

INTERFEROMETRIC SENSORS

See your smart factory run more efficiently with our high-end optical sensors

THE EYES OF SMART INDUSTRY

What does industry need to meet the fast-moving demands of smart manufacturing? On the one hand, automated manufacturing processes; on the other hand, individual machines that are transformed into intelligent cyber systems by integrating smart sensors. In all these processes optical measuring technology offers many advantages, not least data volume, speed, and flexibility for status and process monitoring applications as well as high-end quality control in the required cycle times.



In precision metrology interferometry can be used for highprecision measurements of distance or displacement of up to 20 mm, and for microstructure measurements with sub-micrometer resolution. Interferometry is also suitable for quality assurance-, surface- and thickness-, and speedmeasurements. As one of the fundamental building blocks of today's smart factories, intelligent sensors are key enablers for production resources that configure, control, manage and optimize themselves. As reliable ultra-precise sensor data are crucial for production environments, interferometric sensors serve as pairs of eyes for smart production machines in stateof-the-art factories.

HOW THESE EYES WORK

After spectrally broadband light is focused on a sample, the reflections from the front and back surface are collected. Interferometric sensors measure the interference between two or more reflected beams from the first and second layer of the measuring sample, which results in a spectrum.

This spectrum displays a modulation with a frequency linked to the thickness of the sample: the thinner the object, the lower the observed frequency. Calculating the Fourier transformation of the spectrum leads to one peak that instantly shows the optical thickness. If the refractive index of the object is known, the absolute layer thickness can be calculated. This technique is also ideally suited to multilayer thickness measurements.



HOW YOU BENEFIT

- Utmost precision for infrared transparent materials in the µm range
- High-speed real-time processing and analysis for quality control in short cycle times
- Wear-free durability thanks to non-contact technology
- Easy integration into production processes
- Small, compact footprint for use in highly integrated systems or difficult-to-access areas



Interferometric measuring technology from Precitec Optronik, the pioneering force in interferometry, offers you multiple advantages:

- Ultra-precise thickness measurements from 0.6 - 15,000 µm
- Measurement of all infrared-transparent materials with rough, reflective, transparent or opaque surfaces
- Sensor technology suitable for harsh industrial environments, even for measurements in liquids such as water, oil or acids
- Insensitive to heat, humidity or vibration
- Ideal for high speed inline inspections up to 70 kHz

THE EXPERTISE TO ADVANCE YOUR BUSINESS

The expertise and experience Precitec Optronik has gained in interferometric technology enable us to enhance our customers' production processes and make them more competitive in a wide range of industrial applications.



CONSUMER ELECTRONICS

Our interferometric probes enable rigorous quality tests on consumer electronic products (e.g. smartphones, tablets and wearables) for maximal yield through fast, non-contact measurements at unparalleled precision and reliability. Applications include highly accurate inline inspection of the flatness and thickness of components, e.g. cover glasses. Measurements are possible from a large distance, and parts may be moving or covered with protective films. Through ultrafast interferometric scanning of the areas of interest at lateral speeds up to 300 mm/s and the absolute correlation of the data obtained, our sensors make complex inline inspections straightforward.

SEMICONDUCTORS

For more than a decade, our CHRocodile IT series has proven its capabilities in non-destructive optical measurements as the favored technique for thickness measurements of wafers, glues, and coatings. These reliable high-speed tools detect end point thicknesses in-situ during workpiece treatment in CMP, back grinding and spin etching. Consistent end-point detection generates a higher throughput coupled with a more accurate and repeatable product quality. Additionally, optical monitoring makes the process much more efficient, which reduces material waste.





GLASS

To control the surfaces and especially the thickness of glass during production, a contact-free measuring system is needed. For many applications in the glass industry, e.g. architecture glass, the panels can be quite thick, have multiple layers, and also be highly tinted. The only possible solution for contact-free thickness measurement is an interferometric sensor. With its large measuring ranges our CHRocodile 2 IT series can measure distances and thicknesses of 0.6 - 15,000 μ m, and with measuring rates of up to 70 kHz can quickly measure large areas. What's more, the measurements are highly accurate with lateral resolutions in the μ m-range, thus enabling resolution of even small structures.



MEDICINE

The CHRocodile 2 IT is perfectly suitable for glass tube measurements, e.g. during syringe manufacturing. Thanks to the high measuring range and interferometry selectivity it is impossible to miss the top of the tube. The same is true for plastic tubes – and even more so if the tube is translucent, not transparent. Medical solution bags can also be easily inspected in a lab or on a production line. Around the coronary stents the CHRocodile 2 IT will measure the thickness of the film envelopes or any coatings. Biocompatible or biostable coatings that are often applied to medical devices can also be precisely measured to check if sufficient material has been applied.

AUTOMOTIVE GLASS

Highly popular technologies such as head-up displays have increased the need for accurately shaped high-quality windshields. The lightweighting trend is another reason for the necessity of quality control, as thinner multi-layer glasses still have to fulfill all safety requirements. Typical state-of-the-art windshields contain a plastic foil between two layers of glass. As our interferometric sensors are capable of resolving all the desired curvatures and thicknesses of all the above-mentioned layers, this technology is superior to tactile sensors. Thanks to the large measuring range and excellent axial resolution our CHRocodile IT products measure thick and highly tinted glasses with excellent precision and without touching any surface.



AUTOMOTIVE COATINGS

Thickness inspection of a conformal coating – created by spraying a dielectric material onto a device component to protect it from moisture, dust, corrosion and other environmental stresses – is necessary to guarantee 100% protection. As these coatings are so thin, our interferometric technology is used to measure their thickness. Our CHRocodile IT products ensure rapid throughput, minimum cycle times and high product volumes in high-precision applications.





PLASTICS

Our dedicated interferometric sensors deliver the thickness and topography values required for various types of plastic foils, containers and PET bottles. This flexibility is very handy, especially during foil production, as different machine parameters can be adjusted instantaneously based on the sensor's values. The infrared light source enables the thickness of different kinds of even optically non-transparent or completely opaque plastics to be measured.

PIONEERS IN INTERFEROMETRY – WHY PRECITEC OPTRONIK STANDS OUT

As an innovation-driven sensor technology specialist for industrial and scientific applications, Precitec Optronik has been developing and manufacturing interferometric sensors for decades. With around 12% of our total turnover spent on research and development (R&D) we employ 25 - 30 R&D specialists in an overall workforce of around 100. Through listening closely to what our customers tell us, we can apply our R&D expertise to develop products that meet their precise needs. And by reacting quickly to our customers' needs, we can apply our R&D expertise to develop products of great interest to several industries. Our experience in the field of interferometry has resulted in developments such as the Area Scan Probe (Flying Spot Scanner), a pioneering point-of-interest area probe featuring a technology that is unmatched in the sensor industry.

UNPARALLELED PRODUCT PORTFOLIO

To meet your needs in high-precision interferometric sensor technology, we offer:

- Point inspection
- Area inspection with a scanning diameter of up to 80 mm
- Probes for special applications, e.g. acid-proof, water-proof or compact spacers
- OEM supplier

STANDARD-SETTING CUSTOMER SUPPORT

We are not just in the business of selling interferometric measuring equipment. Our goal is to sustainably support your business through the entire lifecycle of our products. That is why we strongly invest in standard-setting customer support via a global sales and service team made up of highly qualified and experienced engineers. For us, 360° customer service and support means:

- Finding solutions for your measuring task through dedicated R&D
- Running test measurements on your samples in five application labs worldwide
- Supporting you in on-site tests
- Providing software and mechanical support to facilitate the integration of our sensors into your production processes

CHROCODILE IT POINT SENSORS – UTMOST PRECISION, HIGH FLEXIBILITY

Precitec Optronik has used its decades of experience to develop a large variety of interferometric controllers and probes with a broad spectrum of infrared light sources. Their flexibility makes them suitable for a wide range of non-destructive measurement applications – from thin to thick materials and small to large measuring areas.

The thickness of coated or layered materials is measured from one side in a measuring range of $0.6 - 15,000 \,\mu\text{m}$ and a working distance tolerance of almost 100 mm. Their high measuring speed makes these devices perfectly suitable for inline applications, while an integrated pilot laser greatly simplifies the alignment process of the sensor with respect to the measuring sample.



HOW YOU BENEFIT

- Efficiency: Cost- and time-efficient, precise, rapid, non-contact measurements
- Universal: Measures distance and thickness on all surfaces inline and offline with high lateral resolution
- User-friendly and safe: Robust and simple to integrate into production lines for non-destructive measurement
- Automatic light control and pilot laser

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

	CHRocodile 2 IT	CHRocodile 2 IT RW		CHRocodile 2 IT DW	
Measuring range	CHR 2 IT 500: 38 µm - 4300 µm CHR 2 IT 1000: 64 µm - 7500 µm CHR 2 IT 1300: 87 µm - 10000 µm CHR 2 IT 1700: 114 µm - 12600 µm	CHR 2 IT RW 500: 44 μm - 4900 μm CHR 2 IT RW 1000: 57 μm - 6400 μm		CHR 2 IT DW 250: 15 µm - 1800 µm CHR 2 IT DW 500: 29 µm - 3000 µm CHR 2 IT DW 1000: 66 µm - 7600 µm	
Measuring rate	up to 70 kHz	up to 70 kHz		up to 70 kHz	
Main application	wafers, (semi-)transparent plastics	rough wafers, nearly opaque plastics		doped & highly doped wafers, measurements in liquids	
	CHRocodile 2 IT HDW	CHRocodile 2 IT HTW	CHRocodile 2	IT LR	CHRocodile 2 K
Measuring range	CHR 2 IT HDW 250: 15 µm - 1800 µm CHR 2 IT HDW 500: 29 µm - 3000 µm	4 μm - 200 μm	16 µm - 2200 µm		up to 1500 µm
Measuring rate	up to 4 kHz	up to 4 kHz	up to 70 kHz		up to 4 kHz
Main application	doped & highly doped wafers, measurements in liquids	thin wafers, thin foils, coatings, adhesives	high lateral resolution / small spot size, roughness measuring		plastics / plastic foils

OPTICAL PROBES THAT SIMPLY SEE FURTHER



FLYING SPOT SCANNER

Precitec Optronik's latest optical probe, the Flying Spot Scanner (FSS), enables high-speed OCT imaging for thickness and topography combinable with all CHRocodile 2 IT sensors. The FSS features pioneering one-of-its-kind technology enabling high-speed non-contact area inspection for inline and offline quality assurance and 3D measurements on a wide range of materials and surfaces.

Point-of-interest (POI) inspections have never been simpler thanks to freely definable scan shapes and filters. The integrated software enables you to set up your application easily. You simply define your own measurement procedure by creating a list of areas of interest. The CHRocodile 2 IT sensor stores the customized procedure and automatically controls the probe, while the software visualizes the results and the statistics.

HOW YOU BENEFIT

- High-speed in motion inspection for inline and offline quality control
- ► Freely definable scan shapes and filters
- ► Telecentric imaging for best results on all surfaces
- Replacement of x,y motion stages

INTERFEROMETRIC OPTICAL PROBES

Our expertise in the field of optics has enabled us to develop high-precision optical probes that deliver excellent performance for interferometric distance and thickness measurements.

Thanks to the very small spot size we reach lateral resolutions down to a few μ m, which allows even small and complex structures to be accurately measured.

The small dimensions of the interferometric probes and the possibility to choose between working distances of 40 mm and 100 mm ensure the probes are easy to integrate, even in production environments with tight spatial requirements. Both optical probes are, of course, compatible with all interferometric CHRocodile sensors.



CHROCODILE 2 SENSOR – THE EYES THAT SEE MORE

Our white-light interferometry takes you beyond the limits of confocal chromatic technology to measure the thickness of thin, transparent layers, e.g. coating, varnish, silicone or transparent films in the 2 - 180 μ m range. Another unique feature of these white-light interferometric sensors is that users can switch from one scanning technology to another – a standard feature at Precitec but not available in competitors' products.



CHROCODILE 2 S/2 SE

HOW YOU BENEFIT

- The allround sensor for non-contact distance and thickness measurements
- ► High speed at up to 66,000 measurements per second
- Simple to integrate into product lines, maintenance-free and robust
- CHRocodile 2 SE option designed for use of high-intensity external light sources for high-speed measurements

CHROCODILE 2 S HS

HOW YOU BENEFIT

- Designed for a maximum signal-to-noise ratio
- Extraordinarily high dynamic response at up to 4,000 measurements per second
- Specially designed for measuring surfaces with differing reflectivity and high incident angles
- Simple to integrate into product lines, maintenance-free and robust

WHERE YOU CAN PROFIT FROM OUR KNOW-HOW

In a wide variety of industries our interferometric products are giving customers clear competitive advantages and making a decisive difference in the industries listed below. If your industry features here, get in touch with us to find out how we can help to enhance your efficiency and make you more competitive.

► CONSUMER ELECTRONICS

► SEMICONDUCTOR INDUSTRY

► GLASS INDUSTRY

► COORDINATE MEASURING MACHINES (CMM)

PLASTIC AND RUBBER PROCESSING

► MEDICINE

► AUTOMOTIVE

► MACHINE TOOLS

► PHOTOVOLTAICS

► FINE MECHANICS

► TOOL MANUFACTURING

► AEROSPACE

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