- 1 Estimation of the sugar content of fruit by energy-resolved computed
- 2 tomography using a material decomposition method
- 3 Ikuo Kanno\* and Takahiro Kuroyama
- 4 Department of Nuclear Engineering, Graduate School of Engineering, Kyoto University,
- 5 Katsura, Nishikyo, Kyoto 615-8530, Japan
- 6 \*<u>kanno@nucleng.kyoto-u.ac.jp</u>
- 7

# 8 Estimation of the sugar content of fruit by energy-resolved computed 9 tomography using a material decomposition method

10 We have been developing energy-resolved X-ray computed tomography (ER-CT) 11 using a novel detector system called a transXend detector, which measures X-12 rays as electric current and gives the energy distribution of X-rays by unfolding 13 analysis. This paper presents the results of the sugar content measurements of 14 kiwifruit samples by ER-CT. Because the change of linear attenuation 15 coefficients as a function of sugar content was small, we used a material 16 decomposition method instead of the unfolding method to deduce the linear 17 attenuation coefficient from the measured electric current. The obtained sugar 18 contents showed good agreement with those measured by a refractometer.

Keywords: X-ray; computed tomography; energy distribution; material
 decomposition; non-destructive; experiment

21

### 22 1. Introduction

X-ray computed tomography (CT) is an effective modality to identify tumor tissue and 23 24 anomalies inside the organs of human bodies. In CT inspections at hospitals, X-rays are 25 measured as electric current without using the energy information of X-ray photons. 26 This measurement method is called a current measurement. X-rays are attenuated 27 according to the linear attenuation coefficient of a material. The linear attenuation 28 coefficient is generally greater for X-rays of lower energy according to data from the 29 National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) [1]. As X-rays pass through a 30 material, the number of low-energy X-ray photons decreases more quickly than that of 31 high-energy X-ray photons, causing the number of high-energy X-ray photons to dominate. As a result, the averaged energy of an X-ray energy spectrum increases after 32 33 passing through a material. The measured linear attenuation coefficient of the material

changes as a function of the path length of the X-rays. This phenomenon is called thebeam hardening effect [2].

To avoid the beam hardening effect, it is necessary to use the energy information of X-rays [3]. There are three ways to exploit the energy information of X-rays in CT: dual-energy CT (DE-CT), photon-counting CT (PC-CT) and energy-resolved CT (ER-CT).

40 DE-CT performs CT measurements twice with changing X-ray tube voltages [4]. 41 The change of averaged X-ray energies is, however, not much. When using 80 kV and 42 140 kV tube voltages, typical averaged energies are 42.4 keV and 58.2 keV, respectively. DE-CT gives not enough energy information. Moreover, DE-CT results in 43 44 large exposure dose due to two exposures. As an alternative of DE-CT, dual-layer 45 detector is used to give linear attenuation coefficients for high and low energy X-rays 46 [5]. Again, the difference of averaged energies measured by the upper and lower detector is not much. 47

In PC-CT, the energy of each incident X-ray photon is measured and sorted into 6 to 8 energy bins. The number of X-rays coming into a CT detector, however, is too high to perform the energy measurement of each X-ray photon. With this difficulty, the photon counting CT is under study with suppressed counting rate [6]. The systems of PC-CT are in the pre-clinical investigation stage [7]. To compete with DE-CT, further improvement is necessary [8].

We have been studying energy-resolved X-ray computed tomography (ER-CT) using a novel detector system called a "transXend" detector [9]. The transXend detector consists of multiple segmented detectors aligned in the direction of X-ray incidence as shown in Figure 1 of Ref. [9]. We call this a stacked-type transXend detector. Because each segmented detector measures X-rays as electric current, the

transXend detector has no problems associated with the huge number of incident X-rays. Using the previously obtained response functions for each segmented detector as a function of X-ray energy, the energy distribution of incident X-rays can be estimated by an unfolding method for the X-ray energy with 0.5 keV or 1 keV interval. We measured the linear attenuation coefficients of nine kinds of resins and estimated their effective atomic numbers ( $Z_{eff}$ ), which ranged from 5 to 14 with the errors of  $Z_{eff}$  were within 3% [10].

66 Apart from the stacked-type transXend detector for the measurement with pencil beam X-rays, we developed a two-dimensional transXend detector with a flat panel 67 68 detector (FPD) and two kinds of ribbon metal absorbers in lattice structure in front of 69 the FPD [11]. For CT measurements with the stacked-type transXend detector, a 70 phantom was scanned by pencil beam X-rays with the movements of translation and 71 rotation. This measurement takes long time. With the two-dimensional transXend 72 detector, the phantom is scanned by fan beam or cone beam X-rays with the rotation 73 movement. The two-dimensional transXend detector has an advantage of shorter 74 measurement time, which advantage is the same one for the third generation CT to the 75 first generation CT.

We measured  $Z_{eff}$ s of eleven RMI rods (Gammex, Middleton, WI, US) which were developed by Constantinou, et al. [12] with ER-CT method.  $Z_{eff}$ s of rod materials were measured within  $\pm 1.8\%$  error after the normalization with the one of breast [13]. Similar measurements were performed by some groups with using the RMI rods by clinical CT scanners with DE-CT method. Bazalova et al. performed DE-CT with 100 kV and 140 kV tube voltages and reported  $Z_{eff}$  with averaged error 2.8%, with the largest error 12.0% [14]. Goodsitt et al. used rapid kVp switching DE-CT method and

gave errors of -6% to +6% for phantoms with  $Z_{eff} > 6.3$ , and the errors of 15% for phantoms with  $Z_{eff} < 6.3$ , respectively [15].

In this paper, we describe a method to use ER-CT to estimate the sugar content 85 86 of fruit as a precise measurement of  $Z_{eff}$ . The  $Z_{eff}$ s of fructose and water are 6.95 and 87 7.42, respectively. Similar to the  $Z_{eff}$  estimation of resins, sugar content is determined by 88 measuring the linear attenuation coefficient of a sample. However, the change of the 89 linear attenuation coefficient as a function of sugar content is small. To distinguish 90 small differences of linear attenuation coefficients, we employ a material decomposition 91 method to analyze the ER-CT data instead of unfolding the X-ray energy distribution, 92 which we used previously.

Generally, sugar content is measured in the unit of degrees Brix (°Bx); the sugar
content of a 100-g solution containing 1 g of sucrose at 20 °C is defined 1 °Bx. Sucrose
consists of glucose and fructose, which are isomers of each other.

96 Sugar content measurement methods include destructive and non-destructive approaches. A sugar content meter that measures the refractive index of liquids, i.e., the 97 98 juice of a fruit, is a destructive method and has an accuracy of 0.1%-0.2% [16]. 99 Infrared (IR) spectroscopy is a non-destructive method to estimate the sugar content of 100 fruit that involves with measuring the absorption spectrum of IR light and estimating 101 sugar content using the previously obtained calibration line of IR light absorption. 102 However, IR spectroscopy has some disadvantages, including measurement error 103 caused by the variation of fruit samples from those used to make the calibration line and 104 restricted measurement region that is limited to the fruit surface where IR light can 105 reach. A typical commercial IR Brix meter has an accuracy of 1.0%-1.5% [16]. ER-106 CT is also a non-destructive method and can give sugar content distribution including

the center part of a fruit where IR light can't reach. Our goal is to estimate the sugarcontent of fruit samples with accuracy of 1.0%.

In this report, we first describe a method to estimate the sugar content of fructose solutions in an acrylic (PMMA) container using standard phantoms. After establishing this method, it is used to estimate the sugar content of kiwifruit samples.

112

# 113 **2.** Materials and Methods

# 114 2.1 Experimental setup for ER-CT

115 The experimental setup for ER-CT is shown in Figure 1. The X-ray tube (TRIX-150S, 116 Toreck Co., Ltd., Yokohama, Japan) had a W target with a colliding angle of 22°. This 117 X-ray tube had a 1 mm thick Be filter. An additional Al filter with a thickness of 2 mm 118 was included in the system to decrease the number of low-energy X-rays. A rotating 119 wheel consisting of a PMMA disk with a thickness of 1 mm was placed at the X-ray 120 tube exit to change the X-ray energy spectra. The rotating wheel was divided into four 121 regions—one uncovered region and three covered with Cu filters with thicknesses of 0.1, 122 0.2, and 0.3 mm—which provided four different X-ray energy spectra.

123 X-rays were measured by a flat panel detector (FPD; Remote RadEye2, 124 Teledyne Rad-icon Imaging, Santa Clara CA, USA). The FPD contained a  $1024 \times 1024$ 125 array of  $48 \times 48 \ \mu m$  silicon photodiode pixels. The sensitive area of the FPD was  $48.2 \times$ 126 48.2 mm. X-rays were absorbed by a Gd<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S (GOS) scintillator plate with an effective 127 thickness of 50  $\mu m$ . Scintillation photons were detected by the photodiode pixels.

128 The FPD and a region on the rotating wheel corresponded to a segmented 129 detector of the stacked-type transXend detector; thus, the two-dimensional transXend 130 detector in this experimental setup had four segmented detectors. Each segmented

detector is hereafter denoted as a channel: Cu filters with thicknesses of 0, 0.1, 0.2, and
0.3 mm correspond to channel 1, 2, 3, and 4, respectively. X-ray spectra for channel 1
and 4 calculated using the formula of Birch et al. [17] are shown in Figure 2.

To suppress scattered X-rays, a 1-mm-thick W plate with a horizontal opening with a width of 4 mm was placed between the X-ray tube and a phantom. The phantom was placed on a precision rotating stage (SGSP-60YAW, Sigma Koki, Tokyo, Japan) for CT measurements from 36 angles. The operating conditions of the X-ray tube were 100 kV, 2.4 mA, and 0.5 s for each CT measurement angle.

# 139 2.2 Standard phantoms for sugar content measurements

As preparation for the sugar content estimation of fruit samples by ER-CT, fructose solutions were used as known liquid. Fructose solutions with various sugar contents were added to a hole with a 15-mm diameter in a PMMA cylinder with a diameter of 30 mm to form standard phantoms.

The chemical formula of fructose is  $C_6H_{12}O_6$  and its effective atomic number is 6.95 according to an empirical formula reported by Mayneord [18]. We made fructose solutions with mass percent concentrations of 5%, 10%, 15%, and 30%. The sugar contents of these solutions were measured by a sugar refractometer (APAL-J, Atago, Tokyo, Japan). The measured sugar contents for the 5%, 10%, 15%, and 30% solutions were 4.9, 9.8, 15.0, and 29.7  $\pm$  0.2 °Bx, respectively.

### 150 2.3 Analysis

151 2.3.1 Response functions

To estimate X-ray energy spectra after passing through a phantom with various paths, response functions for each channel are necessary. Response functions were estimated using the measured electric currents induced by X-rays that passed through reference 155 PMMA slabs with thicknesses of 10, 20, 30, and 40 mm which are denoted as reference156 material No. 1, 2, 3, and 4, respectively.

157 The electric current measured after passing through the *j*-th reference material in158 the *i*-th channel is written as

159 
$$I_{i,j} = a \int Y(E) R_i(E) \exp\{-\mu_P(E)t_j\} dE + b.$$
 (1)

Here, Y(E) is the number of X-ray photons with energy *E* emitted by the X-ray tube,  $R_i(E)$  is the response function of *i*-th channel,  $\mu_P(E)$  is the linear attenuation coefficient of PMMA, and  $t_j$  is the thickness of PMMA as the *j*-th reference material. Also, *a* and *b* are the correction factors for gain and offset, respectively. The X-ray spectrum Y(E) is calculated as,

165 
$$Y(E) = Y_0(E) \exp\{-\mu_{Al}(E)t_{Al} - \mu_W(E)t_W\}.$$
 (2)

Here,  $Y_0(E)$  is the X-ray energy spectrum calculated using the formula developed by Birch et al.,  $\mu_{Al}(E)$  and  $\mu_W(E)$  are the linear attenuation coefficients of Al and W, respectively, and  $t_{Al}$  and  $t_W$  are the thicknesses of Al and W, respectively, used to correct  $Y_0(E)$  to reproduce measured electric current. The W thickness correction is for taking into account the Heel effect, which is influenced by the X-ray path length inside the W target. [19] The response function  $R_i(E)$  can be written as,

172 
$$R_i(E) = R_0(E) \exp\{-\mu_{Cu}(E)t_ic_i\},$$
 (3)

173 where  $R_0(E)$  is the energy deposited in the GOS scintillator by an X-ray photon with 174 energy *E* calculated by the GEANT4 Monte Carlo code [20] and  $\mu_{Cu}(E)$ ,  $t_i$ , and  $c_i$  are 175 the linear attenuation coefficient of Cu, the thickness of the Cu filter, and the correction 176 factor for the thickness of the *i*-th channel Cu filter (*i*=1, 4), respectively.

177 We determined correction factors, a, b,  $t_{Al}$ ,  $t_W$ ,  $c_1$ ,  $c_2$ ,  $c_3$  and  $c_4$  by minimizing the 178 following relationship,

179 
$$S = \sum_{i,j} (I_{i,j}^{meas.} - I_{i,j})^2.$$
 (4)

Here,  $I_{i,j}^{meas.}$  is the measured electric current for X-rays passing through the *j*-th reference material in the *i*-th channel, which was averaged over horizontal pixels of the FPD from 1 to 1024 and also averaged vertically from the 486th to the 500th lines of pixels in the FPD to avoid the possible fluctuation of pixel values. Schematic drawing of this process is shown in Figure 3. Obtained response functions are shown in Figure 4.

186 2.3.2 Material decomposition method

In this study, we used a material decomposition method to estimate the X-ray energy distribution after passing through a phantom. As shown in Figure 1, the measured electric current induced by X-rays in the *k*-th horizontal pixel of the FPD at the *l*-th rotating angle of the phantom in the *i*-th channel is written as,

191 
$$I_{i,k,l} = a \int Y(E) R_i(E) \exp\{-\mu_{k,l}(E) d_{k,l}\} dE + b.$$
 (5)

192 The thicknesses of PMMA and the fructose solution change according to the 193 measurement position (k,l). We measured four electric currents for each measurement 194 position (k,l). However, we have 161 unknown  $\mu_{k,l}(E)d_{k,l}$ , because we estimated the 195 X-ray energy spectrum every 0.5 keV from 20 to 100 keV. It is therefore very difficult 196 to determine  $\mu_{k,l}(E)d_{k,l}$  from only four measurement values at each measurement 197 position (k,l) by unfolding analysis.

To overcome this difficulty, we reproduced  $\mu_{k,l}(E)d_{k,l}$  using the linear attenuation coefficients of hydrogen  $\mu_H(E)$  and oxygen  $\mu_O(E)$ :  $Z_{eff}$  of fructose solutions ranges from 6.95 (fructose) to 7.42 (water) and that of PMMA is 6.47. The atomic numbers of hydrogen and oxygen are 1 and 8, respectively, and  $Z_{eff}$  of the fructose solutions and PMMA are between these values. The linear attenuation coefficient of a material with  $Z_{eff}$  between 1 and 8 can be reproduced by the linear combination of 204  $\mu_H(E)$  and  $\mu_O(E)$ . For example, the linear attenuation coefficient of carbon is 205 reproduced as,

206 
$$\mu_C(E) = 6.4 \times 10^3 \mu_H(E) + 4.8 \times 10^2 \mu_O(E),$$
 (6)

- as shown in Figure 5.
- 208 Equation (5) can be rewritten using  $\mu_H(E)$  and  $\mu_O(E)$  as,

209 
$$I_{i,k,l} = a \int Y(E) R_i(E) \exp\{-\mu_H(E) d_{k,l}^H - \mu_O(E) d_{k,l}^O\} dE + b.$$
(7)

Here,  $d_{k,l}^{H}$  and  $d_{k,l}^{O}$  are the thicknesses of hydrogen and oxygen, respectively, to reproduce the X-ray attenuation at measurement position (k,l). To estimate unknown values  $d_{k,l}^{H}$  and  $d_{k,l}^{O}$ , we prepared look-up tables (LUTs) for the thicknesses of hydrogen and oxygen,  $d^{H}$  and  $d^{O}$ , respectively, for each channel. We estimated  $d_{k,l}^{H}$  and  $d_{k,l}^{O}$  by finding  $d^{H}$  and  $d^{O}$  that minimized the following equation,

215 
$$S_{k,l} = \sum_{i=1}^{4} \{ I_{k,l}^{meas,i} - I^{i}(d^{H}, d^{O}) \}^{2},$$
 (8)

with changing  $d^{H}$  and  $d^{O}$  from zero value to their maximums,  $d^{H,max}$  and  $d^{O,max}$ . The electric current  $I_{k,l}^{meas,i}$  was obtained by averaging vertically from the 486th to the 500th lines of the pixels in the FPD.  $I^{i}(d^{H}, d^{O})$  is the electric current value in the LUT prepared for the *i*-th channel as functions of  $d^{H}$  and  $d^{O}$ . The schematic drawing of finding  $d^{H}$  and  $d^{O}$  is shown in Figure 6.

221

# 222 2.3.3 Water phantom correction

Sugar content was estimated by comparing measured and theoretical linear attenuation coefficients. Measured linear attenuation coefficients were obtained from the ER-CT images as CT values as a function of X-ray energy. To have correct CT values, the transmission measurement of X-rays through water should be the same as that calculated using the Lambert–Beer law [21]. Figure 7 shows the theoretical and
experimental results of X-ray transmission through a water phantom (i.e., zero sugar
content). Although the results in Figure 7 look fairly similar, they differ slightly because
of X-ray scattering and other effects. The ratio of theoretical to experimental values is
presented in Figure 8. This ratio was applied to all measured results as the water
phantom correction factor.

233

#### 234 2.4 Sugar contents of standard phantoms

A reconstructed CT image using the number of X-ray photons with an energy of 70 keV 235 236 for a 10% fructose solution is shown in Figure 9. The CT value of this image shows the 237 linear attenuation coefficient for X-rays with an energy of 70 keV. By assigning a 238  $50 \times 50$  pixel region in the fructose solution as the region of interest (ROI), the linear 239 attenuation coefficient as a function of X-ray energy was obtained as the averaged CT 240 value in the ROI. The linear attenuation coefficients for 5%, 15%, and 30% fructose 241 solutions as a function of X-ray energy are displayed in Figure 10. Error bars given by 242 the standard deviations of the CT values in ROIs are only shown for the linear 243 attenuation coefficient of the 30% fructose solution because the error bars for the linear 244 attenuation coefficients were similar for all solutions with different sugar contents.

To determine the sugar content of each solution, we prepared reference curves of the linear attenuation coefficients as a function of X-ray energy,  $\mu_{ref.}(f_i, E_j)$ , for fructose solutions with the concentration of  $f_i$  with 0.1% intervals from 0 to 30% by calculations using data from NIST [1]. The sugar content of fructose solutions was estimated by finding  $\mu_{ref.}(f_i, E_j)$  which gives the minimum value of  $S_s(f_i)$  in the following equation,

251 
$$S_s(f_i) = \sum_{j=1}^{101} \{\mu_{meas.}(E_j) - \mu_{ref.}(f_i, E_j)\}^2$$
. (9)

Here,  $\mu_{meas.}(E_j)$  is the measured linear attenuation coefficient at energy  $E_j$ . We used linear attenuation coefficients for X-ray photon energies from 40 to 90 keV for the sugar content estimation because of the small numbers of X-ray photons with energies below 40 keV and above 90 keV. Estimated sugar contents are shown in Figure 11. The calibration line obtained using least squares fitting is drawn as a solid line. The dashed lines show the limitation of ±1% from the calibration line.

258

Flow chart of sugar content estimation method is shown in Figure 12.

# 259 2.5 Sugar content measurements of kiwifruit

260 We applied the sugar content estimation method described above to two kiwifruit 261 samples. Because the dimensions of the sensitive area of our FPD was 48.2×48.2 mm 262 and the diameters of commercially available kiwifruits are greater than 50 mm, we cut 263 kiwifruit samples out with diameters of less than 24 mm and put them in PMMA 264 casings with inner and outer diameters of 24 and 30 mm, respectively: in the CT 265 measurement, the attenuation of X-rays was measured as the ratio of the electric current 266 induced by X-rays after transmitting through a sample to that of X-rays passing through 267 air. Photographs of the prepared kiwifruit samples are depicted in Figure 13. To 268 estimate the sugar contents of both the green and white parts of the kiwifruit samples, 269 we cut samples off the axis of kiwifruits.

The ER-CT images reconstructed from the number of X-rays with an energy of 70 keV are shown in Figure 14. We defined two ROIs for each CT image, which corresponded to the green (ROI<sub>G</sub>) and white (ROI<sub>w</sub>) parts of the kiwifruit samples. Each ROI had  $50 \times 50$  pixels. Obtained linear attenuation coefficients for the kiwifruit samples are shown in Figure 15. Error bars are shown only for the linear attenuation
coefficients of green parts because those for the white parts had nearly the same lengths.
Using Equation (9), the sugar contents of the kiwifruit samples were estimated.
The estimated sugar contents of the green part of the kiwifruit samples are presented in
Figure 11, in which the *x*-values show those measured by the refractometer for juice
squeezed from the green part of each sample.

280

#### **3. Results and Discussion**

282 The transmission measured for the water phantom looked to agree well with the 283 theoretical one in Figure 7; however, the slight difference between them is shown in 284 Figure 8. The cause of this difference is not obvious, but we think that scattered X-rays 285 may be the main reason. Large deviations can be seen for the pixel number 115 and 286 903. This is because the borders of these pixels did not match with that between 287 PMMA and water. We consider that this difference is a geometric effect. Therefore, a 288 geometrical correction was carried out by multiplying all the measured transmission data by this factor. 289

Ring artifacts are seen in Figure 9. We think the artifacts were brought by the small number of X-ray photons and also the small number of projection angles. Similar artifacts are seen in Figure 14.

Figure 10 displays the error bars at every 10 keV for the linear attenuation coefficient of 30% fructose solution. The error bar at 40 keV was the smallest. We think the smallest error bar was observed at 40 keV because of the large number of Xray photons of this energy in channel 1 (i.e., without a Cu filter), as shown in Figure 2. The error bars are larger than those of Figure 5 of Ref. [10]. In Ref. [10], the X-rays were collimated by two W collimators with a diameter of 1 mm. In this case, the X-ray path was well defined so there was almost no effect from scattered X-rays. In the estimation of fruit sugar content or the ER-CT imaging of a human body, however, we have to use a two-dimensional transXend detector, so the influence of X-ray scattering cannot be avoided. The development of an algorithm that omits scattered X-rays will be the focus of our future study.

It may be possible to estimate the error of sugar content values by fitting linear attenuation coefficients taking the upper and lower values of error bars. However, this estimation does not have much meaning. Because the center value of linear attenuation coefficients changes according to the sugar content of the samples, we believe that our ER-CT measurements were performed properly and the error was systematic: small number of X-ray photons.

310 The sugar contents of the green parts of kiwifruit samples showed good 311 agreement with those measured by the refractometer within the error of 1% from the 312 calibration line, which was the purpose of this study. We could not extract juice from 313 the white parts of the kiwifruit samples but had white suspension, so we could not 314 measure their sugar content with the refractometer. The sugar content estimated by ER-315 CT was 1.1 °Bx for the white part of kiwifruit sample (a). The linear attenuation 316 coefficient of the white part of kiwifruit sample (b) was smaller than that of water so we 317 could not estimate its sugar content. The estimated Z<sub>eff</sub> of the white part of kiwifruit 318 sample (b) was 7.72, which was greater than that of water (7.42).

Using ER-CT, we can obtain the distribution of sugar content in a fruit sample. The green and white parts of a kiwifruit showed different sugar contents. In IR spectroscopy, sugar content can be measured only for regions close to the fruit surface. Therefore, the sugar content measurement by ER-CT has an advantage over that determined by IR spectroscopy regarding this point. The developed sugar content

324	estimation method using ER-CT can be used for other non-destructive food inspections					
325	such as fat content measurement. To extend the application of the two-dimensional					
326	transXend detector, a method to suppress the effect of X-ray scattering should be					
327	developed in the future.					
328						
329	Acknowledgment					
330	We thank Dr. Y. Yamashita, Osaka Prefecture University College of Technology, for					
331	fruitful discussion. We acknowledge The Kansai Atomic Conference for financial					
332	support.					
333						
334	References					
335	[1] Hubbell JH, Seltzer SM. Tables of X-ray mass attenuation coefficients and mass					
336	energy-absorption coefficients from 1 keV to 20 MeV for elements $Z = 1-92$ and 48					
337	additional substances of dosimetric interest. The Physical Measurement Laboratory, The					
338	National Institute of Standard and Technology; 2010. Available from:					
339	http://www.nist.gov/pml/data/xraycoef/index.cfm					
340	[2] Brooks RA, Di Chiro G. Beam hardening in X ray reconstructive tomography. Phys					
341	Med Biol. 1976;21:390–398.					
342	[3]Poumorteza A, Syons R, Sandfort V., et al. Abdominal imaging with contrast-					
343	enhanced photon-counting CT:First human experience. Radiol. 2016;279:239-245.					
344	[4] Bazalova M, Carrier J-F, Beaulier L, et al. Tissue segmentation in Monte Carlo					
345	treatment planning: a simulation study using dual-energy CT images. Radiother Oncol.					
346	2008;86:93-98.					
347	[5] van Elmpt W, Landry G, Das M, et al. Dual energy CT in radiotherapy: current					
348	applications and future outlook. Radiother Oncol. 2016;119:137-144.					

- [6] Le HQ, Ducote JL, Molloi S. Radiation dose reduction using a CdZnTe-based
  computed tomography system: comparison to flat-panel detectors. Med Phys. 2010; 37:
  1225-1236.
- 352 [7] de Vries A, Roessl E, Kneepkens E, et al. Quantitative spectral K-edge imaging in
- 353 preclinical photoncounting X-ray computed tomography. Invest Radiol. 2015;50:297-

354 304.

- 355 [8] Atak H, Shikhaliev PM. Dual energy CT with photon counting and dual source
  356 systems: comparative evaluation. Phys Med Biol. 2015;60:8949-8975.
- [9] Kanno I, Imamura R, Mikami K, et al. A current mode detector for unfolding X-ray
  energy distribution. J Nucl Sci Technol. 2008;45:1165-1170.
- 359 [10] Hamaguchi T, Kanno I. Effective atomic number estimation by energy-resolved X-
- ray computed tomography with a current-mode detector system. Jpn J Appl Phys. 2019;
  58: 071001-6.
- [11] Kanno I, Yamashita Y, Kanai E, Ogawa T, Shinsho K. Two-dimensional
  "transXend" detector for third-generation energy-resolved computed tomography. J
  Nucl Sci Tehcnol. 2016;53:258-262.
- 365 [12] Constantinou C, Attix FH, Paliwal B. A solid water phantom material for
  366 radiotherapy x-ray and gamma ray beam calibrations. Med Phys. 1982;9:436-441.
- 367 [13] Iramina H, Nakamura M, Mizowaki T, Kanno I. Effective atomic number
  368 measurement with energy-resolved computed tomography using two-dimensional
  369 "transXend" detector. Int J Med Phys Clin Eng Radiat Oncol. 2018;7:61-73.
- 370 [14] Bazalova M, Carrier JF, Beaulieu L, Varhaegen F. Dual-energy CT-based metarial
- extraction for tissue segmentation in Monte Carlo dose calculations. Phys Med & Biol.
- 372 2008;53:2439-2456.

- 373 [15] Goodsitt MM, Christodoulou EG, Larson SC. Accuracies of the synthesized
- 374 monochromatic CT numbers and effective atomic numbers obtained with a rapid kVp
- 375 switching dual energy CT scanner. Med Phys. 2011;38:2222-2232.
- 376 [16] <u>https://www.atago.net/en/pdf/tanpin-catalog/pal-hikari5\_10\_12\_en.pdf.</u>
- 377 [17] Birch R, Marshall M. Computation of bremsstrahlung X-ray spectra and
- 378 comparison with spectra measured with a Ge(Li) detector. Phys Med Biol. 1979;24:505-
- 379 517.
- [18] Mayneord W V. The significance of the Röntgen. Acta Int. Union against Cancer
  1937;2: 271-282.
- 382 [19] Buzug T M. Computed Tomography, Heidelberg:Springer; 2010.
- 383 [20] Agostinelli S, Allison J, Amako K, et al. GEANT4 -a simulation toolkit. Nucl
- 384 Instrum Methods Phys Res. 2003;A506:250-303.
- 385 [21] Hsieh J. Computed tomography. 2nd ed. Washington:SPIE Press; 2009.
- 386
- 387
- 388
- 389
- 390
- 391
- 392
- 393
- 394
- 395
- 396
- 397

```
398 Figure captions
```

400 Figure 1. Experimental setup for sugar content measurements using a two-dimensional401 transXend detector with four channels.

402

403 Figure 2. Calculated X-ray energy spectra for channel 1 and 4.

404

405 Figure 3. Schematic drawing of determining correction factors. Correction factors, 406  $a, b, t_{Al}, t_W, c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4$  are determined as the ones which result in the minimum *S* while 407 changing the values of correction factors.

408

409 Figure 4. Response functions of the transXend detector for each channel. The valleys at410 50 keV correspond to the K-edge of Gd.

411

Figure 5. The linear attenuation coefficient of carbon (solid line) reproduced by a linear
combination of those of hydrogen (dashed line) and oxygen (dotted line) given by NIST.
Solid circles are the theoretical linear attenuation coefficient of carbon taken from NIST
data.

416

Figure 6. Schematic drawing of material decomposition, i.e., finding the thicknesses of hydrogen and oxygen to reproduce the X-ray attenuation by a subject. (m, n) in a small square mean the estimated electric current with taking into account the X-ray attenuation with the thicknesses of hydrogen,  $d^{H,m}$  and oxygen,  $d^{O,n}$  in *i*-th channel.  $d^{H,max}$  and  $d^{O,max}$  are the maximum values of hydrogen and oxygen thicknesses prepared for the look up table.

424 Figure 7. Measured and theoretically obtained electric current induced by X-rays after425 transmitting a water phantom.

426

427 Figure 8. Correction factor for the water phantom obtained as the ratio of theoretical428 value to measured value in Figure 7.

429

430 Figure 9. ER-CT image reconstructed for the number of X-rays with an energy of 70431 keV for 10% fructose solution in an acrylic cylinder.

432

Figure 10. Measured linear attenuation coefficients for 5%, 15%, and 30% fructose
solutions as the averaged values of 50×50 pixel ROI in ER-CT images obtained at
intervals of 0.5 keV from 20 to 90 keV. Error bars are shown only for 30% fructose
solution every 10 keV.

437

Figure 11. Estimated sugar contents of 5%, 10%, 15%, and 30% fructose solutions (open circles) and the green parts of two kiwifruit samples (solid circles). The solid line is the calibration line given by the least squares fitting. Dashed lines show the  $\pm 1\%$ ranges from the calibration line.

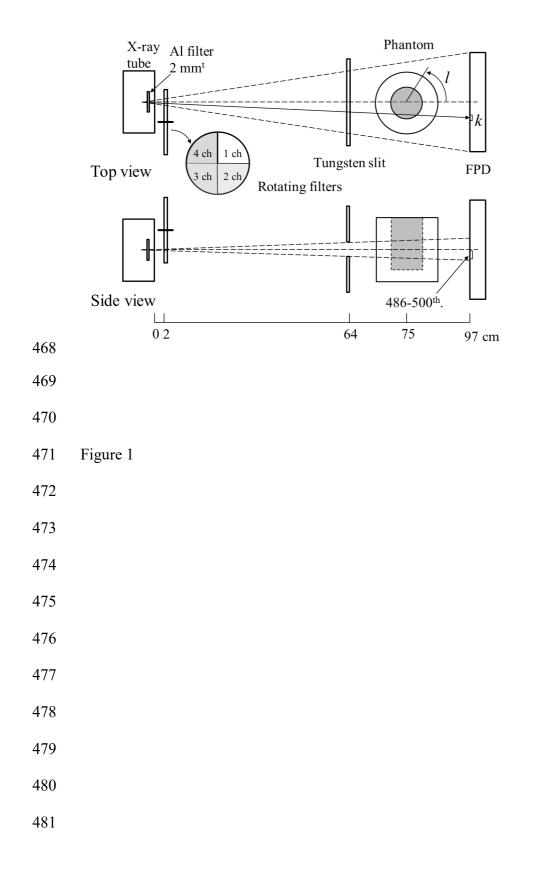
442

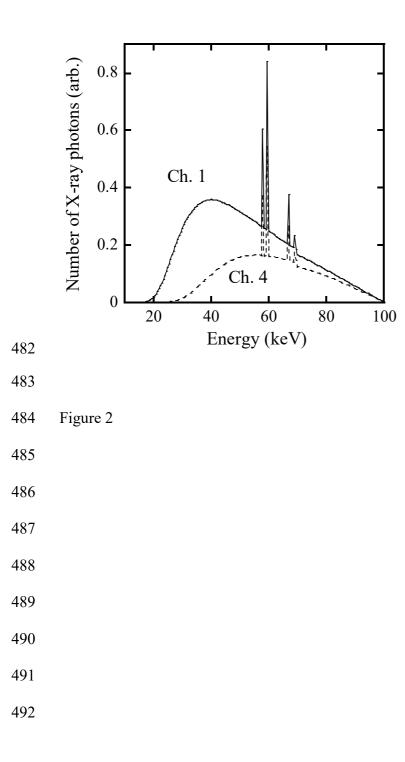
443 Figure 12. Flow chart of sugar content estimation. "LUT" means look up table.

444

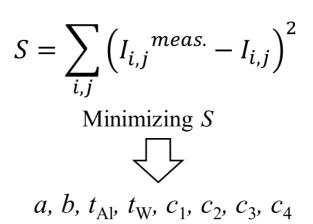
445 Figure 13. Photographs of kiwifruit samples in acrylic casings.

447	Figure 14. ER-CT images of kiwifruit samples reconstructed from the number of X-rays				
448	with an energy of 70 keV. ROIs for green and white parts are shown.				
449					
450	Figure 15. Obtained linear attenuation coefficients for green (solid lines) and white				
451	(dashed lines) parts of kiwifruit samples. Error bars are only shown for the linear				
452	attenuation coefficients for the green part every 10 keV. The error bars for the white				
453	part had similar values.				
454					
455					
456					
457					
458					
459					
460					
461					
462					
463					
464					
465					
466					
467					

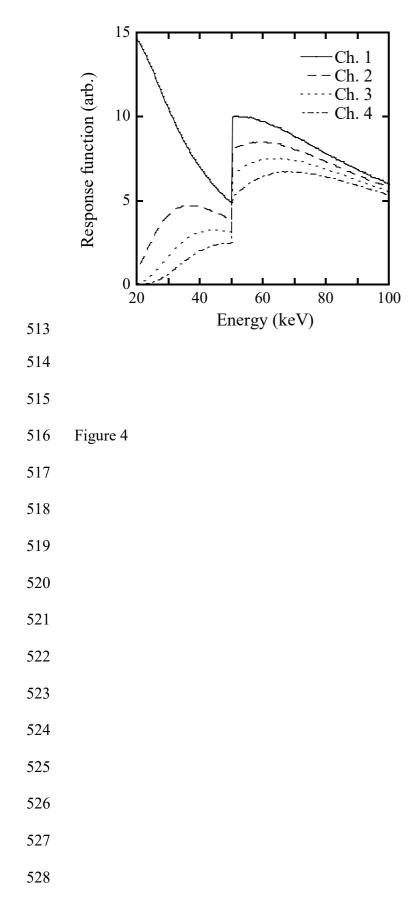


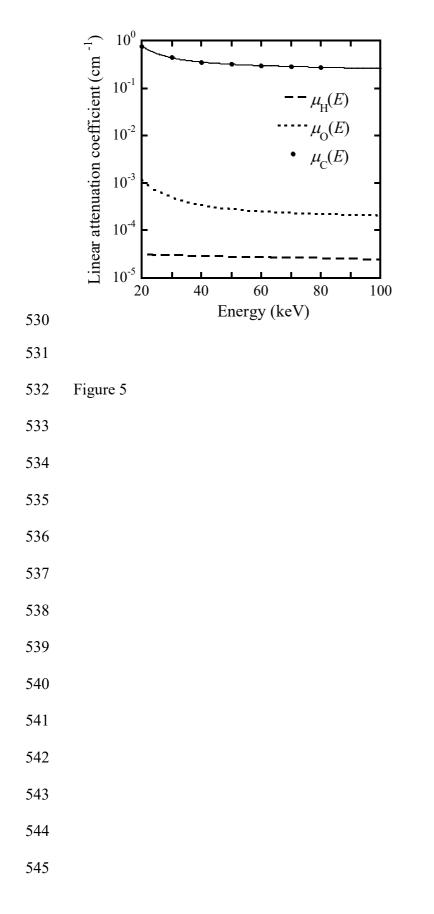


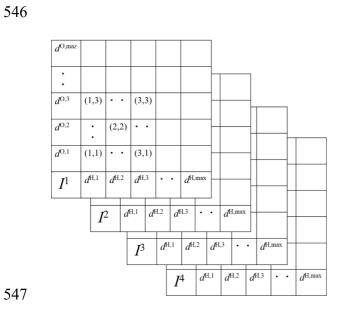
4	<i>I</i> <sub>1,4</sub>	<i>I</i> <sub>2,4</sub>	<i>I</i> <sub>3,4</sub>	<i>I</i> <sub>4,4</sub>
3	<i>I</i> <sub>1,3</sub>	<i>I</i> <sub>2,3</sub>	<i>I</i> <sub>3,3</sub>	<i>I</i> <sub>4,3</sub>
2	<i>I</i> <sub>1,2</sub>	<i>I</i> <sub>2,2</sub>	<i>I</i> <sub>3,2</sub>	<i>I</i> <sub>4,2</sub>
1	<i>I</i> <sub>1,1</sub>	<i>I</i> <sub>2,1</sub>	<i>I</i> <sub>3,1</sub>	<i>I</i> <sub>4,1</sub>
j i	1	2	3	4



495 Figure 3





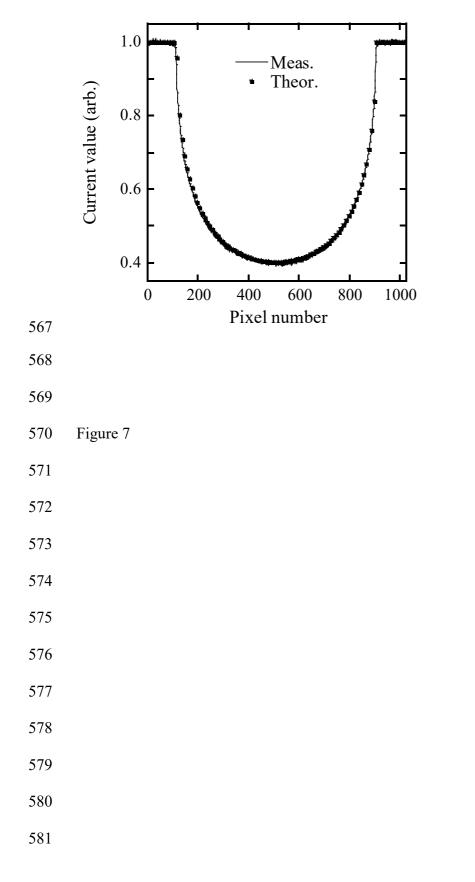


$$S_{k,l} = \sum_{i=1}^{4} \left\{ I_{k,l}^{meas,i} - I^{i}(d^{H}, d^{O}) \right\}^{2}$$

Search minimum  $S_{k,l}$  in

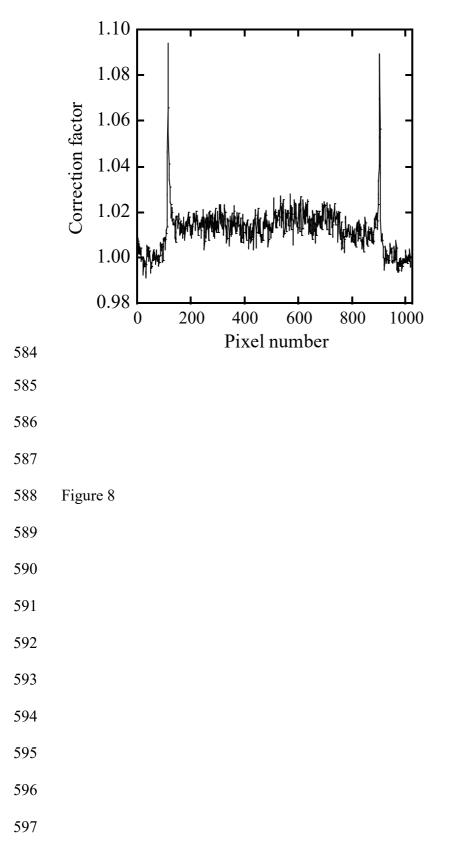
$$0 \le d^H \le d^{H,max}, \qquad 0 \le d^0 \le d^{O,max}$$

- Figure 6









# 

