

波片阵列对准误差对激光干涉非线性误差的影响

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摘要 提出了一种基于四象限探测器和波片阵列的集成式干涉信号探测系统。波片阵列的对准误差是激光干涉测量非线性误差的主要来源之一。首先分析了波片阵列对准误差对测量结果的影响机理, 然后利用琼斯矩阵建立了波片阵列对准误差引入的非线性误差模型, 并搭建实验系统进行验证和研究。实验结果表明, 波片阵列引入的非线性误差会随着对准误差的增大而增大, 在 $-20^\circ \sim 20^\circ$ 范围内, 四分之一波片引入的非线性误差在 $0 \sim 13\text{ nm}$ 之间, 二分之一波片引入的非线性误差在 $0 \sim 2.4\text{ nm}$ 之间。研究结果对单频激光干涉测量系统的集成化及非线性误差的分析和消除具有重要的参考价值。

关键词 测量; 位移测量; 激光干涉; 波片; 琼斯矩阵; 非线性误差; 纳米测量

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1 引言

在长度计量领域中, 激光干涉技术^[1]得到了广泛应用, 其中主要采用的是单频激光干涉^[2-4]和双频激光干涉^[5]。单频激光干涉技术可实现高速高精度测量且易集成化, 在工业测量领域受到广泛关注。在典型的单频激光干涉测量系统中, 一般通过四通道接收单元获取正交干涉信号^[6]。在纳米激光干涉技术中, 光源不理想和不稳定、环境变化、光学器件等因素的影响导致非线性误差产生。因此, 确定非线性误差来源^[7], 对其进行抑制与消除, 成为该领域的研究热点^[8-15]。文献[8-12]针对双频激光外差干涉中偏振器件等引起的非线性误差进行了研究。文献[14-15]针对单频激光干涉中波片引起的非线性误差进行了研究。但文献[14]主要为理论分析, 缺乏实验支撑, 文献[15]中的实验结果与理论分析存在较大差异, 并不理想。

传统的四通接收单元体积较大, 不利于集成, 无法应用于对空间及尺寸有较高要求的场景中。针对上述问题, 本文设计了一种基于四象限光电探测器

(QD)^[16]及集成波片阵列的干涉信号探测系统。该系统可获取正交干涉信号, 提高了激光干涉系统的集成度, 可应用于对空间及尺寸有较高要求的场景中。探测系统通过偏振移相和信号差分技术得到干涉测量结果, 系统的非线性误差与波片阵列上各波片快慢轴方向的对准误差有关。本文利用偏振光及光学器件的琼斯矩阵理论^[17-18]进行了仿真和实验验证, 研究分析了集成干涉信号探测器中波片快慢轴方向的夹角对测量结果的影响及带来的误差。

2 测量原理

2.1 传统单频激光干涉测量原理

常见的单频激光干涉光路为迈克耳孙干涉光路, 如图 1 所示, 其中 PBS 为偏振分光棱镜, NPBS 为消偏振分光棱镜, MR 为平面反射镜, QW 为四分之一波片且快轴方向与 x 轴成 45° 角, HW 为二分之一波片且快轴方向与 x 轴成 22.5° 角。

激光器射出的线偏振光经分光后分别进入干涉部分的测量臂和参考臂, 然后在 PBS1 中汇合进入四通道接收单元。四通道接收单元通过分光及延时

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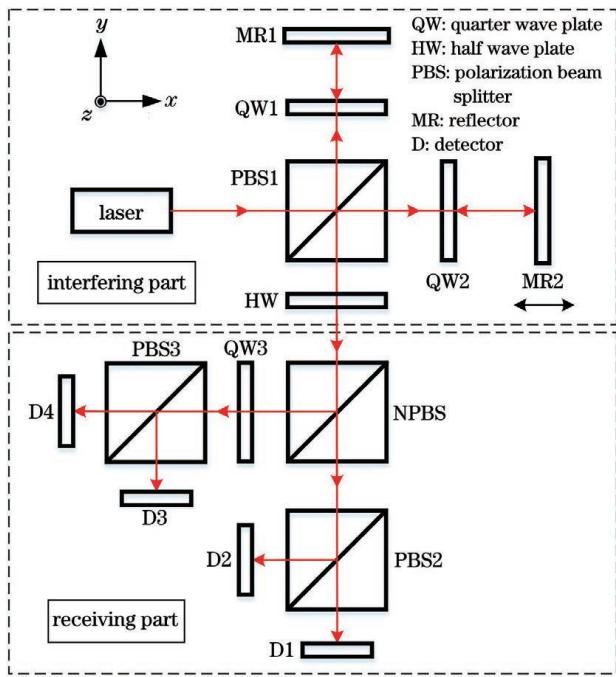


图1 单频激光干涉测量原理图

Fig. 1 Schematic of single-frequency laser interferometry

波片产生四路相位差为 90° 的干涉光,最后通过四个光电探测器D1、D2、D3、D4收集干涉信号并提取出干涉光携带的相位信息,进而求解位移值。

传统的四通道接收单元体积较大,不利于集成,无法应用于对空间及尺寸有较高要求的场景中。根据实际应用项目的要求,设计了一种基于四象限探测器及集成波片阵列的干涉信号探测系统,以获取正交干涉信号。

2.2 基于QD及集成波片阵列的干涉信号探测原理

基于QD及集成波片阵列的干涉信号探测器如图2所示,其中LS1为玻璃镜片,LS2为快轴方向与x轴平行的四分之一波片,LS3为快轴方向与x轴平行的二分之一波片,LS4为快轴方向与x轴垂直的四分之一波片,P为偏振片且与x轴成 45° 角,双向箭头为各波片的快轴方向。

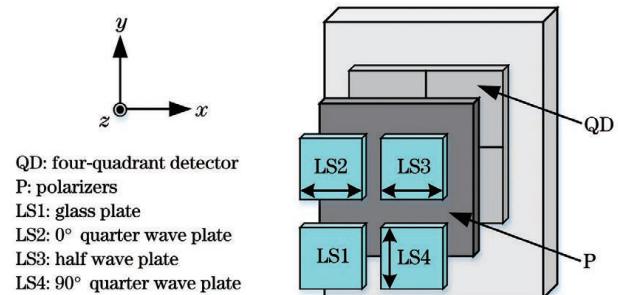


图2 基于QD和集成波片阵列的干涉信号探测器

Fig. 2 Interference signal detector based on QD and integrated wave plate array

基于集成干涉探测器的干涉测量方法与典型的激光单频干涉信号检测方法类似,原理图如图3所示,其中干涉部分保持一致,接收部分换成了集成探测器。经过干涉部分后,参考光及测量光进入探测部分,然后被分束镜分为四个光束,分别照射在LS1、LS2、LS3、LS4上。由波片相位延时特性可知,照射在LS2、LS3、LS4上的测量光与参考光分别产生了 $\pi/2$ 、 π 、 $3\pi/2$ 的相位延时。之后再利用偏振片,将参考光和测量光调节到同一偏振方向发生干涉,四象限探测器接收后得到光电信号。接收部分的集成化大大减小了单频激光干涉系统所占的空间,克服了传统单频激光干涉系统体积大、不灵活的缺点,增加了系统的稳定性,能够应用于对空间及尺寸有较高要求的场景中。

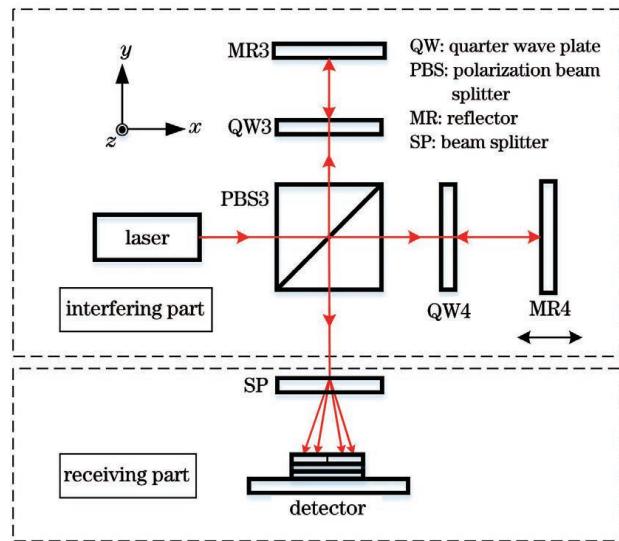


图3 基于QD和集成波片阵列的干涉信号探测原理图

Fig. 3 Schematic of interference signal detection based on QD and integrated wave plate array

设图3中初始线偏振光 E_0 与x轴成 45° 角,其琼斯表达式为

$$E_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (1)$$

图3中参考光 E_r 和测量光 E_m 的琼斯表达式分别为

$$\left. \begin{aligned} E_r &= J_{PBSr} J_{-QW} J_{MR} J_{QW} J_{PBSr} E_0 \cdot \exp(-i\varphi_r) = \\ &\quad \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} i \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \exp(-i\varphi_r) \\ E_m &= J_{PBSr} J_{-QW} J_{MR} J_{QW} J_{PBSr} E_0 \cdot \exp(-i\varphi_m) = \\ &\quad \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -i \end{bmatrix} \cdot \exp(-i\varphi_m) \end{aligned} \right\}, \quad (2)$$

式中: φ_r 和 φ_m 分别为参考臂、测量臂光程带来的相

位信息; $\mathbf{J}_{\text{PBS}_t}$ 、 $\mathbf{J}_{\text{PBS}_r}$ 、 \mathbf{J}_{QW} 、 $\mathbf{J}_{-\text{QW}}$ 和 \mathbf{J}_{MR} 分别为偏振分光棱镜透射、偏振分光棱镜反射、四分之一波片正向、四分之一波片反向和反射镜的琼斯矩阵。

设 x 轴方向为 0° 方向, 故四路光的琼斯表达式分别为

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{E}_{\text{LS1}} = \mathbf{J}_P(\mathbf{E}_r + \mathbf{E}_m) \\ \mathbf{E}_{\text{LS2}} = \mathbf{J}_P \mathbf{J}_{\text{QWP}0} (\mathbf{E}_r + \mathbf{E}_m), \\ \mathbf{E}_{\text{LS3}} = \mathbf{J}_P \mathbf{J}_{\text{HWP}0} (\mathbf{E}_r + \mathbf{E}_m), \\ \mathbf{E}_{\text{LS4}} = \mathbf{J}_P \mathbf{J}_{\text{QWP}90} (\mathbf{E}_r + \mathbf{E}_m) \end{cases}, \quad (3)$$

式中: \mathbf{J}_P 、 $\mathbf{J}_{\text{QWP}0}$ 、 $\mathbf{J}_{\text{QWP}90}$ 和 $\mathbf{J}_{\text{HWP}0}$ 分别为偏振片、四分之一波片快轴方向与 x 轴成 0° 时、四分之一波片快轴方向与 x 轴成 90° 时、二分之一波片快轴方向与 x 轴成 0° 时的琼斯矩阵。在理想情况下, 可以得到四路光强表达式为

$$\begin{cases} I_{\text{LS1}} = \frac{1}{2}[1 - \cos(\varphi_r - \varphi_m)] \\ I_{\text{LS2}} = \frac{1}{2}[1 + \sin(\varphi_r - \varphi_m)] \\ I_{\text{LS3}} = \frac{1}{2}[1 + \cos(\varphi_r - \varphi_m)] \\ I_{\text{LS4}} = \frac{1}{2}[1 - \sin(\varphi_r - \varphi_m)] \end{cases}. \quad (4)$$

可见集成探测器输出的四路信号是相位分别相差 90° 的正弦信号, 根据光强表达式进行差分运算得到两路正交信号, 再进行反正切运算并提取相位, 进而求解位移量 ΔL , 故

$$\Delta L = \arctan\left(\frac{I_{\text{LS2}} - I_{\text{LS4}}}{I_{\text{LS3}} - I_{\text{LS1}}}\right) \cdot \frac{\lambda}{4\pi n} = \Delta\varphi \cdot \frac{\lambda}{4\pi}, \quad (5)$$

式中: $\Delta\varphi = \varphi_r - \varphi_m$; λ 为激光波长; n 为折射率, 空气中 $n=1$ 。

3 波片对准误差引起的非线性误差分析

在集成干涉探测器中, 各波片的作用是使测量光和参考光产生移相, 从而产生相位差为 0° 、 90° 、 180° 、 270° 的四路干涉信号。由于加工误差及安装误差等原因, 波片快轴方向存在对准误差, 从而引入非线性误差。LS2、LS3、LS4 的快轴方向与预设方向分别存在 θ_1 、 θ_2 、 θ_3 的对准误差, 如图 4 所示。

因 LS1 为玻璃镜片, 故其信号相位差不受对准误差的影响, LS2、LS3、LS4 的琼斯矩阵将变为

$$\mathbf{J}_{\text{QWP}_1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \text{icos } 2\theta_1 & -\text{isin } 2\theta_1 \\ -\text{isin } 2\theta_1 & 1 - \text{icos } 2\theta_1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (6)$$

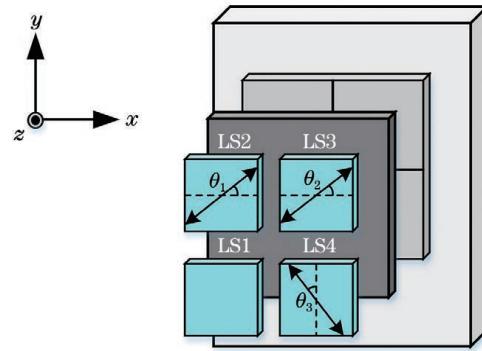


图 4 波片对准误差示意图

Fig. 4 Schematic of wave plate alignment error

$$\mathbf{J}_{\text{HWP}_2} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos 2\theta_2 & \sin 2\theta_2 \\ \sin 2\theta_2 & -\cos 2\theta_2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (7)$$

$$\mathbf{J}_{\text{QWP}_3} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \text{icos}(\pi + 2\theta_3) & -\text{isin}(2\pi + 2\theta_3) \\ -\text{isin}(\pi + 2\theta_3) & 1 - \text{icos}(\pi + 2\theta_3) \end{bmatrix}. \quad (8)$$

故四路光的光强表达式变为

$$I'_{\text{LS1}} = \frac{1}{2}[1 - \cos(\varphi_r - \varphi_m)], \quad (9)$$

$$I'_{\text{LS2}} = \frac{1}{2}[1 - \cos(\varphi_r - \varphi_m) \cdot \sin^2 2\theta_1 + \sin(\varphi_r - \varphi_m) \cdot \cos 2\theta_1], \quad (10)$$

$$I'_{\text{LS3}} = \frac{1}{2}[1 + \cos(\varphi_r - \varphi_m) \cdot \cos 4\theta_2], \quad (11)$$

$$I'_{\text{LS4}} = \frac{1}{2}[1 - \cos(\varphi_r - \varphi_m) \cdot \sin^2 2\theta_3 - \sin(\varphi_r - \varphi_m) \cdot \cos 2\theta_3]. \quad (12)$$

将式(10)~(12)分别代入式(5)中, 即可得到带非线性误差的位移量 $\Delta L'$, 进而可得各波片对准误差引入的非线性误差 e 。

3.1 四分之一波片(LS2、LS4)的非线性误差分析

当四分之一波片 LS2 存在对准误差 θ_1 时, 将式(10)代入式(5)中, 得到带非线性误差的位移量 $\Delta L'$ 为

$$\Delta L' = \arctan\left[\frac{\sqrt{A^2 + B^2} \cdot \sin(\Delta\varphi - \delta)}{\cos(\Delta\varphi)}\right] \cdot \frac{\lambda}{4\pi}, \quad (13)$$

式中: $A = \cos^2 \theta_1$; $B = 2\sin^2 \theta_1 \cos^2 \theta_1$; $\Delta\varphi = \varphi_r - \varphi_m$; $\delta = \arctan(2\sin^2 \theta_1)$ 。

可以看出, 式(13)中存在不等幅误差 $\sqrt{A^2 + B^2}$ 和非正交误差 δ 。在实际应用中, 不等幅误差可以在探测器外围电路及干涉信号采集程序中被消除, 故四分之一波片 LS2 对准误差带来的非线性误差 e 的表达式为

$$e = \left\{ \arctan \left[\frac{\sin(\Delta\varphi - \delta)}{\cos(\Delta\varphi)} \right] - \Delta\varphi \right\} \cdot \frac{\lambda}{4\pi} \quad (14)$$

同理可得四分之一波片 LS4 对准误差带来的非线性误差 e 的表达式为

$$e = \left\{ \arctan \left[\frac{\sin(\Delta\varphi + \delta)}{\cos(\Delta\varphi)} \right] - \Delta\varphi \right\} \cdot \frac{\lambda}{4\pi}, \quad (15)$$

式中: $\Delta\varphi = \varphi_r - \varphi_m$; $\delta = \arctan(2\sin^2\theta_3)$ 。

由式(14)、(15)可见,四分之一波片对准误差引入的非线性误差主要表现为两路正交干涉信号之间正交度的变化。

3.2 二分之一波片 LS3 的非线性误差分析

当二分之一波片 LS3 存在对准误差 θ_2 时,将式(11)代入式(5)中,得到带非线性误差的位移量 $\Delta L'$ 为

$$\Delta L' = \arctan \left[\frac{2\sin(\Delta\varphi)}{(\cos 4\theta_2 + 1) \cdot \cos(\Delta\varphi)} \right] \cdot \frac{\lambda}{4\pi} \quad (16)$$

由式(16)可以看出,二分之一波片 LS3 的对准误差 θ_2 只会导致差分运算后两路正交信号之间幅值不等,即引入了不等幅误差。而在实际应用中,不等幅误差会在探测器外围电路及干涉信号采集过程中被消除,故理论上二分之一波片 LS3 的对准误差不会带来非线性误差。

4 仿真与实验

为了研究上述误差模型在较大范围内的适用性,展示上述误差对位移测量结果的影响规律及模型的相关特性,根据上述理论分析,在 $-20^\circ \sim 20^\circ$ 对准误差范围内对非线性误差进行了仿真与实验,其中实际安装对准误差范围为 $-5^\circ \sim 5^\circ$ 。搭建了相应的激光干涉光路与实验系统进行了实验,如图 5 所示。激光光源采用波长为 633 nm、频率稳定度为 10^{-8} 的 He-Ne 稳频激光器。位移装置采用行程为

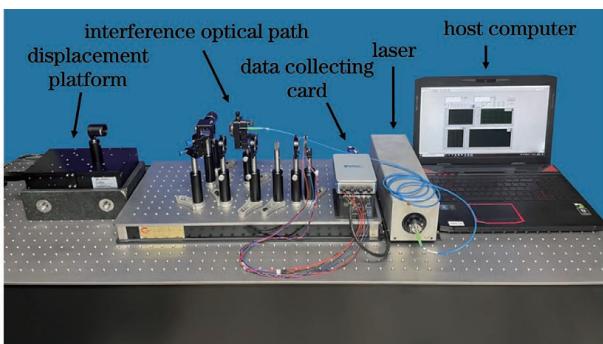


图 5 波片对准误差引入非线性误差的实验

Fig. 5 Experiment on nonlinear errors induced by alignment errors of wave plates

100 mm、定位精度小于 175 nm 的纳米位移平台。使用 NI 公司 9171 信号采集卡对差分后两路干涉信号进行采集,得到其正交度变化,从而推算出引入的非正交误差。

实验中设计了波片旋转机构,如图 6 所示,可将波片阵列分离并通过旋转进行快慢轴方向的调节,通过配合索雷博公司 CRM1P/M 旋转机构及转接件,旋转精度可达 0.05° 。实验时,位移台作速度为 1 mm/s 的匀速往复运动。将各波片快轴方向调至预设方向,采集当前两路干涉信号的正交度;基于旋转机构,目标波片的快轴方向作 2° 步进,进行相位采集操作,当对准误差达到 20° 时,将波片快轴方向复位,再进行反向操作。在实验过程中,四象限探测器输出四路干涉信号,利用外围一级放大电路和减法电路消去直流偏置,产生两路正交的正弦信号,最后再利用二级放大电路将两路正交信号调至等幅。实验中采集到的两路信号的峰峰值为 2 V,频率为 3 kHz,噪声信号的峰峰值为 9 mV,频率为 4.5 kHz,信噪比(SNR)为 46.9 dB。在采集程序中加入了截止频率为 4 kHz 的低通滤波器与补偿单元,进一步消除了信号中噪声、残余直流偏置和不等幅误差对测量结果的影响。

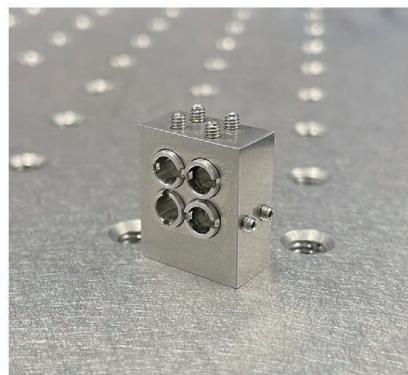


图 6 波片旋转机构

Fig. 6 Rotating device of wave plate

4.1 四分之一波片(LS2、LS4)非线性误差的仿真与实验结果分析

四分之一波片 LS2 的仿真和实验结果如图 7 所示。图 7(a)、(b)所示分别为四分之一波片 LS2 对准误差下的干涉信号正交度及非线性误差的仿真结果,图 7(c)、(d)所示分别为四分之一波片 LS2 对准误差下的干涉信号正交度及非线性误差的实验结果。

由于非线性误差为周期性信号,故仅在 $[0, 2\pi]$ 范围内对包含位移信息的相位差进行非线性误差分

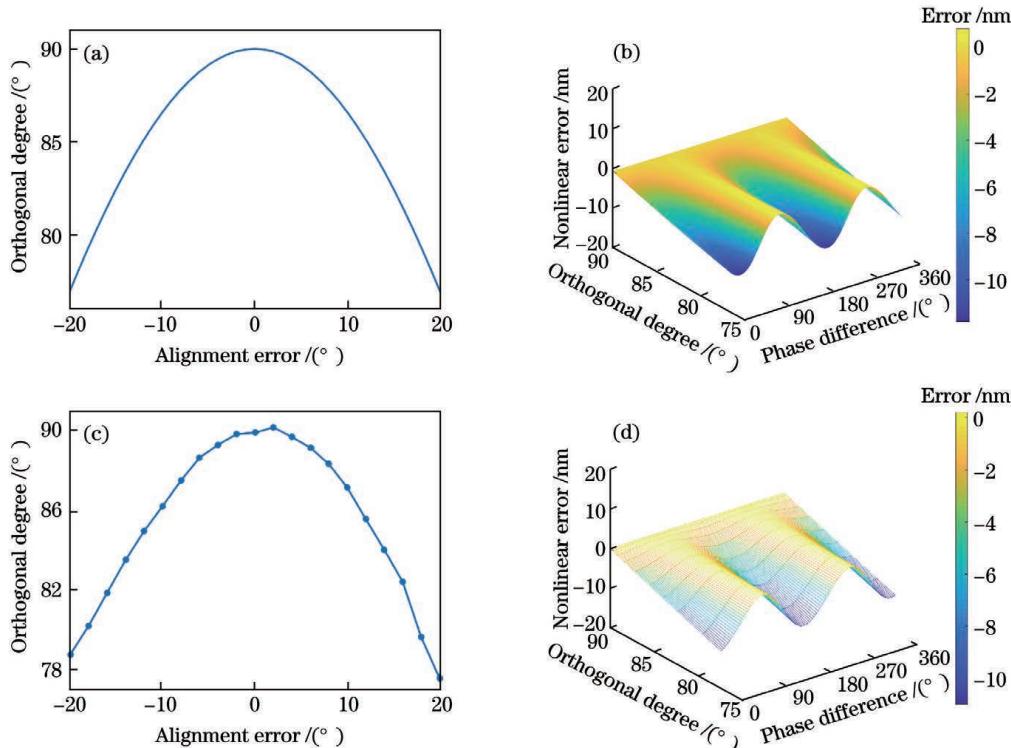


图 7 LS2 引入的误差的仿真与实验结果。(a)(b)仿真结果;(c)(d)实验结果

Fig. 7 Simulation and experimental results of errors introduced by LS2. (a)(b) Simulation results; (c)(d) experimental results

析,其余范围可自行延展。仿真结果表明,当四分之一波片 LS2 的对准误差在 $-20^\circ \sim 20^\circ$ 范围内变化时,两路干涉信号的正交度由 90° 变为 76.83° ,非线性误差的最大值为 11.83 nm 。实验中两路干涉信号的正交度初始值为 89.97° 。实验结果表明,当四分之一波片 LS2 的对准误差为 -20° 时,两路干涉信号的正交度变为 78.75° ,当四分之一波片 LS2 的对准误差为 20° 时,两路干涉信号的正交度变为 77.53° ,非线性误差的最大值为 10.99 nm 。

四分之一波片 LS4 的仿真和实验结果如图 8 所示。图 8(a)、(b)分别为四分之一波片 LS4 对准误差下的干涉信号正交度及非线性误差的仿真结果,图 8(c)、(d)分别为四分之一波片 LS4 对准误差下的干涉信号正交度及非线性误差的实验结果。

仿真结果表明,当四分之一波片 LS4 的对准误差在 $-20^\circ \sim 20^\circ$ 范围内变化时,两路干涉信号的正交度由 90° 变为 103.17° ,非线性误差的最大值为 11.83 nm 。实验中两路干涉信号的正交度初始值为 89.97° 。实验结果表明,当四分之一波片 LS2 的对准误差为 -20° 时,两路干涉信号的正交度变为 104.64° ,当四分之一波片 LS2 的对准误差为 -20° 时,两路干涉信号的正交度变为 104.29° ,非线性误

差的最大值为 12.92 nm 。

通过上述仿真与实验结果可以看出,四分之一波片 LS2、LS4 对准误差引入的非线性误差的仿真结果与实验结果基本一致,验证了本文非线性误差理论分析的正确性,四分之一波片对准误差在 $-20^\circ \sim 20^\circ$ 范围内变化时引入的非线性误差为 $0 \sim 13\text{ nm}$ 。实验过程中并未考虑波片性能参数误差以及光路中干涉部分棱镜及波片的对准误差和性能带来的误差等,故实验结果与仿真结果存在一定差异。

4.2 二分之一波片 LS3 引入误差的实验结果分析

由二分之一波片 LS3 的对准误差的理论分析可知,LS3 对准误差在理论上不引入非线性误差,对此进行了实验验证。实验结果如图 9 所示,图 9(a)、(b)分别为二分之一波片 LS3 对准误差下的干涉信号正交度及引入误差的实验结果。实验中两路干涉信号的正交度初始值为 90.18° 。通过实验测得,当二分之一波片 LS3 的对准误差为 -20° 时,两路干涉信号的正交度由 90° 变为 87.32° ,当二分之一波片 LS3 的对准误差为 20° 时,两路干涉信号的正交度由 90° 变为 91.85° ,引入的测量误差最大值为 2.36 nm 。

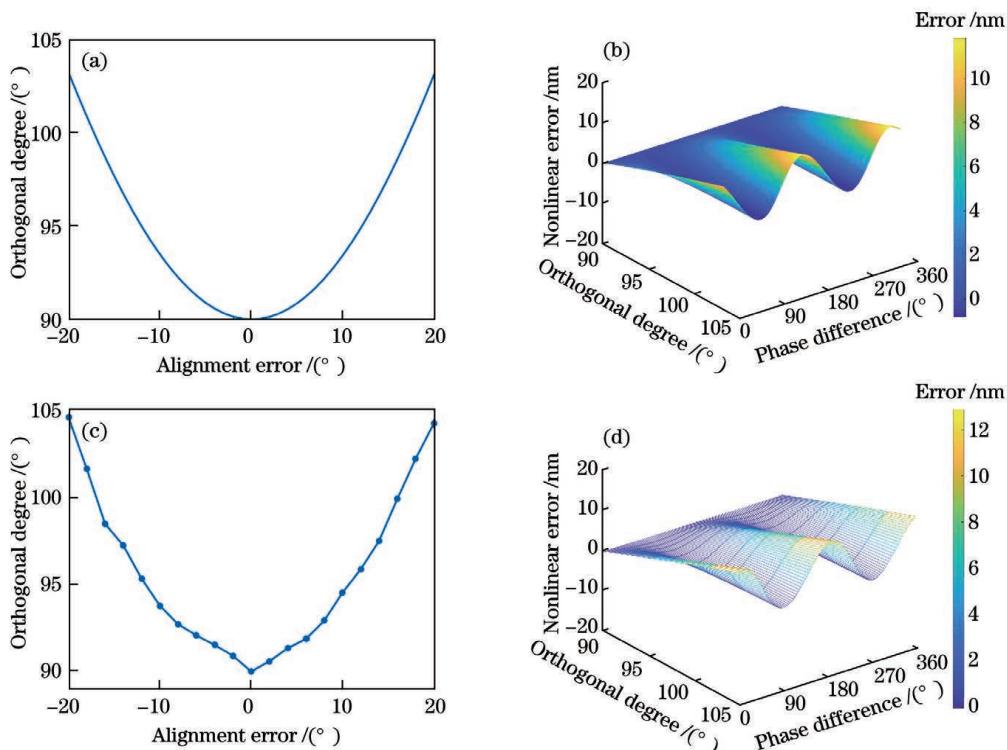


图8 LS4 引入的误差的仿真与实验结果。(a)(b)仿真结果;(c)(d)实验结果

Fig. 8 Simulation and experimental results of errors introduced by LS4. (a)(b) Simulation results; (c)(d) experimental results

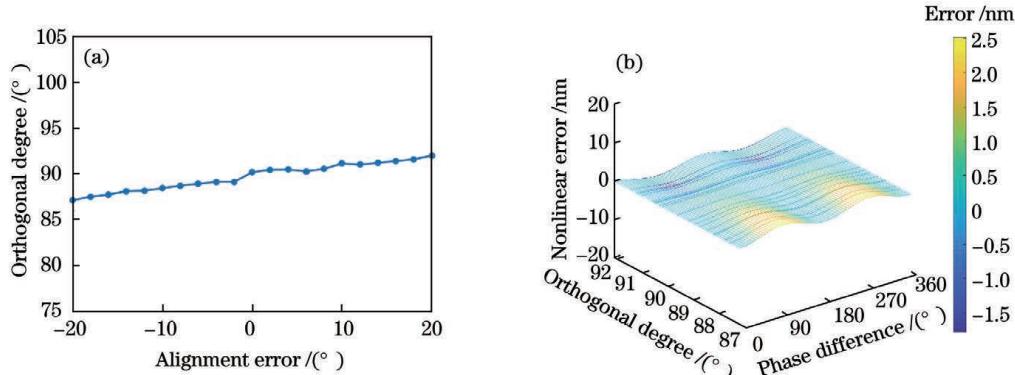


图9 LS3 引入的误差实验结果。(a)正交度;(b)误差

Fig. 9 Experimental results of errors introduced by LS3. (a) Orthogonality; (b) error

实验结果表明,当二分之一波片LS3的对准误差在 $-20^{\circ}\sim20^{\circ}$ 范围内变化时,两路干涉信号存在一个幅值较小的非正交误差,实际中也会引入较小的测量误差。可以看出,二分之一波片LS3对准误差引入的非线性误差的理论分析与实验结果基本一致。在实验过程中未考虑波片的性能误差及光路中前置光学器件的性能及对准误差的影响,可能是导致二分之一波片LS3实验结果与仿真结果之间存在较小误差的原因。

5 结 论

提出了一种基于四象限探测器和波片阵列的集成式干涉信号探测系统。利用琼斯矩阵建立了波片阵列对准误差引入的误差模型,仿真分析了波片对准误差对测量结果的影响,并搭建实验系统进行验证和研究。波片引入误差会随着对准误差的增大而增大,实验结果显示,当对准误差在 $-20^{\circ}\sim20^{\circ}$ 范围内时,四分之一波片的测量误差为 $0\sim13\text{ nm}$,二分之一波片的测量误差为 $0\sim2.4\text{ nm}$ 。由上述分析可知,四分之一波片的对准误差对测量结果的影响显

著,而二分之一波片的对准误差对测量结果的影响较小。为了提高单频干涉测量系统的测量精度,延时波片的快轴对准方向要调整到位,尽量减少对准误差;尽可能选用高性能波片,减少测量误差的产生。所建立的波片阵列误差模型为单频激光干涉测量系统的准确定量分析提供了理论基础,对单频激光干涉测量系统的集成化及非线性误差的分析和消除具有重要的参考价值。

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Effect of Alignment Error of Wave Plate Array on Nonlinear Error of Laser Interference

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Abstract

Objective In the field of length measurement, the laser interference technology has been widely used, among which single-frequency laser interference and dual-frequency laser interference are mainly chosen. The single-frequency laser interferometry technology has been paid more and more attention in the field of industrial measurement because of its advantages of high-speed and high-precision measurement and integration. In the typical single-frequency laser interferometry, quadrature interference signals are generally obtained through a four-channel receiving unit. Because the traditional four-channel receiving unit occupies a large space and is not conducive to integration, it cannot be used in scenes with high requirements for space and size. In the nano-laser interference technology, the non-linear errors are generated due to the influence of factors such as unsatisfactory and unstable light sources, environmental changes, and optical devices. Therefore, it is necessary to determine the source of nonlinear errors for suppression and elimination.

Methods An interference signal detection system is designed based on the four-quadrant photodetector (QD) and integrated wave plate array. The Jones matrix theory of polarized light and optics is used for simulation and experimental verification. The influence and errors of the measurement results caused by the different angles in the fast and slow axis directions of the wave plate in the integrated interference signal detector are analyzed. In practice, the alignment errors of the wave plate installation are generally between -5° and 5° . In order to study the applicability of the above-mentioned error model in a larger range and show the trend and related characteristics of the influence on the displacement measurement results, according to the above theoretical analysis, simulations and experiments are carried out on the nonlinear errors within the alignment error range of -20° - 20° . The experiment uses the real-time acquisition of the phases of the two-channel interference signals to test the influence of the wave plate alignment errors on the orthogonality of the two-channel signals, thereby the introduced non-orthogonal errors are calculated. During the experiment, the direct current offset and unequal amplitude error generated by the signal are eliminated by the peripheral circuit of the detector and the acquisition program.

Results and Discussions We design an interference signal detector based on QD and integrated wave plate array (Fig. 2) and an interferometric optical path using an integrated interferometric detector (Fig. 3). The interferometric method using the integrated interference detector is similar to the typical laser single-frequency interference signal detection method. The interference part remains the same, and the receiving part is replaced with an integrated detector. Through simulation and experimental results, it can be obtained that the nonlinear errors introduced by the alignment errors of the quarter-wave plates LS2 and LS4 are basically consistent with the

experimental results, which verifies the correctness of the theoretical analysis of nonlinear errors in this paper. When the alignment error changes in the range of $-20^\circ\text{--}20^\circ$, the range of nonlinear errors introduced by the quarter-wave plate is 0–13 nm (Figs. 7 and 8). When the alignment error changes in the range of $-20^\circ\text{--}20^\circ$, the range of nonlinear errors introduced by the half-wave plate is 0–2.4 nm (Fig. 9). It can be known that the theoretical analysis of nonlinear errors introduced by the alignment errors of the half-wave plate LS3 is basically consistent with the experimental results. During the experiment, the performance parameter errors of the wave plate as well as the alignment errors and performance errors of the interference part of the prism and the wave plate in the optical path are not considered. Therefore, there is a certain difference between the experimental results and the simulation results.

Conclusions This paper proposes an integrated interference signal detection system based on four-quadrant detectors and wave plate arrays. The Jones matrix is used to establish a model for simulating errors caused by the alignment errors of the wave plate array, and the influence of the alignment errors of the wave plate on the measurement results is analyzed. An experiment is set up for verification and research. The errors introduced by the wave plate increases with the increase of alignment errors. Through experiments, the measurement error range of the quarter wave plate in the range of $-20^\circ\text{--}20^\circ$ is 0–13 nm, and the measurement errors of the half-wave plate is 0–2.4 nm. From the above analysis, it can be seen that the quarter-wave plate alignment errors have a significant impact on the measurement results, and the half-wave plate has a smaller impact on the measurement results than the quarter-wave plate. In order to improve the measurement accuracy of the single-frequency interferometry system, the alignment direction of the fast axis of the delay wave plate should be adjusted in place to minimize the alignment errors. The high-performance wave plate should be used as much as possible to reduce the measurement errors. In summary, the wave plate array error model established in this paper provides a theoretical basis for the quantitative analysis of the accuracy of the single-frequency laser interferometer system, and has an important reference for the integration of the single-frequency laser interferometer system and the analysis and elimination of nonlinear errors.

Key words measurement; displacement measurement; laser interference; wave plate; Jones matrix; nonlinear error; nanometer measurement