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## EXPERIMENTAL REALIZATION OF MULTIPLE ALL OPTICAL UNIVERSAL LOGIC GATES USING ARRAY ILLUMINATOR

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**Abstract:** This paper describe the experimental realization of multiple all optical NOR and NAND logic gates using array illuminator. Two Michelson interferometers in tandem were used to produce four nearly collinear beams. Interference of these four beams yield square arrays of equal illuminating light spots. Detectors placed at strategic locations in the interference pattern for sensing light have truth table matching with NOR and NAND logic gates when the beams from the interferometers were blocked and unblocked sequentially. Previous reports of the fabrication of optical logic gates utilize various nonlinear optical phenomena whereas in this work only linear optics was used.

**Keywords:** Array Illuminator, multiple beam interference, optical logic gates.



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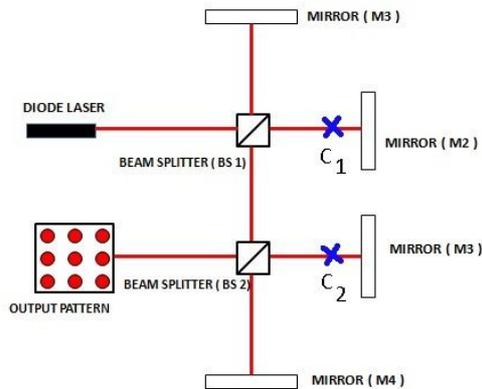
## INTRODUCTION

An array illuminator (AIL) is a device, which redistributes the energy of a collimated, uniformly distributed wide beam into an array of bright spots with high efficiency. Array Illuminator has gained widespread applications in the last two decades in the fields of data storage with high temporal bandwidth [1], optical signal processing [2], image processing [3] particularly in coded aperture imaging, optical switching [4], optical interconnections [5], focusing of atomic beam to produce the nano-deposition [6], online optical testing, etc. Different applications require different types of array illuminator. Various methods have been proposed to produce AIL using diffraction techniques [7, 8] and interference technique [9]. In all, these diffraction based techniques the geometry and size of the arrays are dependent on the diffracting element, without having much scope of online control. To realize the arrays of different configuration, different diffractive elements have to be designed and used accordingly. An array illuminator can be achieved via interference of multiple nearly collinear beams. In this technique the spot size, the array size and the compression ratio of the array pattern can be varied in real time. By the relative orientations of the appropriate mirror, the geometry of arrays can be easily controlled. Recently there has been a proposal to use interferometer array illuminator for the realization of all optical logic gates [10]. An optical logic gate is a switch that controls one light beam with another. It is "on" when the device transmits light, and "off" when it blocks the light. All optical transistors and logic gates similar to electronic transistors and logic gates respectively are the basic building blocks of a photonic chip. Generally optical logic gate can be realized via two methods; one is using semiconductor optical amplifier (SOA) with Mach-Zender interferometer (MZI) [11] and other is using the nonlinearity of optical fibre [12]. Other variants utilize various kinds of nonlinearity to realize the optical logic gates. Processing, storage, transport and visualisation of huge amounts of data at ultra high speed have been possible using photonics technology.

This paper discusses an experimental realization of all optical multiple universal logic gates using array illuminator obtained via four beam interference method.

### Experiment Set up:-

Experimental set up used to generate square arrays of equal illuminating light spots is shown in Fig. 1. It comprises of a two Michelson interferometers in tandem producing the four nearly collinear beams in the output.



**Fig.1: Schematic of experimental set up**

Beam splitters BS<sub>1</sub>, and mirrors M<sub>1</sub> and M<sub>2</sub> form the Michelson interferometer giving the two interfering beams. These two beams can be launched into the second stage, a second Michelson interferometer, comprising of beam-splitter BS<sub>2</sub> and mirrors M<sub>3</sub> and M<sub>4</sub>. Thus the output of BS<sub>2</sub> consists of four nearly collinear interfering beams. The mirror tilts can be adjusted in such a way that the interference patterns of individual stages were oriented perpendicular to each other. Interference pattern can be recorded using CCD camera. Characterization of interference pattern such as number of spots, periodicity and their contrast can be measured using the image captured in CCD camera. Four beams interferometer can be easily brought down to a two beam interferometer by blocking the beam at appropriate locations using electronically controlled two mechanical choppers C<sub>1</sub> and C<sub>2</sub>. The resultant intensity distribution of four beam interference pattern generated by using such a set up is given by [4-5]

$$I = I_0[4 + 4 \cos(kx) + 4 \cos(ky) + 2 \cos(kx + ky) + 2 \cos(kx - ky)] \dots (1)$$

Where  $k=2\pi\mu$  spatial frequency  $\mu = \frac{\sin \theta}{\lambda}$ ,  $\theta$  is angular separation between the two interfering beam and it is of the order of 1 mrad.  $\lambda$  is the wavelength of laser light used. Fig. 2 shows the computed plot of intensity distribution of Eq.1. Beam profiler (BC 106-VIS, Thorlabs Beam 4.0) was used to record the interference pattern/output of the BS<sub>2</sub>. Imagine there are four zones in the pattern of Fig.2 and detectors are placed at these locations namely D<sub>1</sub>, D<sub>2</sub> D<sub>3</sub> and D<sub>4</sub>. The light intensity at these points is of interest to us and we will discuss them in detail in following section.

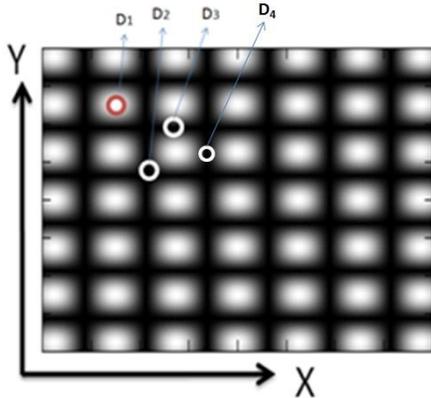


Fig. 2: Simulated Four beam interference pattern.

**Results and Discussions:-**

Fig. 3 shows the resultant pattern of four beam interference. Arrays of equal illuminating light spots in the square geometry are seen in Fig. 3.

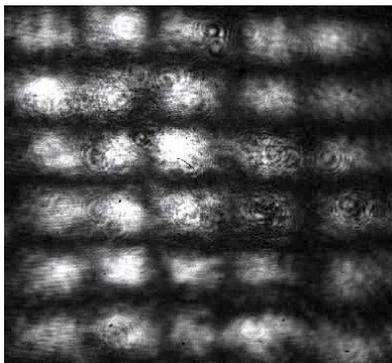
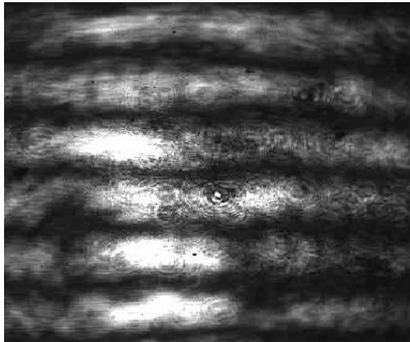


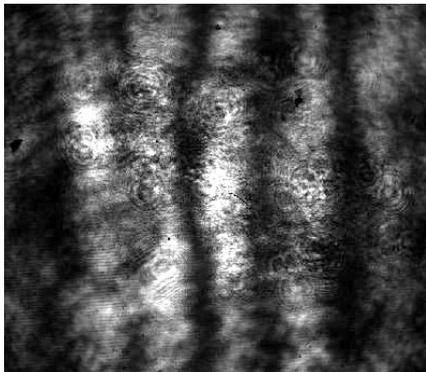
Fig. 3: Four beam interference pattern.

Now if chopper kept in the front of  $M_2$  is blocked then, we will get interference of only two beams as shown in Fig.4.



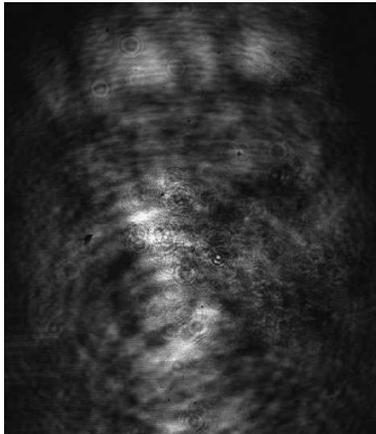
**Fig.4: Interference pattern obtained when the beam going to  $M_2$  is blocked.**

Similarly when the beam going towards  $M_3$  was blocked we obtained again two beam interference pattern as shown in Fig. 5.



**Fig.5: Interference pattern obtained when the beam going to  $M_3$  is blocked.**

If both the beam going towards  $M_2$  and  $M_3$  were blocked no interference pattern was obtained and the entire CCD sensor got equal illumination as laser beam itself shows up at the output. It is as shown in Fig.6.



**Fig.6: CCD output obtained when both choppers were blocking the beam.**

Now we will probe the intensity of light at the zones marked by  $D_1$ ,  $D_2$ ,  $D_3$  and  $D_4$  in Fig.2. Imagine there four tiny photo detector kept in these places. Now let us see the intensity variation at these four points.

Starting with imaginary detectors kept at  $D_1$ . Now let us consider the output of the detector placed at maxima (bright spots,  $D_1$  as shown in Fig. 3). When  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  both are at OFF position i.e. they allow laser beam to pass through them (1, 1), this will yield four beam interference pattern as shown in Fig. 3. Light will get detected at  $D_1$  and hence it implies to 'ON' state (1). Suppose one of choppers is blocking the beam (1, 0) or (0, 1), then it will yield two beam interference which again corresponds to light at  $D_1$  and hence a 'ON' state (1). Even if both choppers  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are blocking the beams still  $D_1$  will get illuminated with laser beam reflected from  $M_2$  and  $M_4$ . Hence (0, 0) will yield 'ON' state (1). This discussion is tabulated in Table 1. Hence outputs of  $D_1$  do not correspond to any logic gate.

Table No. 1: Output of the imaginary detector placed at  $D_1$

Input		Output
1	1	1
1	0	1
0	1	1
0	0	1

Consider the output of the detector  $D_2$  placed at the horizontal minima as shown in Fig.2. For all the combination i.e. (0, 1) (1, 0) and (1, 1) except (0, 0), detector  $D_2$  output will imply to 'OFF'

state (0). When both the choppers are blocking the beam, laser beam will get reflected from mirrors  $M_2$  and  $M_4$  and  $D_2$  will get illuminated. This discussion is tabulated in Table 2.

Table 2: Output of the imaginary detector placed at  $D_2$

Input		Output
1	1	0
1	0	0
0	1	0
0	0	1

Hence output of  $D_2$  corresponds to NOR logic gates. Now let us consider the output of the detectors  $D_3$  and  $D_4$  combined together. When both choppers are not blocking the beams coming towards mirrors  $M_2$  and  $M_3$ , light will not get detected at  $D_3$  and  $D_4$ . Hence output for will be (0, 0) and combined output will be zero. At (1, 0) detector  $D_3$  will get illuminated with light since two beam interference pattern will be vertical as seen in Fig. 5 and hence output at  $D_3$  will be 1. Whereas output of  $D_4$  will be 0 for (1, 0) output and combined output of  $D_3$  and  $D_4$  will be 1. At (0, 1) detector  $D_4$  will get illuminated with light since two beam interference pattern will be horizontal as seen in Fig. 4 and hence output at  $D_4$  will be 1. Whereas output of  $D_3$  will be 0 for (1, 0) output and combined output of  $D_3$  and  $D_4$  will be 1 again. For (0, 0), output of combined  $D_3$  and  $D_4$  will be again 1 as both the detectors will receive light.

Table No. 3: Output of the imaginary detectors placed at  $D_3$  and  $D_4$  combined together.

Input		Output
1	1	0
1	0	1
0	1	1
0	0	1

### CONCLUSION:-

Utilization of such interference pattern to realize optical logic gate has some advantages. First of all several optical logic gates can be realized simultaneously in a single interferometer beam without using any nonlinearity. It is reported [9] that one can generate the matrix of around  $20 \times 20$  tiny spots with very good contrast. The highest recorded spot density in the patterns was around  $900 \text{ mm}^2$ . So an interference pattern is equivalent to an optical chip having many logic gates.

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