# Bleached silver halide volume holograms recorded on Slavich PFG-01 emulsion: The influence of the developer

# C. NEIPP (†), I. PASCUAL (‡) and A. BELÉNDEZ (†)

(†) Departamento de Física, Ingeniería de Sistemas y Teoría de la Señal.

Universidad de Alicante. Apartado 99, E-03080 Alicante (SPAIN)

(‡) Departamento Interuniversitario de Óptica.

Universidad de Alicante. Apartado 99, E-03080 Alicante (SPAIN)

Phone: +34-(9)6-590 36 51

Fax: +34-(9)6-590 34 64

E-mail: augusto@disc.ua.es

Journal of Modern Optics

Ref. no: JMO 00.11/189

1

**ABSTRACT** 

Bleached holograms are one of the most interesting techniques used to produce phase

holograms of high quality on photographic emulsions. Of particular interest is the method of

fixation-free rehalogenating bleaching. In this paper we will study the influence of the

development step in the bleaching process applied to Slavich PFG-01 emulsion, a red-

sensitive fine grained emulsion from the Slavich Company. We will show that the

development influences the optimum concentration of potassium bromide in the bleach

solution. We will also show that good results can be obtained by using Slavich PFG-01

plates for a wide variety of developers -in the case of the CW-C2 developer a diffraction

2

efficiency of over 70% was reached-.

KEYWORDS: Holography; Holographic recording materials; Volume holograms; Silver

halide emulsions.

NEIPP, Cristian; PASCUAL, Inmaculada; BELÉNDEZ, Augusto. "Bleached silver halide volume holograms recorded on Slavich PFG-01 emulsion: the influence of the developer". Journal of Modern Optics. Vol. 48, No. 9 (July 2001). ISSN 0950-0340, pp. 1479-1494

1.- Introduction

Bleached silver halide emulsions have long been used as a medium for recording volume

phase holograms because they offer several attractive advantages [1]. These advantages

include a relatively high sensitivity, ease of processing of the results, improved chemical

processing, their availability as commercial films and the repeatability of the results. Volume

holograms recorded in silver halide emulsions are commonly bleached to obtain phase

holograms in order to increase diffraction efficiency. Unfortunately, although the resulting

phase holograms have high diffraction efficiency, this is usually accompanied by an increase

in the scattering of light from the silver halide grains [2] and a consequent reduction in image

quality.

One of the most important points to take into account in order to increase diffraction

efficiency and reduce scattering in a particular bleached emulsion is the influence of the

chemical processing and its optimization. In this processing, the development and bleaching

steps play an important role because their action influences the image quality (diffraction

efficiency and noise) of the final hologram.

The influence of the development step and the bleach solution on the final quality of

the bleached hologram has been studied by different authors. The studies were carried out

mainly with Agfa 8E75 HD plates. Concerning the bleach bath, different authors have

proposed various bleach solutions for the production of high quality phase holograms.

Upatnieks [3], for example introduced ferricyanide and copper bleaches, whereas Phillips

and Porter [4] used ferric nitrate in the bleach bath. These authors also introduced the Para-

Benzoquinone (PBQ) bleach [5], achieving high quality holograms. Another interesting

bleach solution was the Kodak R-10 bleach, introduced by Altman [6], and later improved

by McMahon and Franklin [7]. The fixation-free method was discovered by Hariharan, and

3

NEIPP, Cristian; PASCUAL, Inmaculada; BELÉNDEZ, Augusto. "Bleached silver halide volume holograms recorded on Slavich PFG-01 emulsion: the influence of the developer". Journal of Modern Optics.

this method was subsequently improved by Crespo et al. [8]. This technique has the

advantage over bleaching with fixation that the shrinkage of the emulsion is minimized.

Hariharan and Chidley [9] studied the influence of the potassium bromide concentration on

the diffraction efficiency and scattering of the final hologram. In their research they show

that the concentration of the potassium halide must be adjusted carefully in order to obtain

high values of diffraction efficiency and low values of scattering.

Hariharan also studied the influence of the development step on the quality of the

hologram [10]. He showed that the concentration of sodium sulfite influences the quality of

the final hologram. This is due to the solvent action of the sodium sulfite. They also show

that the action of hardener developers has a counteractive effect on the index modulation

created by the diffusion process, so that the diffraction efficiency is decreased when hardener

developers are used. We will prove that the use of hardener developers does not prevent high

refractive index modulations being achieved. In fact, better results are obtained when these

developers are used, for example the CW-C2 developer, which is known for creating a

hardening action due to its oxidation products.

The bleach used in our experiments was a modified version of the R-10 bleach, which

was introduced by McMahon and Franklin in bleaching techniques. We will also demonstrate

that the developer influences the optimum potassium bromide concentration in the bleach

solution. Therefore, the two steps, development and bleach bath, must be considered and

optimized at the same time. In this study the influence of the development and the bleaching

steps were studied by recording holographic transmission gratings on Slavich PFG-01 plates.

The use of these Russian plates in the experiments is due to the fact that the well-known

Agfa plates are no longer available on the market, since Agfa ceased production of

holographic material in 1997 [11]. The void created by the withdrawal of Agfa material must

be filled by new photographic materials. With this in mind we studied the Slavich PGF-01

4

NEIPP, Cristian; PASCUAL, Inmaculada; BELÉNDEZ, Augusto "Bleached silver halide volume holograms recorded on Slavich PFG-01 emulsion: the influence of the developer". Journal of Modern Optics.

plates, which have been used in Eastern European countries for a long time, but almost no

studies have been made applying Western European procedures to these plates. The two

emulsions are fine-grained red sensitive holographic emulsions for transmission or reflection

hologram recording. According to the manufacturer [1] the Agfa 8E75 HD emulsion has a

thickness of ~6 µm, a refractive index of 163, a spectral sensitivity in the range of 600 to

700 nm and a mean grain size of 44 nm [12]. In the case of the PFG-01 emulsion we

measured experimentally the thickness and the refractive index of the emulsion by using an

experimental technique based on the film resonance method proposed by Tholl et al. [13],

obtaining an emulsion thickness of ~7 µm and a refractive index of 1.61. According to the

manufacturer the spectral sensitivity range for PFG-01 emulsion is from 600 to 680 nm and

the mean grain size of 40 nm.

2.- Experimental procedure

The experiments were carried out on red sensitive Slavich PFG-01 silver halide

emulsion. Unslanted holographic transmission gratings were recorded using two collimated

beams from a 15 mW He-Ne laser (633 nm), with the polarization vector perpendicular to

the plane of incidence. The two beams, of equal intensity, impinged on the emulsion forming

an angle of 45° (in air). With the geometry described, the spatial frequency of the gratings

was calculated as ~1200 lines/mm.

After exposure, the plates underwent the schedule procedure illustrated in Table I, so

that phase transmission holograms were finally obtained. In order to study the influence of

the development step four different developers were used after exposure: D-19, CW-C2,

AAC and PAAP. Table II shows the composition of the developers. Due to the softness of

the gelatin of Slavich PFG-01 plates [14], the temperature of the bleach bath was maintained

NEIPP, Cristian; PASCUAL, Inmaculada; BELÉNDEZ, Augusto. "Bleached silver halide volume holograms recorded on Slavich PFG-01 emulsion: the influence of the developer". Journal of Modern Optics. Vol. 48, No. 9 (July 2001). ISSN 0950-0340, pp. 1479-1494

DOI: 10.1080/09500340108231777

5

at 20°C for these plates.

The diffraction efficiency  $\eta$  of the recorded phase holograms was calculated as the ratio

of the diffracted beam intensity to the incident collimated probe-beam intensity of the He-Ne

laser. Both the incident beam intensity and the diffracted beam intensity were measured in

air. Therefore it must be taken into account that part of the incident beam reflects at the

interface air-emulsion, whereas part of the diffracted beam reflects at the interface glass-air.

The reflection losses were calculated by using Fresnel equations for p-polarized light, and in

order to evaluate these Fresnel losses, the expression of the diffraction efficiency was

corrected by multiplying by an appropriated factor. By doing this, the obtained diffraction

efficiency gives a better measure of the quality of the grating [15]. The efficiency of the zero-

order or transmission  $\tau$  was similarly calculated as the ratio of the directly transmitted beam

intensity to the incident power and was corrected by the same factor.

3.- Previous considerations

The equation for diffraction efficiency, given by Kogelnik's theory for phase

transmission volume gratings is [16]:

$$\eta = \exp(-\alpha d/\cos\theta') \frac{\sin^2(v^2 + \xi^2)^{1/2}}{1 + (\xi^2/v^2)} \tag{1}$$

where for grating with unslanted fringes v and  $\xi$  are expressed as follows:

$$\xi = \frac{\pi d}{\Lambda \cos \theta'} \left( |\sin \theta'| - \frac{\lambda}{2\pi \Lambda} \right) \tag{2}$$

and:

 $v = \frac{\pi \Delta n d}{\lambda \cos \theta'} \tag{3}$ 

NEIPP, Cristian; PASCUAL, Inmaculada; BELÉNDEZ, Augusto. "Bleached silver halide volume holograms recorded on Slavich PFG-01 emulsion: the influence of the developer". Journal of Modern Optics. Vol. 48, No. 9 (July 2001). ISSN 0950-0340, pp. 1479-1494 DOI: 10.1080/09500340108231777 In equation (1)  $\alpha$  takes into account the absorption (and also the scattering; we have no means of differentiating between the two at this point), d is the emulsion thickness, n is the mean refractive index,  $\Delta n$  is the index modulation,  $\Lambda$  is the grating period,  $\lambda$  is the wavelength of reconstruction in air, and  $\theta$ ' is the angle of reconstruction in the medium, which is related to the angle of reconstruction in air  $\theta$  by Snell's law. For unslanted gratings the grating period is given by equation:

$$\Lambda = \frac{\lambda}{2\sin\theta_0} \tag{4}$$

where  $2\theta_0$  is the angle between the two beams in air. For gratings analyzed in this paper,  $\theta_0$  = 22.5° and  $\Lambda$  = 0.827  $\mu$ m.

In equation (1)  $\xi$  takes into account the deviation from the Bragg condition and  $\nu$  controls the maximum diffraction efficiency at the Bragg condition. The maximum diffraction efficiency is achieved at the Bragg angle ( $\xi = 0$ ), when  $\nu$  takes the value  $\pi/2$ . In the case of the transmission holograms studied in this Work, when  $\nu = \pi/2$ , at the Bragg angle (in air) (22.5°) the product  $\Delta n$  d takes the value of 0.308  $\mu m$ , considering that the refractive index of the emulsions studied was  $n \sim 1.61$ , so that the angle inside the emulsion was  $\sim 13.8^{\circ}$ . The value of the thickness was found to be  $\sim 7$   $\mu m$  for Slavich PFG-01. This means that the highest value of diffraction efficiency is achieved with a high value of a refractive index modulation  $\Delta n \sim 0.044$ . We will show that rehalogenating bleaching techniques without a fixation step are efficient enough to create this refractive index modulation, by using different developers, when Slavich PFG-01 plates are used to record bleached transmission holograms.

## 4.- Experimental results

#### 4.1.- Analysis of the bleaching step

In order to study the influence of the development step in the bleaching technique procedures, the plates were bleached with a modified version of the R-10 bleach (Table III).

NEIPP, Cristian; PASCUAL, Inmaculada; BELÉNDEZ, Augusto. "Bleached silver halide volume holograms recorded on Slavich PFG-01 emulsion: the influence of the developer". Journal of Modern Optics. Vol. 48, No. 9 (July 2001). ISSN 0950-0340, pp. 1479-1494 DOI: 10.1080/09500340108231777

The bleach bath solution is composed of two different solutions: A and B. The oxidizer

(potassium dichromate) is contained in the solution A, whereas the rehalogenating agent

(potassium bromide) is contained in the solution B. To obtained the bleach solution 1 part of

A is mixed with 10 parts of distilled water and X parts of B. The ratio X = B/A indicates the

relation between the potassium bromide concentration and the oxidizer concentration

(potassium dichromate). The concentration of potassium bromide in the bleach bath

determines the rate of the diffusion process. A high rate of the diffusion process favours the

refractive index modulation. Nevertheless a high quantity of potassium bromide, tends to

increase the amount of light scattered by the final hologram. Therefore it is necessary to

adjust the values of the ratio B/A nedeed to obtain high diffraction efficiencies and low values

of scattering. In the experiments the B/A ratio took the values 2, 8, 30 and 120.

Figure 1 shows the results of peak diffraction efficiency versus B/A ratio for Slavich

PFG-01 plates developed with four different developers (D-19, AAC, PAAP and CW-C2).

It can be seen from the figure that the optimum B/A ratio for Slavich PFG-01 plates varies

when different developers are used in the procedure. A peak diffraction efficiency of 71%

(corrected for take into account Fresnel losses) was obtained for a B/A ratio of 120 if the

plates were developed in CW-C2, 65% for the AAC developer and a B/A ratio of 8, 64% for

plates developed in D-19 for a B/A ratio of 2, and 69% for the PAAP developer and a bleach

bath with B/A = 2. It is also interesting to note that for the CW-C2 the ratio at which

maximum diffraction efficiency is achieved is the highest (B/A = 120), whereas for the other

developers the B/A ratios yielding peak diffraction efficiency are lower (2 or 8). This is due

to the hardening of the gelatin created by the oxidation products of the CW-C2 developer

during the development step. The hardening of the gelatin makes diffusion of the silver ion

from the exposed to the unexposed zones difficult [8, 9], so higher concentrations of

potassium bromide are needed in order to improve the diffusion mechanism. The oxidation

NEIPP, Cristian; PASCUAL, Inmaculada; BELÉNDEZ, Augusto. "Bleached silver halide volume holograms recorded on Slavich PFG-01 emulsion: the influence of the developer". Journal of Modern Optics. Vol. 48, No. 9 (July 2001). ISSN 0950-0340, pp. 1479-1494

8

products of AAC and PAAP developers, on the other hand, do not create a tanning action,

therefore such high B/A ratios are not needed. With respect to the D-19 developer, it should

be pointed out that the oxidation products of this developer do not create a tanning action

during the development step, since due to the high content of sulfite in the solution, this

tanning action occurs during the bleach bath. It is clear that the B/A ratio must be adjusted

carefully for the particular developer which is used in the development step. Nevertheless

values of diffraction efficiency of over 50% are maintained for all developers and B/A ratios.

Figure 2 shows diffraction efficiency versus exposure for plates yielding peak

diffraction efficiency with the four different developers used. The highest values of

diffraction efficiency were achieved with plates developed in PAAP and CW-C2 developers.

However, the behavior of plates developed in CW-C2 is better, because the response of

diffraction efficiency versus exposure is almost flat for values of exposure ranging from 125

to 5500 µJ/cm<sup>2</sup>, with a diffraction efficiency of over 60% being maintained. With respect to

plates developed in PAAP developer, it can be seen that the curve of diffraction efficiency

versus exposure has two different maximums separated by a deep trough. As will be seen

later this behavior is due to excess refractive index modulation.

Figures 3 and 4 shows diffraction efficiency versus exposure for plates developed in

the four different developers and bleached with the 4 different B/A ratios. For both AAC and

D-19 developer, the value of exposure yielding peak diffraction efficiency is displaced to the

zone of low exposures as the B/A ratio increases. This is due to the fact that a low B/A ratio,

implies a higher degree of hardening of the gelatin and a lower concentration of potassium

bromide, which makes the diffusion mechanism created inside the emulsion from the exposed

to the unexposed zones difficult; therefore higher exposures are needed as the B/A ratio

decreases. On the other hand it should be pointed out that the best behavior of diffraction

efficiency versus exposure is obtained when the plates are developed in CW-C2 developer.

NEIPP, Cristian; PASCUAL, Inmaculada; BELÉNDEZ, Augusto. "Bleached silver halide volume holograms recorded on Slavich PFG-01 emulsion: the influence of the developer". Journal of Modern Optics. Vol. 48, No. 9 (July 2001). ISSN 0950-0340, pp. 1479-1494

DOI: 10.1080/09500340108231777

The response of diffraction efficiency versus exposure is almost flat for the different B/A

ratios (except for a B/A ratio of 8).

Measurements were also made of the scattered light intensity using the setup shown in

Figure 5. The light coming from a He-Ne laser impinged onto the hologram forming an angle

of 22.5° (Bragg angle in air) with the normal to the holographic grating. The light scattered by

the holographic grating diffused away and was made to collect onto a photo-detector by

using a lens. The absolute values of the scattered light intensity were not measured, because

only part of the total amount of light scattered by the hologram impinged on the lens.

Nevertheless, the values of the intensity measured by the photodetector gave comparative

information of the amount of light scattered by the different holograms. In Figure 6 the

values of scattered light intensity (in arbitrary units) versus exposure are shown for the

different B/A ratios. It can be seen from the resulting figures that the response of scattering

versus exposure is similar for the different B/A ratios, with an increase in scattering as the

values of exposure increase. The scattered light intensity also increases as the B/A ratio is

increased. Nevertheless, for plates developed with CW-C2, the scattered light intensity is

lower than the scattering with the other plates.

4.2.- Angular response of the transmittance

The efficiency of the diffracted and the transmitted beams,  $\eta$  and  $\tau$ , respectively,

together with the absorption of the material  $\alpha d$  (where  $\alpha$  is the absorption coefficient and d

is the thickness of the photographic emulsion after processing) are three parameters that may

be used to characterize holographic transmission gratings recorded on the silver halide

sensitized gelatin of Slavich PFG-01 plates. By means of Kogelnik's coupled wave theory

[16], it is possible to obtain an analytical expression for the diffraction efficiency of volume

NEIPP, Cristian; PASCUAL, Inmaculada; BELÉNDEZ, Augusto. "Bleached silver halide volume holograms recorded on Slavich PFG-01 emulsion: the influence of the developer". Journal of Modern Optics. Vol. 48, No. 9 (July 2001). ISSN 0950-0340, pp. 1479-1494

10

holograms. As Kogelnik's theory is limited o the description of two diffraction orders, then

[17]:

 $\tau = \exp(-\alpha d/\cos\theta') - \eta \tag{5}$ 

where  $\tau$  is the transmission of the hologram and  $\eta$  is given as in equation (1).

We tested the holograms by rotating them, and the variation in transmission with the

angle of incidence  $\tau$  in air was measured. The rotation axes stayed in the plane of the

hologram and was perpendicular to the plane of incidence. The values of transmission were

corrected to take into account Fresnel's reflections and the absorption of the glass substrate.

By fitting the theoretical function (equation (5)) to the experimental data we obtained

information about the refractive index modulation, the thickness and the absorption

coefficient.

Figure 7 shows the product  $\Delta n d$  as a function of exposure for plates developed with

the four different developers yielding peak diffraction efficiency. The discontinuous line

corresponds to the value of  $\Delta n$  d which allows maximum diffraction efficiency to be reached

 $(v = \pi/2)$ . It can be seen that the refractive index modulation reaches higher values than this

product when the plates are developed in AAC and PAAP. This excess modulation is the

reason for the troughs seen in the corresponding diffraction efficiency versus exposure

curves. For instance, in the case of the diffraction gratings developed with AAC and bleached

with a B/A ratio of 8, the minimum value of the diffraction efficiency was obtained for a

value of the exposure of 1000  $\mu$ J/cm<sup>2</sup> and corresponds to a high value of the product  $\Delta n \cdot d$ 

of 0.536  $\mu$ m. This value of  $\Delta n \cdot d$  yields to a value of  $\nu$  of 2.737 corresponding to a low

maximum achievable diffraction efficiency of 16%. For this value of the exposure the

11

NEIPP, Cristian; PASCUAL, Inmaculada; BELÉNDEZ, Augusto. "Bleached silver halide volume holograms recorded on Slavich PFG-01 emulsion: the influence of the developer". Journal of Modern Optics.

Vol. 48, No. 9 (July 2001). ISSN 0950-0340, pp. 1479-1494

DOI: 10.1080/09500340108231777

measured diffraction efficiency was only of 3%, because the absorption and scattering was

high, 50%. Therefore it is clear that an excessive increase of the product  $\Delta n$  d over the value

of 0.31 µm could lead to a decrease of the diffraction efficiency. For plates developed with

D-19 (bleached with a B/A ratio of 2) the value  $\Delta n \cdot d = 0.31 \,\mu m$  is never reached, whereas for

plates developed with CW-C2 the product  $\Delta n \cdot d$  is kept near 0.31  $\mu m$  for values of exposure

ranging from 125 to 3700  $\mu$ J/cm<sup>2</sup>. In fact, the values of  $\Delta n \cdot d$  are kept within the range 0.217

 $\mu m \le \Delta n \cdot d \le 0.399 \ \mu m$  for these range of exposures, which means that the values of  $\nu$  are

kept within 1.108  $\leq v \leq 2.037$  and the theoretical diffraction efficiency that can be achieved

is  $\eta_{max} \ge 80\%$ ; these values are limited by absorption and scattering and the measured

diffraction efficiency is kept over  $\eta \ge 60\%$ . Therefore, the fact that the product  $\Delta n \cdot d$  is kept

near 0.31 µm for values of exposure ranging from 125 to 3700 µJ/cm<sup>2</sup>, explains the flat

response of diffraction efficiency versus exposure for plates developed with CW-C2 and

bleached with a B/A ratio of 120.

4.3.- Excess of modulation effects

As can be seen in the previous section, fixation-free bleaching techniques are efficient

enough to create high refractive index modulations. This excess modulation will yield a

decrease in diffraction efficiency when the value of  $v = \pi/2$  is surpassed. In order to compare

the effects of this excess modulation in the response of the diffraction efficiency as a

function of the exposure and in the angular response of the transmittance, two series of

plates were chosen. Figures 8 and 9 correspond to plates developed with AAC and bleached

with a B/A ratio of 2, whereas Figures 10 and 11 correspond to plates developed with PAAP

and bleached with a B/A ratio of 8. In the first case (plates developed with AAC) the values

12

NEIPP, Cristian; PASCUAL, Inmaculada; BELÉNDEZ, Augusto. "Bleached silver halide volume holograms recorded on Slavich PFG-01 emulsion: the influence of the developer". Journal of Modern Optics.

of the product And obtained were not very high, whereas in the second case (plates

developed with PAAP) the values of the product  $\Delta n \cdot d$  are high. Figure 8 shows the value of

the product  $\Delta n d$  and diffraction efficiency as a function of exposure for plates developed

with AAC and bleached at a B/A ratio of 2. The flat response of diffraction efficiency versus

exposure for values of exposure ranging from 100 to 5500 µJ/cm<sup>2</sup> is due to the fact that the

product  $\Delta n \cdot d$  is kept near 0.31 µm for this range of exposures, as explained in the case of

plates developed with CW-C2 and bleached with a B/A ratio of 120. Figure 9 shows

transmittance versus angle of reconstruction for four different exposures (125, 290, 700 and

1550 μJ/cm<sup>2</sup>) for plates developed with AAC and bleached at a B/A ratio of 2. There are two

troughs centered at -22.5° and 22.5°, which are the Bragg angles. The depth of these troughs

determine the value of the diffraction efficiency, measured at Bragg angle. For exposures of

290 and 700 µJ/cm<sup>2</sup>, yielding a slight excess of modulation, the adjacent troughs are slightly

deeper than those corresponding to exposures of 125 and 1550 µJ/cm<sup>2</sup>. Nevertheless the

depth of the troughs centered at Bragg angle is still high, so that the values of the diffraction

efficiency are kept high.

Figure 10 shows the value of the product  $\Delta n d$ , and the diffraction efficiency as a

function of exposure for plates developed with PAAP and bleached at a B/A ratio of 8. For

exposures ranging from 190 to 700 µJ/cm<sup>2</sup> the value of 0.31 µm is surpassed, with values of

0.493 μm for an exposure of 190 μJ/cm<sup>2</sup> and 0.496 μm for an exposure of 440 μJ/cm<sup>2</sup> being

reached. These high values of the product  $\Delta n d$  correspond to a considerable decrease in the

diffraction efficiency. Figure 11 shows the transmittance versus the angle of reconstruction

for four different exposures (125, 290, 700 and 1550 µJ/cm<sup>2</sup>) for plates developed with

PAAP and bleached at a B/A ratio of 8. It is clear that the increase in modulation

NEIPP, Cristian; PASCUAL, Inmaculada; BELÉNDEZ, Augusto. "Bleached silver halide volume holograms recorded on Slavich PFG-01 emulsion: the influence of the developer". Journal of Modern Optics. Vol. 48, No. 9 (July 2001). ISSN 0950-0340, pp. 1479-1494

DOI: 10.1080/09500340108231777

corresponds to an increase in the depth of the troughs adjacent to the two centered at the

Bragg angles, with the corresponding decrease in diffraction efficiency at the Bragg angle

(depth of the troughs centered at Bragg angle). Therefore it has been demonstrated that the

high values of the product  $\Delta n \cdot d$  obtained with plates developed with PAAP developer and

bleached with a B/A ratio of 8 are the real cause of the decrease in diffraction efficiency

shown in the diffraction efficiency versus exposure curves for these plates.

5.- Conclusions

A fixation-free rehalogenating bleach based on a modified version of the R-10 has been

optimized for Slavich PFG-01 plates by using different developers (D-19, CW-C2, AAC and

PAAP). It has been demonstrated that the optimum B/A ratio, determining the relation

between the potassium bromide concentration and the oxidizer concentration, depends on the

developer used. A peak diffraction efficiency of 71% was obtained for a B/A ratio of 120

when the plates were developed in CW-C2; 65% for the AAC developer by bleaching the

plates with a B/A ratio of 8, 64% for plates developed in D-19 for a B/A ratio of 2, and 69%

for plates developed with PAAP developer and bleached with a B/A ratio of 2. The best

results were obtained using the CW-C2 developer -diffraction efficiency of 71% for a B/A

ratio of 120-. Also the behavior of PFG-01 plates developed with CW-C2 is better, giving a

flat response of diffraction efficiency versus exposure for the different B/A ratios. It has also

been demonstrated that the diffusion mechanism that takes place from the exposed to the

unexposed zones is efficient enough to create high refractive index modulations, even yielding

an excess of modulation effects with a decrease in diffraction efficiency for high values of the

product ∆n·d.

NEIPP, Cristian; PASCUAL, Inmaculada; BELÉNDEZ, Augusto. "Bleached silver halide volume holograms recorded on Slavich PFG-01 emulsion: the influence of the developer". Journal of Modern Optics. Vol. 48, No. 9 (July 2001). ISSN 0950-0340, pp. 1479-1494

DOI: 10.1080/09500340108231777

14

# Acknowledgments

This study was supported by the Comisión Interministerial de Ciencia y Tecnología (CICYT) of Spain under project nº MAT97-0705-C02-02.

#### REFERENCES

- [1] BJELKHAGEN, H. I., 1993, Silver Halide Recording Materials for Holography and Their Processing (Berlin: Springer-Verlag).
- [2] VAN RENESSE, R. L., 1980, Photogr. Sci. Eng. 24, 114.
- [3] UPATNIEKS, J., and LEONARD, C., 1969, Appl. Optics, 8, 85.
- [4] PHILLIPS, N. J., and PORTER, D., 1976, J. Phys. Eng., 9, 631.
- [5] PHILLIPS, N. J., WARD, A.A., CULLEN, R., and PORTER, D., 1980, Photogr. Sci. Eng., 24, 120.
- [6] ALTMAN, J. H., 1966, Appl. Optics, 5, 1689.
- [7] McMAHON, D.H., and FRANKLIN, A. R., 1969, Appl. Optics, 8, 1927.
- [8] CRESPO, J., FIMIA, A., and QUINTANA, J.A., 1986, Appl. Optics, 25, 1642.
- [9] HARIHARAN, P., and CHIDLEY, C.M., 1987, Appl. Optics, 26, 3895.
- [10] HARIHARAN, P., and CHIDLEY, C.M., 1987, Appl. Optics, 26, 1230.
- [11] PHILLIPS, N.J., 1997, Holography Newsletter, 8 (1), 12.
- [12] PHILLIPS, N. J., HEYWORTH, H., and HARE, T., 1984, J. Photogr. Sci., 32, 158.
- [13] THOLL, H. D., DÖMEN, M., and STOJANOFF, C. G., 1995, Proc. SPIE, 2405, 76.
- [14] BELENDEZ, A., NEIPP, C., and PASCUAL, I., 1999, J. mod Opics., 46, 1913.
- [15] COOKE, D.J., and, WARD, A.A., 1984, Appl. Opt., 23, 934.
- [16] KOGELNIK, H., 1969, Bell Systems Technology J., 48, 2909.
- [17] BELÉNDEZ, A., NEIPP, C. and PASCUAL, I., 1999, Appl. Opt., 38, 1348.

FIGURE CAPTIONS

Figure 1 - Diffraction efficiency versus B/A ratio, under the Bragg condition for transmission

gratings recorded on Slavich PFG-01 plates developed with 4 different developers

(D-19, CW-C2, AAC, PAAP) and bleached with R-10 at 50°C at 4 different B/A

ratios: 2, 8, 30, 120.

Figure 2.- Diffraction efficiency versus exposure, under the Bragg condition for transmission

gratings recorded on Slavich PFG-01 emulsion yielding peak diffraction efficiency.

Figure 3.- Diffraction efficiency versus exposure, under the Bragg condition for transmission

gratings recorded on Slavich PFG-01 plates developed with D-19 and CW-C2

developers and bleached with R-10 at 50°C at 4 different B/A ratios: 2, 8, 30, 120.

Figure 4 - Diffraction efficiency versus exposure, under the Bragg condition for transmission

gratings recorded on Slavich PFG-01 plates developed with AAC and PAAP

developers and bleached with R-10 at 50°C at 4 different B/A ratios: 2, 8, 30, 120

Figure 5 - Experimental set-up for the measurement of scattered radiation.

Figure 6.- Variation of scattering with exposure for transmission gratings recorded on Slavich

PFG-01 plates developed with 4 different developers (D-19, CW-C2, AAC,

PAAP) and bleached with R-10 at 50°C at 4 different B/A ratios: 2, 8, 30, 120.

NEIPP, Cristian; PASCUAL, Inmaculada; BELÉNDEZ, Augusto. "Bleached silver halide volume holograms recorded on Slavich PFG-01 emulsion: the influence of the developer". Journal of Modern Optics. Vol. 48, No. 9 (July 2001). ISSN 0950-0340, pp. 1479-1494

DOI: 10.1080/09500340108231777

Figure 7 - Product of refractive index modulation and thickness (\Delta n d) as a function of

exposure for diffraction gratings recorded on Slavich PFG-01 yielding peak

diffraction efficiency.

Figure 8 - Product of refractive index modulation and thickness ( $\Delta n d$ ), and diffraction

efficiency as a function of exposure for diffraction gratings recorded on Slavich

PFG-01 developed with AAC developer and bleached at a B/A ratio of 2.

Figure 9.- Transmittance versus angle at reconstruction for unslanted phase transmission

gratings recorded on Slavich PFG-01 developed with AAC developer and bleached

at a B/A ratio of 2.

Figure 10.- Product of refractive index modulation and thickness ( $\Delta n \cdot d$ ), and diffraction

efficiency as a function of exposure for diffraction gratings recorded on Slavich

PFG-01 developed with PAAP developer and bleached at a B/A ratio of 8.

Figure 11.- Transmittance versus angle at reconstruction for unslanted phase transmission

gratings recorded on Slavich PFG-01 developed with PAAP developer and

bleached at a B/A ratio of 8.

NEIPP, Cristian; PASCUAL, Inmaculada; BELÉNDEZ, Augusto. "Bleached silver halide volume holograms recorded on Slavich PFG-01 emulsion: the influence of the developer". Journal of Modern Optics.

Vol. 48, No. 9 (July 2001). ISSN 0950-0340, pp. 1479-1494

## TABLE I

# Processing schedule

1 Develop	5 min
2 Rinse in running water	1 min
3 Bleach for 1 min after the plate has cleared	
4 Rinse in running water	5 min
5 Dry at room temperature	

## TABLE II

# Developers formulas

D-19 Developer	
Metol	2 g
Sodium sulfite	45 g
Hydroquinone	8 g
Sodium carbonate (anhydrous)	50 g
Potassium bromide	5 g
Distilled water	l liter
Developer time	5 minutes at 20°C
AAC Developer <sup>a</sup>	
Ascorbic acid-L	18 g
Sodium carbonate (anhydrous)	60 g
Distilled water	1 liter
Developer time	4 minutes at 20°C
<sup>a</sup> Two solutions, one containing the containing the ascorbic acid.	sodium carbonate and the othe
CW-C2 Developer <sup>b</sup>	
Catechol	10 g
Ascorbic acid-L	5 g
Sodium sulfite (anhydrous)	5 g
Urea	50 g
Sodium carbonate	30 g
	5 B
Distilled water	1 liter
Distilled water Developer time	•
	1 liter 2 minutes at 20°C
Developer time  bTwo solutions, one containing the	1 liter 2 minutes at 20°C
Developer time  bTwo solutions, one containing the containing the rest of components.  PAAP Developer	1 liter 2 minutes at 20°C sodium carbonate and the othe
Developer time  bTwo solutions, one containing the containing the rest of components.	1 liter 2 minutes at 20°C sodium carbonate and the othe
Developer time  bTwo solutions, one containing the containing the rest of components.  PAAP Developer  Phenydone Ascorbic acid-L	1 liter 2 minutes at 20°C sodium carbonate and the othe  0.5 g 18 g
Developer time  bTwo solutions, one containing the containing the rest of components.  PAAP Developer  Phenydone	1 liter 2 minutes at 20°C sodium carbonate and the other  0.5 g 18 g 12 g
Developer time  bTwo solutions, one containing the containing the rest of components.  PAAP Developer  Phenydone Ascorbic acid-L Sodium hydroxide	1 liter 2 minutes at 20°C sodium carbonate and the othe  0.5 g 18 g

## TABLE III

## Bleach bath compositions

## Solution A

Potassium dichromate

20 g

Sulfuric acid

15 ml

Distilled water

1 liter

## Solution B

Potassium bromide

100 g

Distilled water

1 liter

Just before use, mix 1 part A with 10 parts distilled wate; then add X parts B (B/A = X).

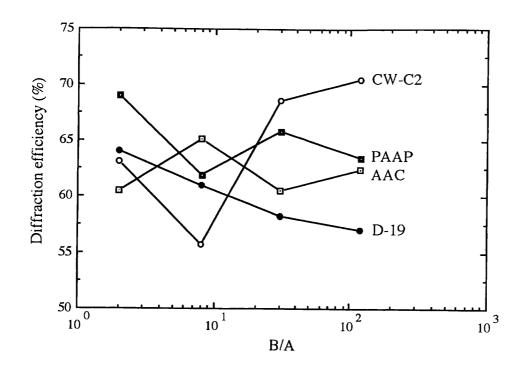


FIGURE 1 C. Neipp et al.

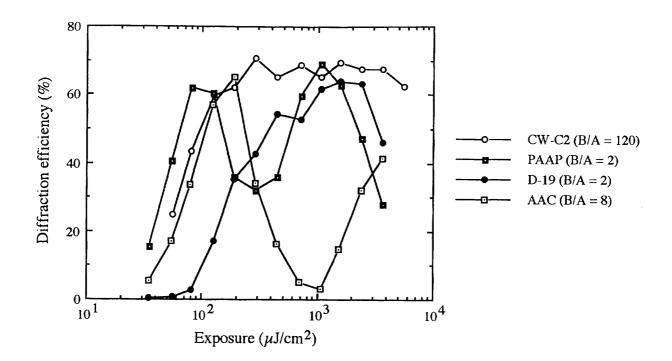
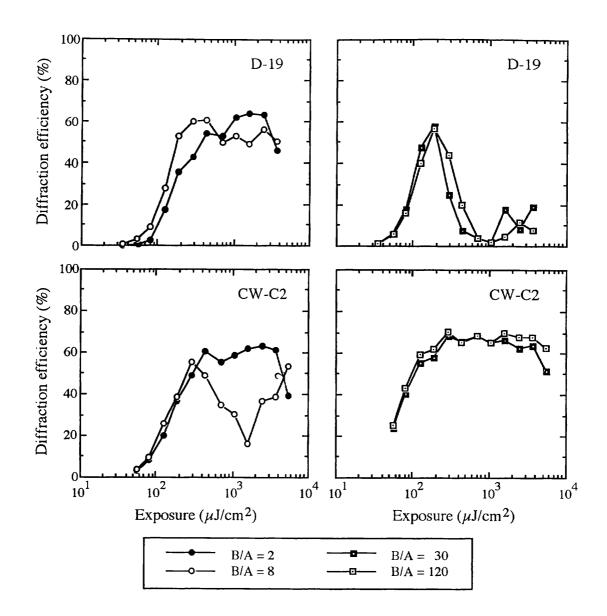


FIGURE 2 C. Neipp et al.



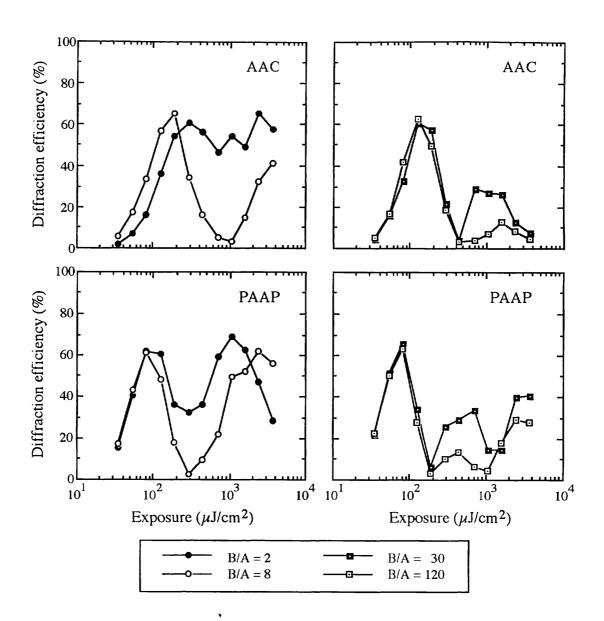


FIGURE 4 C. Neipp et al.

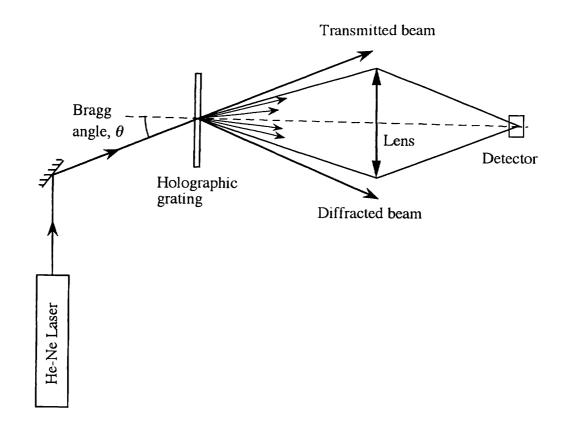


FIGURE 5 C. Neipp et al.

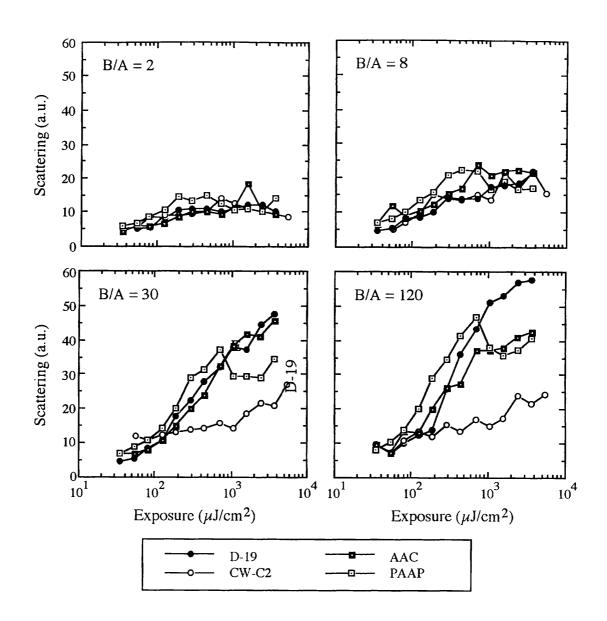


FIGURE 6 C. Neipp et al.

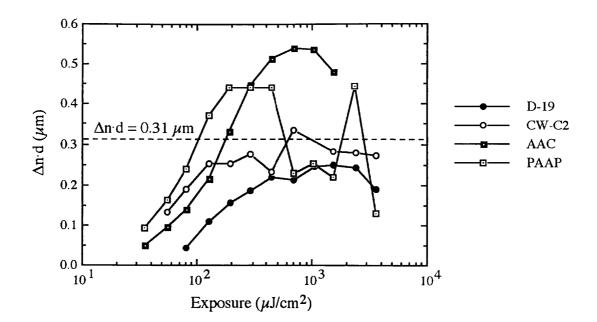


FIGURE 7 C. Neipp et al.

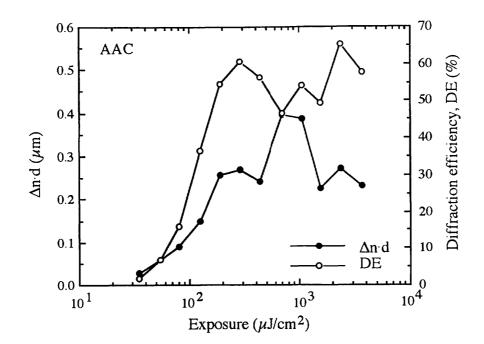


FIGURE 8 C.Neippetal.

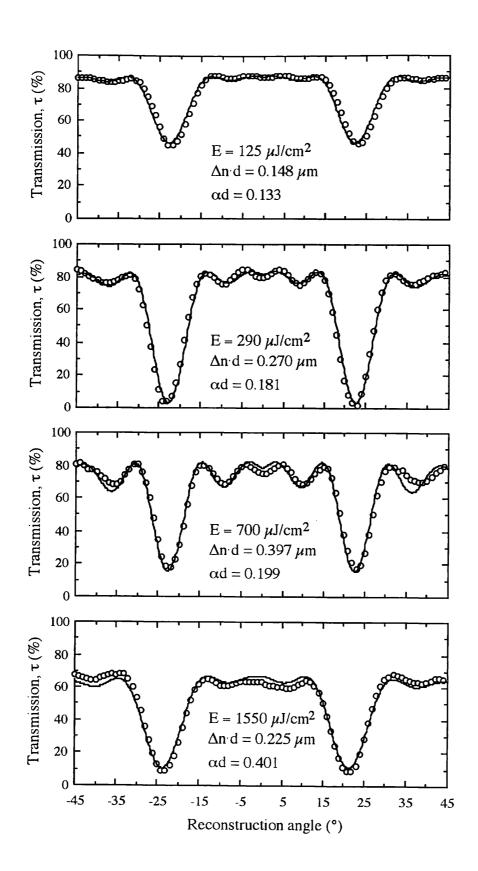


FIGURE 9 C. Neipp et al.

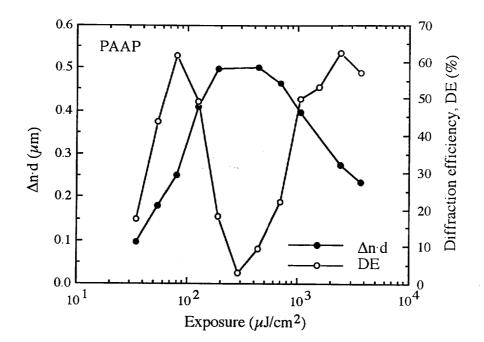


FIGURE 10 C. Neipp et al

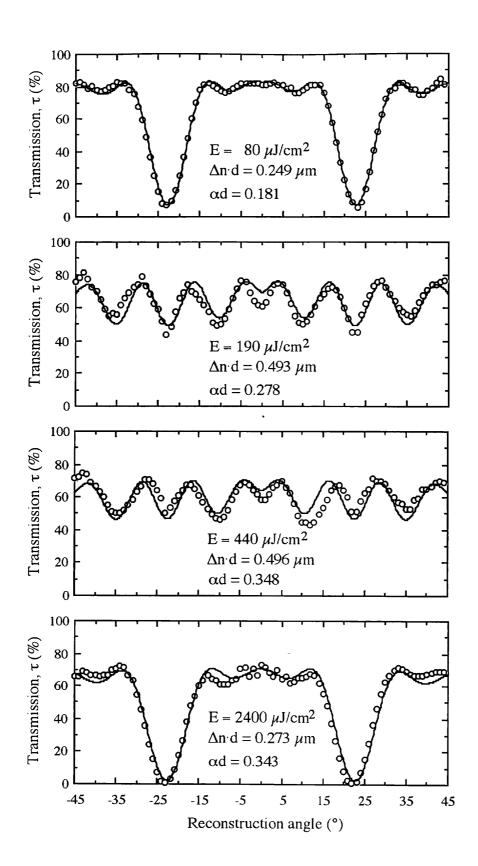


FIGURE 11 C. Neipp et al.