. The two interference lights repel each other when $\Delta\theta = (2k + 1)\pi$, $k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$. Dark fringes appear, and the level of interference fringes is denoted as k . The light intensity stabilizes in the time domain of the interference field although not in the spatial domain in the variation pattern of the cosine distribution.

A fringe-structured light projection method is designed using a double-optical-fiber interferometer. Two optical fiber output-ends are used as two light sources. Then, the interference phenomena of the output light field are investigated, and the mathematical model is established. In Fig. 1, the centers of the optical fiber outputs are denoted as S_1 and S_2 in the x , y , and z coordinate axes system. The corresponding coordinates are $S_1(0, d/2, 0)$ and $S_2(0, -d/2, 0)$, which are in accordance with the principle of optical wave interferometry. P is assumed to be a random point on a rear-observing screen (UV plane) in the optical projection field, wherein the space coordinates are $P(x, y, z)$. The optical path difference of P to the optical fiber output end is

$$\Delta r = |r_1 - r_2| = \left| \sqrt{\left(y - \frac{d}{2}\right)^2 + x^2 + z^2} - \sqrt{\left(y + \frac{d}{2}\right)^2 + x^2 + z^2} \right|. \quad (2)$$

According to the principle of light wave interference, the positional relationship among all the levels of light and dark fringes in the UV plane is

$$\Delta r = k \cdot \frac{\lambda}{2}, \quad (k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots), \quad (3)$$

where λ is the output wavelength of a laser. We selected the light-level fringes and obtained the spatial distribution of the light-level interferometric fringes, which are hyperboloid graphics based on the y -axis of the rotation axis; the spatial distribution is expressed as follows:

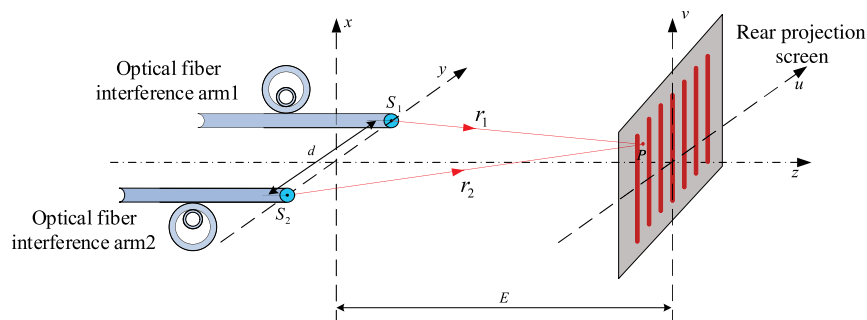


Fig. 1 Interference spatial distribution of dual-optical-fiber output field.

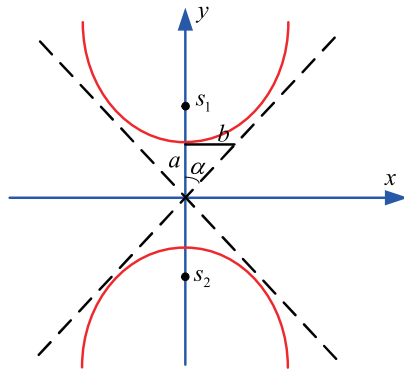


Fig. 2 Diagram of hyperbolic asymptotic line.

$$\frac{y^2}{\left(\frac{k\lambda}{2}\right)^2} - \frac{x^2 + z^2}{\left(\frac{d}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{k\lambda}{2}\right)^2} = 1, \quad (k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots) \quad (4)$$

A rear-observing screen is installed in the spatial distribution of the dual-optical-fiber output field. It is vertically

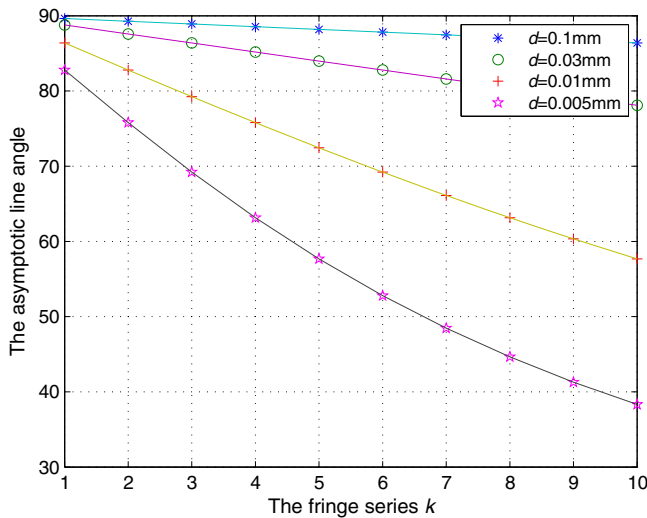


Fig. 3 Angle α of asymptotic line at different values of distance d of fiber core.

directed to the x , o , and z planes, which exhibited a set of hyperbolic light-class shape interference fringes.

The dashed line is the asymptotic line of the fringes, as shown in Fig. 2. K is the slope, and α is the angle. If $d \gg k\lambda$ ($k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$), $\lambda = 632.8 \text{ nm}$ and $K \rightarrow \infty$. Therefore, we obtained $tg\alpha \rightarrow \infty$; where $\alpha \approx \pi/2$, thereby obtaining different values of the distance d of fiber cores.

In Fig. 3, if the distance d of the fiber core is smaller than the laser output wavelength λ , then the slope angle of the asymptotic line gradually decreases. Therefore, the asymptotic lines of all of the level fringes exhibit a cross distribution. Otherwise, if $d \gg k\lambda$, all the angles of the asymptotic lines are ~ 90 deg. Thus, all the asymptotic lines indicate a parallel distribution.

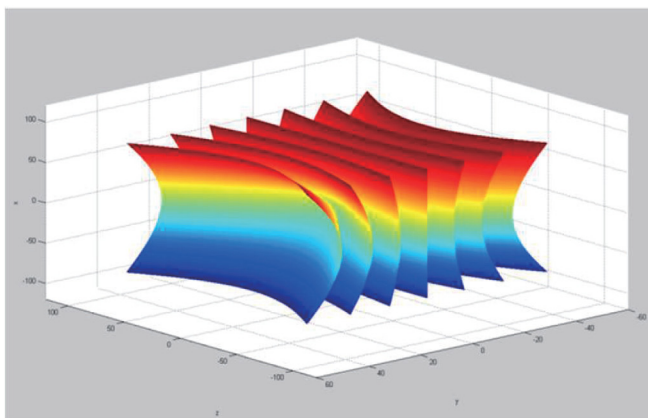
The distance of the rear plane to the optical fiber output end is larger than the distance of the two optical fiber cores, which is referred to as the far-field condition ($z \gg d$), when the distance of P in the plane to the z -axis is less than that of P to the midpoint of the two optical fiber core connection lines, i.e., the paraxial optic condition [$z_2 \gg (x_2 + y_2) \max$]. Therefore, a set of approximate parallel and equidistant distributions of light and dark fringe patterns is obtained when the previously mentioned two conditions are satisfied. If the distance of the plane to the fiber projection end is constant (denoted as E ; i.e., $z = E$), the spatial distance of two adjacent light-class interference fringes in the y -direction is

$$\Delta y = \frac{\lambda E}{d} \quad (5)$$

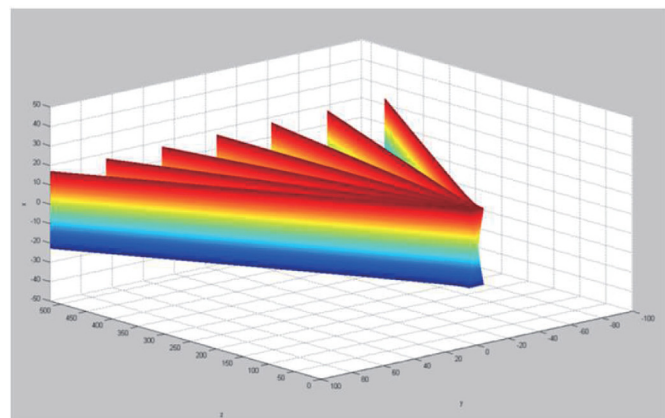
The distribution of the light-class interference fringe light surface model, which is shown in Fig. 4(a), can be obtained by applying the mathematical modeling and simulation to the dual-fiber interferometer fringe projection system. To achieve a clear projection fiber interference fringe, the projection space distances are set to 1000 mm. The light surface models of the light-class fringes at $k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3$ are shown in Fig. 4(b).

3 Mathematical Model of Measurement System

The linearity of light and dark fringe optical surfaces gradually improves with the increase in the projection distance and the satisfaction of the far-field and paraxial optics conditions.



(a) generally surface model



(b) projection space distances:1000mm

Fig. 4 Light surface models of light-class interference fringes at different projection distances. (a) Generally surface model and (b) projection space distances: 1000 mm.

The interference fringes are projected onto a plane surface. The intensity distribution of the fringes in the parallel direction to the connection line of the fiber output-end core is a cosine function.

This section focuses on the construction of the mathematical model of the relationship between the phase of the projected fringes and the surface height of the measured object. In the reference plane R , we assumed two orthogonal directions, namely, the x - and y -axes. The vertical direction to R is the z -axis, whereas the interference fringe projected in the direction parallel to R is the x -axis. An array camera is used for capturing the fringe images in the z direction. The height difference $h(x)$ deforms the interference fringes when objects are present on R , and the deformation quantity is relative to the height difference $h(x)$ of the measured object surface to R . In the fringe images, the intensity of light points with equal y values is different from the cosine

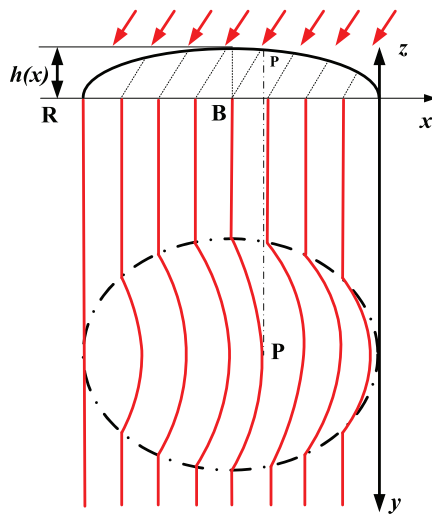


Fig. 5 The top view of fringes modulated by object.

distribution in the same period, as shown in Fig. 5. All the points in the captured images are modulated by the measured objects, and the parallel fringe images of R are different. The phase variation depends on the actual 3-D height (depth) of the point on the object's surface.

A mathematical model of the measured object height $h(x)$ and the modulated interference fringe-phase information $\Delta\varphi(x)$ are obtained, as shown in Fig. 6. The optical center of the plane array camera lens is E_c . The connection line center of the two optical fiber output-ends is E_p . P is any point on the surface of the measured object. The projection of point B on R , which is modulated by the measured object, becomes P when an object is placed before R . The projection of P on R is P' . Therefore, PP' is the height $h(x)$ of point P .

The point B is likely to shift to the point A in the interference fringe images captured by the plane array camera because the light intensity at A , which is similar to that at P , on the reference plane is modulated by the object surface.

Therefore, the height of P is related to the distance of A that shifts to point B . The mathematical model of the measurement system is derived from the fixed y -axis. In accordance with the similar triangle relationship of E_pPE_c with APB , the following expression is obtained:

$$\frac{|x_A - x_B|}{d_0} = \frac{|h(x)|}{l_0 - |h(x)|}, \tag{6}$$

where d_0 is the distance of the fiber output-end cores to the camera lens center and referred to as the baseline distance. The height of the camera lens optical center to the reference plane is l_0 . Then, the interference fringe images of the cosine distribution are projected onto the reference plane. In the captured image $s(x)$ with spatial frequency f_0 in the x -direction, A is the background light intensity of the interference fringe images. The projected optic intensity $s(x)$ on the reference plane in the x -direction is

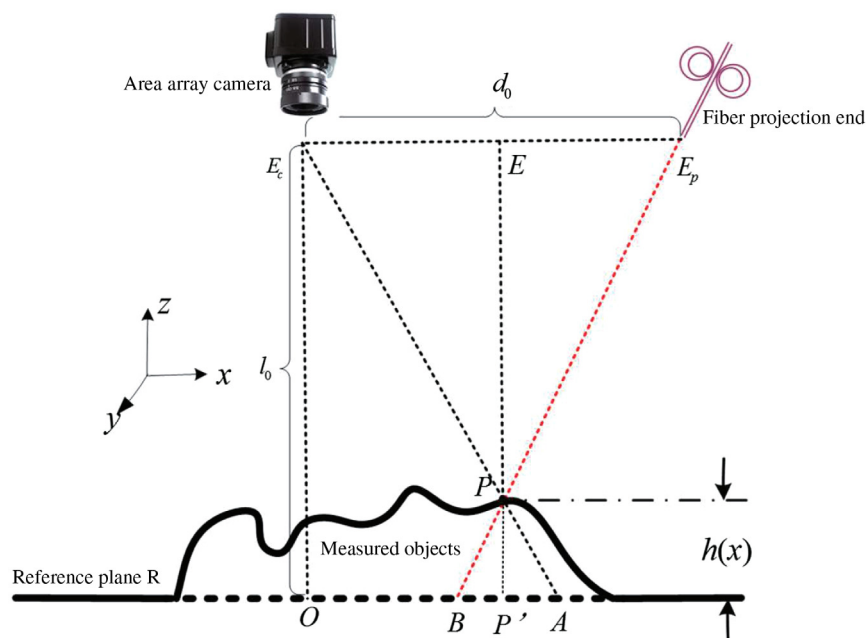


Fig. 6 Phase-height geometry model of the measured object.

$$s(x) = A \cos[2\pi f_0 x + \varphi(x)]. \quad (7)$$

In the reference plane R , the point B shifted to the point A , which corresponds to shift of phase $\varphi_B(x)$ to $\varphi_A(x)$. Therefore, $AB = |x_A - x_B| = \Delta\varphi(x)/2\pi f_0$ is derived. Hence, the height of point P is

$$|h(x)| = \frac{l_0 \Delta\varphi(x)}{2\pi f_0 d_0 + \Delta\varphi(x)}. \quad (8)$$

In the equation $\Delta\varphi(x) = \varphi_A(x) - \varphi_B(x)$, the full-field 3-D information of the object surface topography can be obtained by utilizing the array camera for capturing the deformation fringe images modulated by a measured object and the images of a reference plane. Then, a digital image processing method is used for obtaining the entire view-field phase change.

4 Stabilization Control of Phase of Interference Fringes

The system uses the optical interferometer to design a fringe-structured light projection system. The main factors that cause the phase shift of the interference fringe patterns on the screen in the projected light field are as follows: ① stability of the laser output wavelength, ② change in the length and refractive index of the fiber caused by the temperature variation, ③ polarization changes in the optical fiber light, and ④ structured light projection distance variation caused by the environmental vibration. The wavelength stability is determined in the experiment, and the polarization changes are not the main factors affecting the phase of the interference fringes. The projection system is constructed on a precision optical vibration isolation platform, which strongly inhibits the projection distance changes caused by the environmental vibration. Therefore, the optical path difference and refractive index changes of the fiber interference arm caused by the ambient temperature fluctuations are the main factors that stabilize the fringe phases.

If the laser is placed in the optical fiber and the length of the fiber is L , the variations in the fiber refractive index and length is likely to cause the projected fringe phase change $\Delta\varphi$

$$\Delta\varphi = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} L(T_0)n(T_0)(\alpha_1 + C_T)(T - T_0), \quad (9)$$

where L is the fiber length when the temperature is T_0 , $n(T_0)$ is the refractive index at different temperatures ($n \approx 1.46$, $T_0 = 25^\circ\text{C}$), and α_1 is the coefficient of linear thermal expansion when the wavelength of the laser is 632.8 nm. The temperature coefficient of optical refraction is $C_T \approx 0.662 \times 10^{-5}$. The length difference between the two fiber arms in the interference fringe projecting system was 20 to 30 mm. A phase shift of 2 to 3 rad is obtained in Eq. (9), and the ambient temperature change is 10°C . Thus, the phase shift affects the accuracy of the 3-D morphology measurement of a tested object based on the optical fiber-projected fringes. The phase stability control of the interference fringes is highly critical.

The phase of the projected fringes should remain stable such that the images captured by a camera are accurate and clear. The phase shift of the interference fringes can be achieved by adjusting the laser output wavelength and position of the background viewing screen. However, the following two major disadvantages are identified: ① The change in the output wavelength of the laser would generate noise, and the laser spectral linewidth could affect the projected fringe contrast. ② The phase requires precision automatic displacement equipment to change the position of the viewing screen and establish various projection distances.

In this work, the fiber arm length is changed through the proposed method for the stable control of the interference fringes. Furthermore, an optical phase control system is used to modulate the fiber arm lengths in accordance with the optical path difference and for stabilizing the projected fringe phase. The optical fiber interferometer arm is intertwined with the cylindrical PZT. The optical phase modulation system generates the control signal to deform the PZT. The fiber arms are stretched and compressed, thereby changing the optical path difference of the two interference arms to offset the phase shift caused by the ambient temperature fluctuation and to stabilize the projected fringe phase.

Figure 7 shows an all-fiber model for an optical interferometer, which has numerous advantages as follows: (1) only a pair of the coupling lens is required for reducing the optical power losses in coupling. (2) The Fresnel reflection light signal at the output terminal of the two interferometer arms disrupts the output terminal of the 2×2 3-dB optical coupler when the Michelson optical fiber interferometer is used. The reflected interference optical signal can be used for monitoring the phase difference between the two interferometer arms and achieve a closed-loop phase control through the

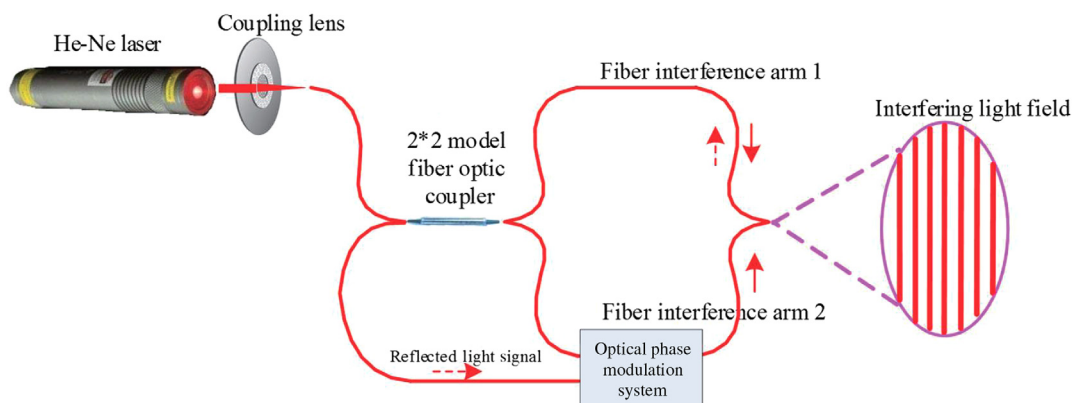


Fig. 7 Mach-Zehnder fiber interferometer phase modulation chart.

optical phase modulation system. For laser transmission in a single-mode fiber, the phase information of which is straightforwardly affected by the temperature fluctuations in the environment, a fringe phase control system is designed, which utilizes the PZT as the strain drive sensor. The axial strain alters the optical path, which compensates for the interference caused by the fringe phase shift. A phase-tracking algorithm is used to monitor the phase fluctuation of the interferometer arms. Then, a servo control system is designed for producing a control signal required for driving the PZT and for controlling the phase stability of the interference fringes.

The principle of the active phase-tracking homodyne detection method based on the optical fiber interferometer is as follows: the phase-tracking detection and modulation units produce identical phase variation and are converted to a voltage signal when the temperature fluctuations cause the phase shift of the interference fringes. Therefore, the phase stability control is compensated by the amount of phase shift.

The phase-tracking detection and modulation unit is installed on the optical fiber interferometer arm to achieve the phase detection and modulation of the interferometer arm by the feedback voltage signal, thereby validating the effectiveness of the phase difference between the two interferometer arms in the quadrature condition

$$\varphi_0 + \varphi_s(t) - \Delta\varphi(t) = n\pi + \frac{\pi}{2}n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots, \quad (10)$$

where φ_0 is the initial phase difference between the interferometer arms, $\varphi_s(t)$ is the random phase variation of the interferometer arms caused by environmental temperature fluctuations, and $\Delta\varphi(t)$ is the phase shift compensation of the phase-tracking modulation units. The output voltage of the phase detection unit that detects the light intensity from the two optical fiber arm ends can be expressed as follows:

$$\begin{cases} V_1(t) = V\{1 + \frac{1}{2}\cos[\varphi_0 + \varphi_s(t) - \Delta\varphi(t)]\} \\ V_2(t) = V\{1 - \frac{1}{2}\cos[\varphi_0 + \varphi_s(t) - \Delta\varphi(t)]\} \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

After the differential amplifier, $V_1(t)$ and $V_2(t)$ are expressed as follows:

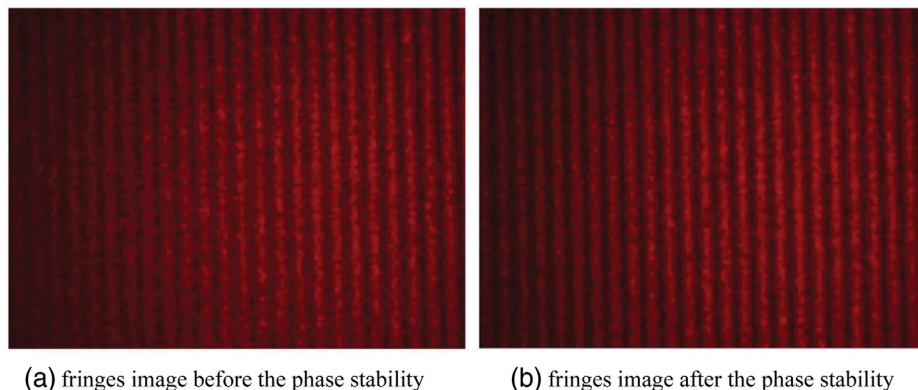


Fig. 8 Interference fringe images captured by an area array camera. (a) Fringe image before the phase stability and (b) fringe image after the phase stability.

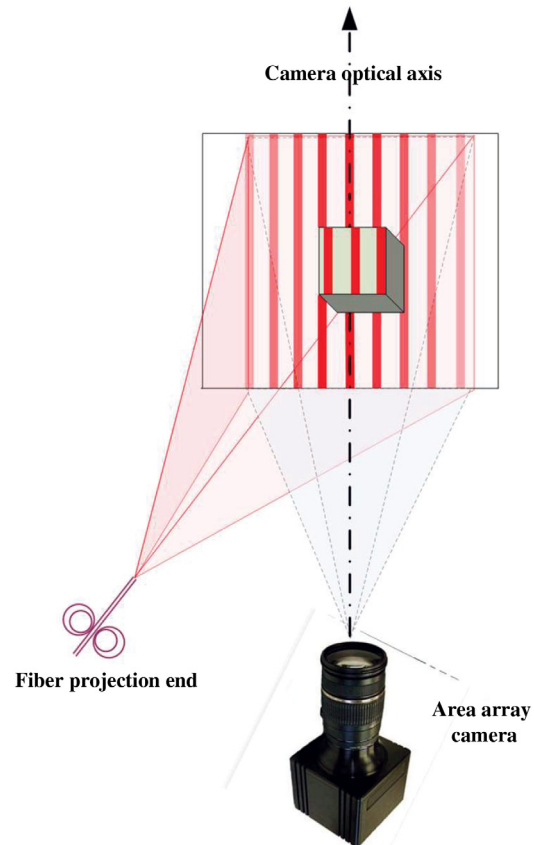


Fig. 9 Schematic of small-object 3-D shape measurement.

$$\begin{aligned} V_3(t) &= ky \cos[\varphi_0 + \varphi_s(t) - \Delta\varphi(t)] \\ &= -ky \sin[\varphi_0 + \varphi_s(t) - \Delta\varphi(t) - \pi/2], \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

where k is the gain of the differential amplifier and y is the phase voltage conversion factor. $V_3(t)$ can be approximated as zero when the phase difference between the two optical fiber arms is at the quadrature state. If the random phase shift $\varphi_s(t)$ compels the system to deviate from the quadrature state, $V_3(t) \neq 0$; hence, this condition generates a phase error signal $\Delta\varphi_s(t)$. The signal $\Delta\varphi_s(t)$ with integration operation as a feedback control voltage to drive the

PZT expansion and contraction alters the optical path difference between the two optical interferometer arms to generate phase shift compensation signal $\Delta\varphi(t)$. Finally, the interferometer system is maintained at the quadrature operating situation. We design the integral feedback circuit to accumulate error and maintain the system steady. The signal $V_3(t)$ is integrated to drive the PZT. The interferometer produces the phase shift optical output. The feedback voltage $V_f(t)$ is defined as follows:

$$V_f(t) = g \int_0^{t_0} V_3(t) dt, \quad (13)$$

where g is the integral coefficient. The feedback signal $V_f(t)$ was applied to the PZT, thereby obtaining the phase change between the two optical interferences at $\Delta\varphi(t) = KV_f(t)$. The factors k, y, g , and K are adjusted such that the interferometer in the orthogonal state is maintained:

$$KV_f(t) = \varphi_s(t) + \varphi_0 - \frac{\pi}{2}. \quad (14)$$

According to this principle, an active phase-tracking homodyne detection method can achieve phase stability and compensation processing for the phase modulation fiber sensing system. Moreover, a precise and real-time phase measurement with high accuracy can be achieved.

The interference fringe images are captured by an area array camera when the temperature fluctuates, as shown in Fig. 8(a). Then, the fringes become fuzzy. However, as shown by Fig. 8(b), the fringe images indicate a high resolution and clear details through the phase stability system. Therefore, the phase stability system is suitable for the accurate 3-D shape measurement of small-object surfaces.

5 Experimental Results and Analysis

In accordance with the small-object 3-D shape measurement principle and mathematical model based on optical fiber interference fringe projection, we constructed

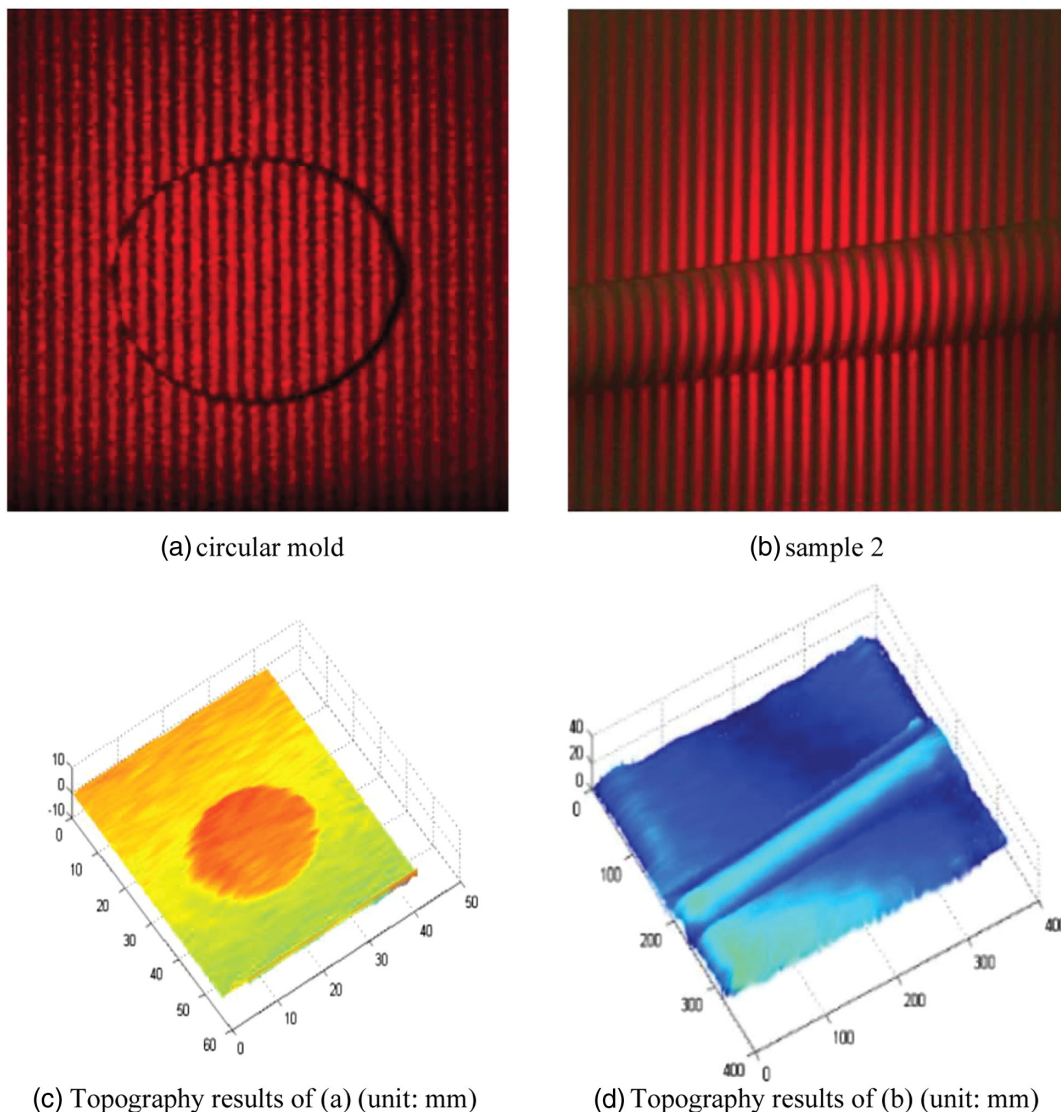


Fig. 10 The result of small object 3-D shape measurement. (a) Circular mold, (b) sample 2, (c) topography results of (a) (unit: mm), and (d) topography results of (b) (unit: mm).

a Mach–Zehnder interferometer capable of high-density structure light fringe pattern projections within a small field-of-view range (the field radius was 50 mm) and 3-D measurement of small objects. Because we were researching on the measurement technology for the small-object surface 3-D shape, the range of dimensions of the measured objects is 4 to 1000 mm². Therefore, in order to ensure that the objects can be included in the interference fringes projection area completely, we must obtain high spatial frequency projection fringes in the field of radius 50 mm. We selected the 1101/P-type He–Ne gas laser produced by JDS Uniphase Ltd., whose output power is 1.5 mW, wavelength is $\lambda = 632.8$ nm, and output light diameter is $d = 0.63 \pm 3\%$ mm. The fiber used was an F-SV-type single-mode fiber, which operated at a wavelength of 633 nm, core diameter of 4.3 μm , and maximum attenuation of 15 dB/km. An F3284 2 \times 2-type 3-dB single-mode fiber coupler was used in the system as the spectroscopic equipment. The numerical aperture was 0.13, which matched the single-mode fiber and coupling lens.

The system of the working principle is shown in Fig. 9. The reference plane was placed in the interference fringe projected field, with a distance to the optical output end of 500 mm and an interference fringe diameter of 100 mm. The interference fringe images projected on the reference plane exhibit the highest brightness after trimming a precise fiber coupling platform, and the number of interference fringes is ~ 30 in the field of radius 50 mm; moreover, the number of fringes superposed on the object requires a change in projection and fiber core distance. The number is related to fringe-phase extraction algorithms because the higher the spatial frequency, the higher is the phase extraction accuracy; therefore, the maximum fringe-number density is the optimum number under the current interferometer hardware conditions. The phase stabilization system steadied the phase of the interference fringes patterns. The resolution of the area array CMOS camera (i-SPEED3 Olympus) was 1280 \times 1024. The camera was positioned perpendicular to the reference plane. The interference fringes on the reference plane were placed at the center position of the imaging plane of the camera.

In the actual measurements, the interference fringe images on the reference plane were considered as the reference. The measured object in front of the reference plane was fixed. This setup enabled the camera to capture the deformed fringe images modulated by the measured object. The input was viewed on a computer. The enhancement and filtering processes for the deformation striped and reference images were considered, and the phase information of the two interference

fringe images was extracted by Fourier transform profilometry and phase unwrapping algorithm. Finally, the height distribution information of the object surface was obtained by using the phase–height mathematical model of the measurement system. The 3-D measurement was obtained from the circular and cylindrical molds through this experimental system. The results are shown in Fig. 10. The accuracy of the measurement system exceeded those of other methods by $\sim 44.1\%$, as presented in Table 1, and the measurement time was shortened by 63.2%. For small-sized components, the root mean square error of the measurement results attained 0.612, which satisfied the requirements of practical applications.

6 Conclusion

In this work, a new method was designed for measuring the 3-D topographies of small objects on the basis of fiber interference fringe projection. The method was validated by constructing a mathematical model in accordance with the 3-D information of objects recovered by the fringe phase information extraction algorithm. This model enabled the height measurement of objects within a 10 \times 10 cm area, and the measurement system significantly improved the speed and accuracy. The 3-D topography measurement of the small parts was achieved by programming the host computer software, which further verified the feasibility of the 3-D measurement system based on fiber optic interferometric fringe projection.

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Table 1 Measurement results (mm).

Measuring object	Actual height value	DLP	Physical gratings	Optical fiber
Step	9	7.632	10.012	8.953
Round table	5	6.235	6.354	5.121
Ramp board	6.5	3.397	4.553	6.734
Cylinder	7.5	9.245	8.932	7.236

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