CEOI Pathfinder Project "Freeform Gratings for Ultra-compact Spectrograph Designs"

CEOI Project Showcase Monday 10th December ECSAT, Harwell

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Project's objectives

 Can diamond machined metallic freeform gratings be a viable solution for remote sensing spectrographs on an airborne or space platform ?



2. What particular activity in EO will benefit most from a multichannel imaging spectrograph?

Green house gas monitoring ?

Agriculture ?

Pollution monitoring?

3. Can multi-channel imaging spectrographs offer a new capability compared with previous hyperspectral imager designs?

Metallic gratings advantages ?

Compactness ?

New design possibilities ?

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1. Can diamond machined metallic freeform gratings be a viable solution for remote sensing spectrographs on an airborne or space platform ?



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Technology developments and achievements

- Manufacturing process optimisation
 - Cutting parameters
 - Choice of material

- Multiblaze freeform grating development
- Design of an innovative compact spectrograph based on :
 - ➢ An image slicer
 - > A freeform grating array
 - A compact layout using a multichannel capability with a single common sensor





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achievements





different gratings

Scan direction

spectra



• Design of an innovative compact spectrograph based on :

slit

- An image slicer
- A freeform grating array
- A compact layout using a multichannel capability with a single common sensor

achievements

• Viable solution for remote sensing spectrographs?

• Applications ?

• New capability of hyperspectral imager?

Science requirements	validation
Field of View	\checkmark
Wavefront error	×
Spatial resolution	\checkmark
Spectral resolution	×
Surface roughness	\checkmark
Stray Light/Ghosts	-
Form of the groove (NiP)	\checkmark
Pitch	\checkmark

achievements

• Viable solution for remote sensing spectrographs?

• Applications ?

• New capability of hyperspectral imager?

 similar to the Orbiting Carbon Observatory on nanosatellites to target narrow spectral bandwidth at mid to high spectral resolution.

- chlorophyll fluorescence related to photosynthetic efficiency [600-677nm]
- red edge spectrum [677-740nm]
- surface moisture with water absorption band at 1.4µm.

- achievements
- Viable solution for remote sensing spectrographs?

• Applications ?

 New capability of hyperspectral imager?

- Most pushbroom scan systems use a single dispersive element which restricts either the waveband coverage or the spectral resolution.
- Most pushbroom systems incorporate multiples optical elements.

This new capability will allow multiple wavebands and spectral resolution to be imaged on a single detector, significantly simplifying the system while maximising the throughput.

Additional benefits

• EPSRC fellowship : A novel hyperspectral imager for precision agriculture



• Partnership :

