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Proceedings of the 2nd International Symposium on Diffraction Structural Biology (ISDSB2007)

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Design and performance of a multilayered mirror monochromator in the low-energy region of the VUV

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For the energy region from tens to hundreds of electron volts, the multilayered mirror (MLM) monochromator has never been realized due to the difficulty of reducing the background noise of the total reflection component, in spite of its usefulness in synchrotron radiation experiments. In this work, a double-crystal-type MLM monochromator equipped with a thin film filter has been designed on the basis of the trial fabrication of MLMs, the driving system and of Mo/Si multilayered mirrors. The design has been evaluated by calculation. The results have shown that the background noise is sufficiently reduced with an appropriate thin film filter. The present prototype monochromator has a practical angular range of incident angles of 10–80° and a low background noise level.

Keywords: multilayered mirror monochromators.

1. Introduction

Studies of synchrotron-radiation-stimulated processes such as etching and chemical vapour deposition (CVD) began about 12 years ago (Urisu & Kyuragi, 1987) and are still attracting much interest from many researchers. The vacuum ultraviolet (VUV) photons in synchrotron radiation can excite almost all the electronic states of molecules, so a large variety of chemical reaction channels different from that in the usual thermal-CVD are expected to be opened by synchrotron radiation irradiation. In particular, core electrons, which cannot be excited using lasers, are efficiently excited by the VUV photons in synchrotron radiation. The excitation-energy dependence of a photochemical reaction is important basic data. However, it has not been sufficiently investigated in the VUV region, because of the difficulty in obtaining energy-tunable monochromated light with sufficient photon flux ($>10^{13}$ photons s^{-1}) in the VUV region.

A multilayered mirror (MLM) monochromator is already in use in the high-energy region of the VUV (Barbee *et al.*, 1987). Concerning the low-energy regions, one of the present authors previously tried to use an MLM as a dispersion element in synchrotron-radiation-stimulated experiments. However, this was unsuccessful due to the difficulty in removing the background noise, consisting of total reflection components appearing at less than a few tens of eV. Therefore, in this work, we have designed a double-crystal-type MLM (Golovchenko *et al.*, 1981; Murata *et al.*, 1992) monochromator combined with an appropriate thin-film filter. The design is based on the trial fabrication of MLMs

and the driving system for them. We have found that the low-energy background noise is sufficiently removed by using the MLMs at low incident angles combined with a carbon or molybdenum filter.

2. Design of the monochromator and mirrors

2.1. Monochromator

We adopted the monochromator driving system proposed by Golovchenko *et al.* (1981). The centres (*A* and *B*, respectively) of the first and the second MLMs are set on the *XY* and *YZ* lines which form a rigid right angle *XYZ*, with the first MLM parallel and the second perpendicular to the *XY* lines, respectively. A pulsed motor drive slides the first MLM of the *XYZ* linearly, keeping the rotation of the second mirror fixed. The first mirror is rotated around the apex of the *YZ* line so that it is perpendicular to the *XY* line. The second mirror is rotated around the apex of the *XY* line so that it is perpendicular to the *YZ* line. The present prototype monochromator is designed using the mechanical linkage and driving system have been designed so that the beam incident angle can be adjusted to incident angles as small as possible. The present prototype driving system has successfully covered an incident beam angular range (θ) of 10–80°.

2.2. MLMs

The important photon energy region for the experimental investigation of synchrotron radiation processes, especially of the core-electron excitation processes, is from a few tens to hundreds of electron volts. In the present work our attention was focused on the region between 60 and 120 eV, a region for which fairly high reflectivity is obtained by using Mo/Si (for 60–90 eV) and

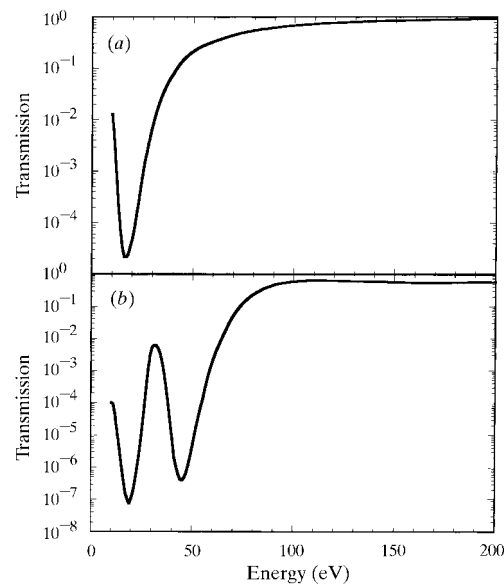


Figure 1 The calculated transmission for (a) a 100 nm-thick carbon filter and (b) a 100 nm-thick molybdenum filter.

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article format (not to scale)

238 mm

183 mm

88 mm

Table 1
Specifications of optical components.

Component	Specifications	
Mo/Si MLM	Substrate	Si wafer (40 × 40 mm)
	Number of layers	20
	Period, d	12.5 nm (12.4 nm) [†]
	Thickness ratio, Mo/Si	3/7 (3.25/6.75) [†]
Mo/C MLM	Substrate	Si wafer (40 × 40 mm)
	Number of layers	50
	Period, d	7.5 nm (7.9 nm) [†]
	Thickness ratio, Mo/C	1/1 (5.5/4.5) [†]
	Interface roughness, σ	(0.4 nm) [†]

[†] Values determined by fitting to the observed Cu $K\alpha$ line diffraction curves.

Mo/C (for 85–120 eV) MLMs. This energy region includes the core-electron binding energies of Al ($2s$: 119 eV; $2p$: 74 eV) and Si ($2p$: 103 eV), which are important materials in semiconductor processes. To reduce the background noise in the low-energy region due to the total reflection, it is necessary to use the MLM at low incident angles. The Mo/Si and Mo/C MLMs were therefore designed so that they could cover the Al $2s$ and $2p$ and Si $2p$ binding energies in the incident angle range of 10–50°. In addition, more, the detailed structural parameters have been determined so that the reflectivity is high and the reflectivity is periodic. Both Mo/Si and Mo/C MLMs were first calculated by using the Cu $K\alpha$ line diffraction data, as shown in Fig. 2(a). The interface roughness between the layers is assumed to be 0.4 nm (Porteus, 1990). The detailed structural parameters and diffraction data, are listed in Table 1.

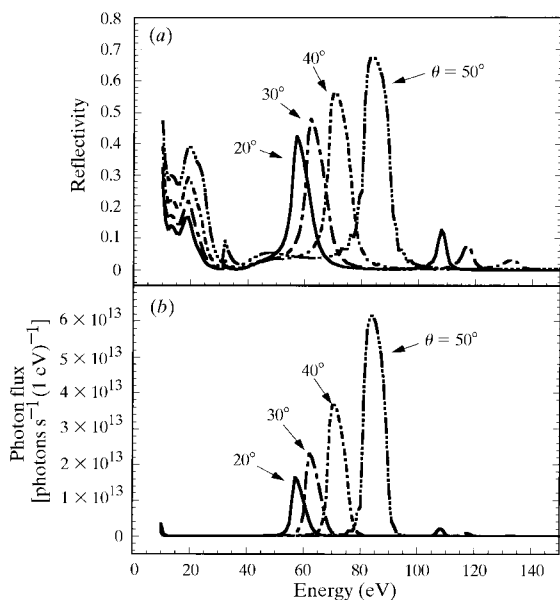


Figure 2
(a) Calculated reflectivity for the Mo/Si MLM and (b) output photon flux of the monochromator using Mo/Si MLMs plus C filter for a 100 mA ring current and a 16.56×12.79 mrad² acceptance angle of the pre-mirror, assuming that the monochromator is set up in the beamline BL-4A1 of the UVSOR.

2.3. Thin-film filters

The transmission characteristics of the thin-film filter have been calculated for several materials and it has been found that carbon and molybdenum are useful for reducing the background noise at energies below 70 eV. The transmission spectra calculated for 100 nm-thick carbon and molybdenum film filters are shown in Figs. 1(a) and 1(b), respectively.

3. Performance of the monochromator

The performance of the MLM monochromator, designed as described above, was evaluated by calculating what the basic characteristics, such as output photon flux, resolution, monochromaticity and tuning range, would be if the monochromator were set up as part of the beamline (BL-4A1) of the synchrotron radiation storage ring at the UVSOR. In this case, the beam emitted from the bending magnet is reflected by an elliptical mirror with a focal length of 4 m and an angle of 4°. The horizontal and vertical beam sizes are 10 cm and 2 mm, respectively, and the beam energy is 100 eV. The calculated photon flux is 1×10^{14} to 5×10^{14} photons s⁻¹ (3 × 10¹³ to 4 × 10¹³ photons s⁻¹) and the resolution is 5–9 eV (2–4 eV) FWHM. The calculated results are similar to those obtained with a typical undulator. Given that the MLM monochromator can select the photon energy continuously and that the mixing of higher-order photons is small, it is suggested that the present monochromator will be better than an undulator for use in synchrotron radiation experiments. We conclude from this work that the background noise due to the total reflection, which prevented the MLM monochromator from being used in the VUV low-energy region, can be sufficiently reduced by using double-crystal-type MLMs at low incident angles combined with a carbon or molybdenum thin-film filter.

The output beam photon fluxes calculated for various incident angles are shown in Fig. 2(b) for the case of Mo/Si MLM plus C filter. It is clearly shown that the filter drastically reduces the low-energy background noise. It is less than 1% (3%) of the main flux, where the value in parentheses is for the case of Mo/C MLM plus Mo filter. The higher-order photons background noise is less than 4% (0.1%). The calculated photon flux is 1×10^{14} to 5×10^{14} photons s⁻¹ (3 × 10¹³ to 4 × 10¹³ photons s⁻¹) and the resolution is 5–9 eV (2–4 eV) FWHM. The calculated results are similar to those obtained with a typical undulator. Given that the MLM monochromator can select the photon energy continuously and that the mixing of higher-order photons is small, it is suggested that the present monochromator will be better than an undulator for use in synchrotron radiation experiments. We conclude from this work that the background noise due to the total reflection, which prevented the MLM monochromator from being used in the VUV low-energy region, can be sufficiently reduced by using double-crystal-type MLMs at low incident angles combined with a carbon or molybdenum thin-film filter.

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238 mm