IAEA 3<sup>rd</sup> Technical Meeting on Radiation Detection Instruments Emerging Technologies and Threats VIENNA

14 -18 August 2023







### CODED APERTURE GAMMA CAMERAS A WANNABE PASSENGER FOR UNCREWED AERIAL SYSTEMS



IOANNIS KAISSAS ASSISTANT PROFESSOR ELECTRICAL & COMPUTER ENGINEERING ARISTOTLE UNIVERSITY OF THESSALONIKI



# Scrap-Metal Cargoes in Merchant Vessels





# Scrap-Metal Cargoes in Merchant Vessels



# Tube contaminated with Ra-226 salts







In short...: Exploit Parallax phenomenon of the shadowgrams of two γcameras with Coded Apertures

### Capable for:

- 3D localization
- Resolving two radioactive spots in 3D
- Resolving photon energy

#### Two CdTe γ-cameras 57C

#### <sup>57</sup>Co radioactive source





### From Pinhole Aperture to Coded Aperture



### From Shadowgram to Point Spread Function (PSF)

#### The correlation of Shadowgram with G matrix produces the Correlation Matrix







PSF: Point Spread Function ACF: Auto Correlation Function PSLA: Point Source Location Accuracy SNR: Signal to Noise Ratio AR: Angular Resolution = =FWHM of PSF



## Localization in 3D with Triangulation Algorithm



### Common place of the two Fully Coded Field of View



#### **3D SLA:** Source Location Accuracy

#### VR: Voxel Resolution

### Coded Aperture camera on UAS

#### Localization Accuracy:

- Image: <a href="mailto:sources">
   </a>
- <3% for extended hot-spots</li>

### Field of View:

• Wide : 75<sup>o</sup> x 75<sup>o</sup>

Spatial Resolution:
<2,5cm for mask 19R-1821</li>
<4cm for mask 19R-1958</li>

#### Efficiency and SNR for:

Accurate 3D Localization of 300MBq hot – spots with counting time 1 sec.



### Coded Aperture camera on UAS

Experimental measurements with:

- Isotope: Am-241
- Activity: 10mCi
- Coded Aperture: MURA 7x7
- Wide FOV = 75° x 75°



#### For good accuracy (R=2%) the SNR is desired to be >7

		Distance	()	mm)	456	456	1000	1000	3000	3000	5000	5000
Activit	y	Acquis. time (sec) (I	min) S	NR	R (mm)	Counts						
370	MBq	30		12,2	2,56	144704		30089	65	3343	109	1204
370	MBq	15		11,5	2,83	76198		15844	65	1760		634
370	MBq	7		11,2	2,87	37459	22	7789		865		312
370	MBq	3		11,1	3,31	15224	22	3166		352		127
370	MBq	1		8	9,9	5285	22	1099		122		44
1	MBq	300	5		9,9	3911		813		90		33
1	MBq	150	3		9,9	2059		428		48		17
1	MBq	70	1		9,9	1012		211		23		8
10	kBq	3000	50			391		81		9		3
10	kBq	1500	25			206		43		5		2
10	kBq	700	12			101		21		2		1



Coded Aperture camera on UAS for Nuclear Security



A scanning scenario of scrap metal suspected for radioactive contaminants, like Cs-137, Am-241, Ra-226, Co-60

Scanning a scrap metal pile or loaded ship with scrap metal:

- Flight height : 3m above the scrap pile
- Surface of the pile under the FOV : ~10 m<sup>2</sup>
- Acquisition time for each location: 15 sec
- Total surface to be scanned :  $60 \times 20 = 1200 \text{ m}^2$
- Total acquisition time :  $120 \times 15 = 1800 \text{ sec} = \frac{1}{2} \text{ h}$
- Localization Accuracy of radioactive hot-spots of ~300 MBq: 7 cm



Coded Aperture camera on UAS for Nuclear Security



#### For localizing sources with activities about the exemption limits, Efficiency matters

Improving Efficiency by:

- Choosing thick detectors
- Choosing sensitive materials with high atomic number and high density
- Accumulating counts from neighbor pixels
- Using high transparency coded apertures







# Thank you for your attention