

October 2009

Sector: Instrumentation Sub-Sectors: Measurement, positioning, detection, imaging

High-speed high-precision laser range finder (LRF)

Information Summary

For review for potential collaboration and/or licensing

Summary

Technology Overview: Real-time ultrahigh-resolution 2D/3D object imaging, ranging or sensing over very long distances

Applications: Non-contact real-time industrial solutions for measurement, High-resolution depth imaging for multiple reflections, positioning, automation, monitoring, collision prevention etc. Real-time medical imaging

Validation: Experimental proof-of-concept

Needs: Detection accuracy, fast scanning, high depth resolution, transversal resolution, long detection range

Ideal Partner or Receptor: LRF or industrial sensor manufacturer

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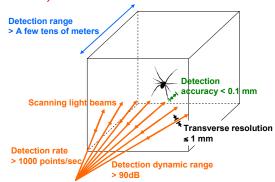
Technology summary

Researchers at INRS have recently invented and developed a novel interferometric concept that can be directly used for implementing a high-speed ultrahigh-accuracy coherent LRF capable of providing a measurement range over tens of meters with a high depth-resolution and unprecedented scanning rates. The technology is based on a totally new concept for broadband interferometry. Its key performance parameters are far superior to those provided by presently available technologies, including the time-of-flight (TOF) range finder method and conventional interferometry-based measurement / ranging systems.

Benefits

- Measurement range > ten meters
- Range detection accuracy < 0.1mm 100fold improvement over that of conventional LRF

Institut national de la recherche scientifique Centre - Énergie Matériaux Télécommunications • Depth resolution for multiple objects along the line-of-sight (new tomographic feature) - < 5 mm



- High transversal resolution ≤1mm over the whole measurement range
- Ultra-high sensitivity >80dB
- Fast scanning operation >> 1000 frames/s
 ideally suited for dynamic measurements
- Estimated production cost much lower than the Laser Radars
- Eye safe, invisible(IR) light source

Market Need

Non-contact real-time distance measurements, offering spatial accuracy in the micron regime with high resolution tomographic feature and operation ranges over tens of meters, are needed in a wide range of industrial, medical and scientific applications, particularly for dynamic 2D/3D positioning, imaging and detection of non-static micro-featured objects. Our technology provides a drastic improvement over existing technologies, such as the time-of-flight (TOF) method and conventional interferometry, by offering an unprecedented combination of performance specifications.