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Unlocking the potential of ptychographic imaging with upgraded coherent sources

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Recent breakthroughs in electron storage rings have enabled a notable increase in coherent X-ray flux, promising a potential acceleration in coherent imaging speed by several orders of magnitude. However, realizing this speed enhancement requires concurrent advancements in instrumentation and computation algorithms for X-ray ptychography. At the Advanced Photon Source, we have developed high-speed ptychographic scanning that offers distinct advantages in handling decoherence effects, mitigating radiation damage, and providing capability of imaging large 3D volumes. With a prototype pixel area detector operating continuously at 20 kHz, a fast ptychographic scan was showcased at a remarkable scanning speed of 4 mm/s. Furthermore, we demonstrated high-speed ptychographic tomography on lithium nickel manganese cobalt oxide (NMC) samples with dimensions of approximately 10 microns, achieving completion within just a few minutes. These developments will unlock new possibilities for utilizing X-ray ptychography to explore samples into the fourth dimension. This includes enabling the observation of chemical states across relevant energy edges and monitoring sample evolution in in-situ environments.

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