LASER PROCESSING SYSTEM, LASER PROCESSING METHOD, AND METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING ELECTRONIC DEVICE

Abstract

A laser processing system includes a laser apparatus configured to output pulse laser light; a diffractive optical element configured to divide the pulse laser light into multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes to be radiated to multiple processing points on a workpiece, and multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes to be radiated to multiple non-processing points on the workpiece; a focusing optical system configured to focus each of the first and second diffracted luminous fluxes at the workpiece; an adjustment mechanism configured to adjust pulse energy of the pulse laser light incident on the diffractive optical element; and a processor configured to control the adjustment mechanism based on parameters including a processing threshold Fth of a fluence for processing the workpiece in such a way that a fluence F_{OKm} of the first diffracted luminous fluxes at a surface of the workpiece is greater than the processing threshold Fth, and a fluence F_{NGm} of the second diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece is smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth.

Inventors: SUWA; Akira (Oyama-shi, JP), KAKIZAKI; Kouji (Oyama-shi, JP), KAWASUJI; Yasufumi (Oyama-shi, JP), WAKABAYASHI; Osamu (Oyama-shi, JP)

Applicant: Gigaphoton Inc. (Tochigi, JP)

Family ID: 1000008600670

Assignee: Gigaphoton Inc. (Tochigi, JP)

Appl. No.: 19/196072

Filed: May 01, 2025

Related U.S. Application Data

parent WO continuation PCT/JP2022/044993 20221206 PENDING child US 19196072

Publication Classification

Background/Summary

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS [0001] The present application is a continuation application of International Application No. PCT/JP2022/044993, filed on Dec. 6, 2022, the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference.

BACKGROUND
1. Technical Field
[0002] The present disclosure relates to a laser processing system, a laser processing method, and a method for manufacturing an electronic device.
2. Related Art
[0003] In recent years, a semiconductor exposure apparatus is required to improve the resolution thereof as semiconductor integrated circuits are increasingly miniaturized and highly integrated. To this end, reduction in the wavelength of light emitted from a light source for exposure is underway. For example, a KrF excimer laser apparatus, which outputs laser light having a wavelength of about 248 nm, and an ArF excimer laser apparatus, which outputs laser light having a wavelength of about 193 nm, are used as a gas laser apparatus for exposure.
[0004] Excimer laser light output from a KrF excimer laser apparatus and excimer laser light output from an ArF excimer laser apparatus each have a pulse width of a few tens of nanoseconds, have short wavelengths of about 248 nm and about 193 nm, respectively, and can therefore be used for direct processing of polymer materials, glass materials, and the like.
[0005] The excimer laser light having photon energy higher than the chemical binding energy of a polymer material can unbind the chemically bonded molecules that form the polymer material. Non-thermal processing can therefore be performed on the polymer material by using the excimer laser light, and it is known that the non-thermal processing provides an excellent processed shape.
[0006] Glass, ceramic, and other materials absorb the excimer laser light by a large amount, and it is therefore known that the excimer laser light can process a material difficult to process with a visible or infrared laser light.
CITATION LIST
Patent Literature
[0007] PTL 1: U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0150887 [0008] PTL 2: U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2006/0289412
SUMMARY
[0009] A laser processing system according to an aspect of the present disclosure includes a laser apparatus configured to output pulse laser light; a diffractive optical element configured to divide the pulse laser light into multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes to be radiated to multiple processing points on a workpiece, and multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes to be radiated to multiple non-processing points on the workpiece; a focusing optical system configured to focus

each of the first and second diffracted luminous fluxes at the workpiece; an adjustment mechanism configured to adjust pulse energy of the pulse laser light incident on the diffractive optical element; and a processor configured to control the adjustment mechanism based on parameters including a processing threshold Fth of a fluence for processing the workpiece in such a way that a fluence $F_{.sub.OKm}$ of the first diffracted luminous fluxes at a surface of the workpiece is greater than the processing threshold Fth, and a fluence $F_{.sub.NGm}$ of the second diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece is smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth.

[0010] A laser processing method according to another aspect of the present disclosure includes: causing a laser apparatus to output pulse laser light; causing a diffractive optical element to divide the pulse laser light into multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes radiated to multiple processing points on a workpiece, and multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes radiated to multiple non-processing points on the workpiece; controlling an adjustment mechanism configured to adjust pulse energy of the pulse laser light based on parameters including a processing threshold Fth of a fluence for processing the workpiece in such a way that a fluence $F_{.sub.OKm}$ of the first diffracted luminous fluxes at a surface of the workpiece is greater than the processing threshold Fth, and a fluence $F_{.sub.NGm}$ of the second diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece is smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth; and causing a focusing optical system to focus each of the first and second diffracted luminous fluxes at the workpiece.

[0011] A method for manufacturing an electronic device according to another aspect of the present disclosure includes processing an interposer substrate with laser light by using a laser processing system to produce an interposer; coupling the interposer to an integrated circuit chip to electrically connect the interposer and the integrated circuit chip to each other; and coupling the interposer to a circuit substrate to electrically connect the interposer and the circuit substrate to each other, the laser processing system including a laser apparatus configured to output pulse laser light, a diffractive optical element configured to divide the pulse laser light into multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes radiated to multiple processing points on a workpiece, and multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes radiated to multiple non-processing points on the workpiece, a focusing optical system configured to focus each of the first and second diffracted luminous fluxes at the workpiece; an adjustment mechanism configured to adjust pulse energy of the pulse laser light incident on the diffractive optical element, and a processor configured to control the adjustment mechanism based on parameters including a processing threshold Fth of a fluence for processing the workpiece in such a way that a fluence $F_{.sub.OKm}$ of the first diffracted luminous fluxes at a surface of the workpiece is greater than the processing threshold Fth, and a fluence $F_{.sub.NGm}$ of the second diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece is smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth.

Description

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS
[0012] Some embodiments of the present disclosure will be described below only by way of example with reference to the accompanying drawings.
[0013] FIG. **1** schematically shows the configuration of a laser processing system according to Comparative Example.
[0014] FIG. **2** is a cross-sectional view of a diffraction grating that serves as a base of a diffractive optical element.
[0015] FIG. **3** shows a combination of multiple diffraction gratings to illustrate the principle of the diffractive optical element.
[0016] FIG. **4** shows an example of a designed diffractive optical element.
[0017] FIG. **5** shows an example of a pattern of diffracted luminous fluxes radiated from the

diffractive optical element onto a workpiece.

[0018] FIG. **6** is a flowchart showing laser processing processes in Comparative Example.

[0019] FIG. **7** is a flowchart showing the process of reading information on the laser processing system in detail.

[0020] FIG. **8** is a flowchart showing the process of reading information on the workpiece in detail.

[0021] FIG. **9** is a graph showing an example of the definition of a processing threshold.

[0022] FIG. **10** is a flowchart showing the process of reading information on the diffractive optical element in detail.

[0023] FIG. **11** is a flowchart showing the process of determining a target fluence at a processing point in detail.

[0024] FIG. **12** is a flowchart showing details of the process of determining the number of radiated pulses and a repetition frequency in single laser processing.

[0025] FIG. **13** is a flowchart showing details of the process for adjusting the laser processing system based on the target fluence.

[0026] FIG. **14** is a flowchart showing the process of performing the laser processing in detail.

[0027] FIG. **15** shows another example of the pattern of the diffracted luminous fluxes radiated from the diffractive optical element onto the workpiece.

[0028] FIG. **16** is a bar graph showing a problem with Comparative Example.

[0029] FIG. **17** is a bar graph showing an example of the result of control in a first embodiment.

[0030] FIG. **18** is a bar graph showing an example of a target fluence of first diffracted luminous fluxes that is set in the first embodiment.

[0031] FIG. **19** is a flowchart showing laser processing processes in the first embodiment.

[0032] FIG. **20** is a flowchart showing the process of reading information on the diffractive optical element in detail.

[0033] FIG. **21** is a flowchart showing the process of determining the target fluence at a processing point in detail.

[0034] FIG. **22** is a flowchart showing details of the process of determining the number of radiated pulses and the repetition frequency in the single laser processing.

[0035] FIG. **23** is a flowchart showing details of the process of adjusting the laser processing system based on the target fluence.

[0036] FIG. **24** is a bar graph showing an example of the result of control in a second embodiment.

[0037] FIG. **25** is a bar graph showing an example of the target fluence of a first minimum diffracted luminous flux that is set in the second embodiment.

[0038] FIG. **26** schematically shows the configuration of a measurement system that measures information on the diffractive optical element in the second embodiment.

[0039] FIG. **27** is a flowchart showing the process of measuring optical intensities in the second embodiment.

[0040] FIG. **28** is a flowchart showing laser processing processes in the second embodiment.

[0041] FIG. **29** is a flowchart showing the process of reading information on the diffractive optical element in detail.

[0042] FIG. **30** is a flowchart showing the process of determining the target fluence of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux in detail.

[0043] FIG. **31** is a flowchart showing details of the process of determining the number of radiated pulses and the repetition frequency in the single laser processing.

[0044] FIG. **32** is a flowchart showing details of the process of adjusting the laser processing system based on the target fluence.

[0045] FIG. **33** is a bar graph showing an example of the result of control in a variation of the second embodiment.

[0046] FIG. **34** is a bar graph showing an example of the target fluence of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux that is set in the variation of the second embodiment.

[0047] FIG. **35** is a flowchart showing laser processing processes in the variation of the second embodiment.

[0048] FIG. **36** is a flowchart showing the process of reading information on the laser processing system in detail.

[0049] FIG. **37** is a flowchart showing the process of determining the target fluence of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux in detail.

[0050] FIG. **38** is a bar graph showing an example of the result of control in a third embodiment.

[0051] FIG. **39** is a graph showing an example of the definition of a fluence upper limit.

[0052] FIG. **40** is a bar graph showing an example of the target fluence of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux that is set in the third embodiment.

[0053] FIG. **41** is a bar graph showing another example of the target fluence of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux that is set in the third embodiment.

[0054] FIG. **42** is a flowchart showing the process of measuring the optical intensities in the third embodiment.

[0055] FIG. **43** is a flowchart showing laser processing processes in the third embodiment.

[0056] FIG. **44** is a flowchart showing the process of reading information on the workpiece in detail.

[0057] FIG. **45** is a flowchart showing the process of reading information on the diffractive optical element in detail.

[0058] FIG. **46** is a flowchart showing the process of determining the target fluence of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux in detail.

[0059] FIG. **47** is a bar graph showing an example of the result of control in a variation of the third embodiment.

[0060] FIG. **48** is a bar graph showing an example of the target fluence of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux that is set in the variation of the third embodiment.

[0061] FIG. **49** is a flowchart showing laser processing processes in the variation of the third embodiment.

[0062] FIG. **50** is a flowchart showing the process of determining the target fluence of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux in detail.

[0063] FIG. **51** diagrammatically shows the configuration of an electronic device.

[0064] FIG. **52** is a flowchart showing a method for manufacturing an electronic device.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

<Contents>

[0065] 1. Laser processing system according to Comparative Example [0066] 1.1 Configuration [0067] 1.1.1 Configuration of laser apparatus **1** [0068] 1.1.2 Configuration of laser processing apparatus **5** [0069] 1.1.3 Configuration of data managing server **93** [0070] 1.2 Operation [0071] 1.2.1 Operation of laser apparatus **1** [0072] 1.2.2 Operation of laser processing apparatus **5** [0073] 1.3 Diffractive optical element **63** [0074] 1.4 Processes carried out by laser processing processor **53** [0075] 1.4.1 Read laser processing system information [0076] 1.4.2 Read workpiece information [0077] 1.4.3 Read diffractive optical element information [0078] 1.4.4 Determine target fluence [0079] 1.4.5 Determine number of radiated pulses Nm and repetition frequency f [0080] 1.4.6 Adjust laser processing system [0081] 1.4.7 Laser processing [0082] 1.5 Problems with Comparative Example [0083] 2. Laser processing system in which target fluence is so set that fluence of second diffracted luminous fluxes is smaller than or equal to processing threshold Fth [0084] 2.1 Concept [0085] 2.1.1 Fluences of first and second diffracted luminous fluxes [0086] 2.1.2 Set target fluence F.sub.OKmt [0087] 2.1.2.1 Lower limit of target fluence F.sub.OKmt [0088] 2.1.2.2 Upper limit of target fluence F.sub.OKmt [0089] 2.1.2.3 Range of target fluence F.sub.OKmt [0090] 2.2 Configuration of laser processing system [0091] 2.3 Processes carried out by laser processing processor **53** [0092] 2.3.1 Read diffractive optical element information [0093] 2.3.2 Determine target fluence [0094] 2.3.3 Determine number of radiated pulses Nm and

repetition frequency f [0095] 2.3.4 Adjust laser processing system [0096] 2.4 Effects [0097] 3. Laser processing system in consideration of variation in fluence between first diffracted luminous fluxes and between second diffracted luminous fluxes [0098] 3.1 Concept [0099] 3.1.1 Fluences of first and second diffracted luminous fluxes [0100] 3.1.2 Set target fluence F.sub.OKmt [0101] 3.1.2.1 Lower limit of target fluence F.sub.OKmt [0102] 3.1.2.2 Upper limit of target fluence F.sub.OKmt [0103] 3.1.2.3 Range of target fluence F.sub.OKmt [0104] 3.2 Configuration of laser processing system [0105] 3.3 Measurement of diffractive optical element information [0106] 3.4 Processes carried out by laser processing processor **53** [0107] 3.4.1 Read diffractive optical element information [0108] 3.4.2 Determine target fluence [0109] 3.4.3 Determine number of radiated pulses Nm and repetition frequency f [0110] 3.4.4 Adjust laser processing system [0111] 3.5 Effects [0112] 4. Laser processing system in consideration of variation in pulse energy of pulse laser light output from laser apparatus [0113] 4.1 Concept [0114] 4.1.1 Fluences of first and second diffracted luminous fluxes [0115] 4.1.2 Set target fluence F.sub.OKmint [0116] 4.1.2.1 Lower limit of target fluence F.sub.OKmint [0117] 4.1.2.2 Upper limit of target fluence F.sub.OKmint [0118] 4.1.2.3 Range of target fluence F.sub.OKmint [0119] 4.2 Configuration of laser processing system [0120] 4.3 Processes carried out by laser processing processor **53** [0121] 4.3.1 Read laser processing system information [0122] 4.3.2 Determine target fluence [0123] 4.4 Effects [0124] 5. Laser processing system in consideration of fluence upper limit [0125] 5.1 Concept [0126] 5.1.1 Fluences of first and second diffracted luminous fluxes [0127] 5.1.2 Set target fluence F.sub.OKmint [0128] 5.1.2.1 Lower limit of target fluence F.sub.OKmint [0129] 5.1.2.2 Upper limit (1) of target fluence F.sub.OKmint [0130] 5.1.2.3 Upper limit (2) of target fluence F.sub.OKmint [0131] 5.1.2.4 Range of target fluence F.sub.OKmint [0132] 5.2 Configuration of laser processing system [0133] 5.3 Measure diffractive optical element information [0134] 5.4 Processes carried out by laser processing processor **53** [0135] 5.4.1 Read workpiece information [0136] 5.4.2 Read diffractive optical element information [0137] 5.4.3 Determine target fluence [0138] 5.5 Effects [0139] 6. Laser processing system in consideration of fluence upper limit and variation of pulse energy of pulse laser light output from laser apparatus [0140] 6.1 Concept [0141] 6.1.1 Fluences of first and second diffracted luminous fluxes [0142] 6.1.2 Set target fluence F.sub.OKmint [0143] 6.1.2.1 Lower limit of target fluence F.sub.OKmint [0144] 6.1.2.2 Upper limit (1) of target fluence F.sub.OKmint [0145] 6.1.2.3 Upper limit (2) of target fluence F.sub.OKmint [0146] 6.1.2.4 Range of target fluence F.sub.OKmint [0147] 6.2 Configuration of laser processing system [0148] 6.3 Processes carried out by laser processing processor **53** [0149] 6.4 Effects [0150] 7. Others [0151] 7.1 Configuration of electronic device [0152] 7.2 Method for manufacturing electronic device [0153] 7.3 Supplements

[0154] Embodiments of the present disclosure will be described below in detail with reference to the drawings. The embodiments described below show some examples of the present disclosure and are not intended to limit the contents of the present disclosure. Furthermore, all configurations and operations described in the embodiments are not necessarily essential as configurations and operations in the present disclosure. It is noted that the same element has the same reference character, and no redundant description of the same element will be made.

1. Laser Processing System According to Comparative Example

1.1 Configuration

[0155] FIG. **1** schematically shows the configuration of a laser processing system according to Comparative Example. Comparative Example of the present disclosure is an aspect that the applicant is aware of as known only by the applicant, and is not a publicly known example that the applicant is self-aware of. The laser processing system includes a laser apparatus **1**, a laser processing apparatus **5**, and a data managing server **93**.

1.1.1 Configuration of Laser Apparatus **1**

[0156] The laser apparatus **1** is a gas laser apparatus that outputs ultraviolet pulse laser light Out. The laser apparatus **1** includes a laser chamber **10**, a power supply apparatus **12**, a rear mirror **14**,

an output coupling mirror **15**, a monitor module **16**, and a shutter **19**. These elements are housed in a first enclosure **100**. The rear mirror **14** and the output coupling mirror **15** form an optical resonator.

[0157] The laser chamber **10** is disposed in the optical path of the optical resonator. The laser chamber **10** is provided with windows **10***a* and **10***b*. The laser chamber **10** accommodates a pair of discharge electrodes **11***a* and **11***b*. The laser chamber **10** is filled with a laser gas containing, for example, an argon or krypton gas as a rare gas, a fluorine gas as a halogen gas, and a neon gas as a buffer gas.

[0158] The rear mirror **14** is configured with a highly reflective mirror, and the output coupling mirror **15** is configured with a partially reflective mirror. The pulse laser light Out is output via the output coupling mirror **15**.

[0159] The monitor module **16** includes a beam splitter **17** and a photosensor **18**. The beam splitter **17** is located in the optical path of the pulse laser light Out output via the output coupling mirror **15**. The photosensor **18** is located in the optical path of the pulse laser light Out reflected off the beam splitter **17**.

[0160] The shutter **19** is located in the optical path of the pulse laser light Out having passed through the beam splitter **17**. The shutter **19** is configured to be capable of performing switching between the state in which the pulse laser light Out passes to the laser processing apparatus **5** and the state in which the pulse laser light Out is blocked and vice versa.

[0161] The laser apparatus **1** further includes a laser control processor **13**. The laser control processor **13** is a processing apparatus including a memory **13***a*, which stores a control program, and a CPU (central processing unit) **13***b*, which executes the control program. The laser control processor **13** is particularly configured or programmed to carry out various processes described in the present disclosure.

1.1.2 Configuration of Laser Processing Apparatus **5**

[0162] The laser processing apparatus **5** includes a radiation optical system **50***a*, a frame **50***b*, an XYZ stage **501**, and a laser processing processor **53**. The radiation optical system **50***a* and the XYZ stage **501** are fixed to the frame **50***b*. A workpiece SUB is supported by a table **502** of the XYZ stage **501**.

[0163] In FIG. **1**, the X and Y directions orthogonal to each other are directions parallel to the surface of the workpiece SUB. The Z direction is the direction perpendicular to the surface of the workpiece SUB and parallel to the traveling direction of the pulse laser light Out incident on the surface of the workpiece SUB.

[0164] The workpiece SUB is, for example, an interposer substrate used to manufacture an interposer IP, which relays an integrated circuit chip IC and a circuit substrate CS, which will be described later with reference to FIG. **51**, to each other. The interposer substrate is made, for example, of an electrically insulating material such as a polymer material, a glass material, a silicon single crystal, or a ceramic material. The workpiece SUB is not limited to the interposer substrate, and may be a substrate having a laser processed metallic film formed thereon.

[0165] The radiation optical system **50***a* includes highly reflective mirrors **51***a*, **51***b*, and **51***c*, an attenuator **52**, a diffractive optical element **63**, and a focusing optical system **67**. The highly reflective mirrors **51***a*, **51***b*, and **51***c*, the attenuator **52**, and the diffractive optical element **63** are housed in a second enclosure **500**. The focusing optical system **67** also serves as a window of the second enclosure **500**. The second enclosure **500** is connected to the first enclosure **100** via an optical path tube **200**. The pulse laser light Out output from the laser apparatus **1** passes through the interior of the optical path tube **200** and enters the second enclosure **500**.

[0166] The highly reflective mirror **51***a* is located in the optical path of the pulse laser light Out having passed through the interior of the optical path tube **200**. The attenuator **52** is located in the optical path of the pulse laser light Out reflected off the highly reflective mirror **51***a*. The attenuator **52** includes two partially reflective mirrors **52***a* and **52***b* and rotary stages **52***c* and **52***d*. The rotary

stages **52***c* and **52***d* are configured to be capable of changing transmittance Ta of the attenuator **52** by changing the angles of incidence of the pulse laser light Out incident on the partially reflective mirrors **52***a* and **52***b*, respectively.

[0167] The highly reflective mirror **51***b* is located in the optical path of the pulse laser light Out having passed through the attenuator **52**, and the highly reflective mirror **51***c* is located in the optical path of the pulse laser light Out reflected off the highly reflective mirror **51***b*.

[0168] The diffractive optical element **63** is located in the optical path of the pulse laser light Out reflected off the highly reflective mirror **51***c*. The diffractive optical element **63** has multiple protrusions and recesses at a surface thereof, and is configured to diffract the pulse laser light Out having passed therethrough to divide the pulse laser light Out into multiple diffracted luminous fluxes.

[0169] The focusing optical system **67** is located in the optical path of the pulse laser light Out having passed through the diffractive optical element **63**. The focusing optical system **67** focuses each of the diffracted luminous fluxes, into which the pulse laser light Out has been divided by the diffractive optical element **63**, at the workpiece SUB. The focusing optical system **67** has a focal length f.sub.67. The focusing optical system **67** is desirably configured with an Fθ lens so that the diffracted luminous fluxes, into which the pulse laser light Out has been divided, are focused at the same surface.

[0170] The laser processing processor **53** is a processing apparatus including a memory **53***a*, which stores a control program, and a CPU **53***b*, which executes the control program. The laser processing processor **53** corresponds to the processor in the present disclosure. The laser processing processor **53** is particularly configured or programmed to carry out various processes described in the present disclosure.

1.1.3 Configuration of Data Managing Server **93**

[0171] The data managing server **93** is a data server that manages laser processing system information, workpiece information, and diffractive optical element information. The laser processing processor **53** can access the data managing server **93** to read the information.

1.2 Operation

1.2.1 Operation of Laser Apparatus **1**

[0172] In the laser apparatus **1**, the laser control processor **13** receives data on target pulse energy Et and a trigger signal from the laser processing processor **53**. The laser control processor **13** sets a voltage provided by the power supply apparatus **12** based on the target pulse energy Et and forwards the trigger signal to the power supply apparatus **12**.

[0173] Upon receiving the trigger signal from the laser control processor **13**, the power supply apparatus **12** generates a pulse-shaped high voltage and applies the high voltage to the space between the discharge electrodes **11***a* and **11***b*.

[0174] When the high voltage is applied to the space between the discharge electrodes **11***a* and **11***b*, discharge occurs between the discharge electrodes **11***a* and **11***b*. The energy of the discharge excites the laser gas in the laser chamber **10**, and the excited laser gas transitions to a high energy level. Thereafter, when the excited laser gas transitions to a low energy level, the laser gas emits light having a wavelength according to the difference between the energy levels.

[0175] The light generated in the laser chamber **10** exits out of the laser chamber **10** via the windows **10***a* and **10***b*. The light having exited via the window **10***a* of the laser chamber **10** is reflected off the rear mirror **14** at high reflectance and returns into the laser chamber **10**.

[0176] The output coupling mirror **15** transmits and outputs part of the light having exited via the window **10***b* of the laser chamber **10**, and reflects the other part of the light back into the laser chamber **10**.

[0177] The light having exited out of the laser chamber **10** thus travels back and forth between the rear mirror **14** and the output coupling mirror **15** and is amplified whenever passing through the discharge space between the discharge electrodes **11***a* and **11***b*. The pulse laser light Out thus

generated through the laser oscillation is output via the output coupling mirror **15**.

[0178] The monitor module **16** detects the pulse energy of the pulse laser light Out output via the output coupling mirror **15**. The monitor module **16** transmits data on the detected pulse energy to the laser control processor **13**.

[0179] The laser control processor **13** performs feedback control on the voltage set in the power supply apparatus **12** based on the data on the pulse energy received from the monitor module **16** and the data on the target pulse energy Et received from the laser processing processor **53**.

1.2.2 Operation of Laser Processing Apparatus **5**

[0180] The XYZ stage **501** is so adjusted that the workpiece SUB is located at a position separate from the focusing optical system **67** by the focal length f.sub.67.

[0181] The pulse laser light Out output from the laser apparatus **1** passes through the interior of the optical path tube **200** and enters the laser processing apparatus **5**. The pulse laser light Out is reflected off the highly reflective mirror **51***a* and passes through the attenuator **52**, and is then sequentially reflected off the highly reflective mirrors **51***b* and **51***c*. The laser processing processor **53** sets a target value of the transmittance Ta of the attenuator **52**, and controls the rotary stages **52***c* and **52***d* based on the target value.

[0182] The pulse laser light Out reflected off the highly reflective mirror **51***c* is divided into the multiple diffracted luminous fluxes by the diffractive optical element **63**, and the diffracted luminous fluxes are each focused at the surface of the workpiece SUB by the focusing optical system **67**. When the workpiece SUB is irradiated with the diffracted luminous fluxes, into which the pulse laser light Out has been divided, the workpiece SUB is subjected to ablation and laser processing.

1.3 Diffractive Optical Element **63**

[0183] FIG. **2** is a cross-sectional view of a diffraction grating **631**, which serves as a base of the diffractive optical element **63**. The diffraction grating **631** is made of a material that transmits the pulse laser light Out having a wavelength k, and is a plate having a large number of grooves formed thereon and arranged at a grating period p. The pulse laser light Out having passed through the diffraction grating **631** is divided into multiple diffracted luminous fluxes including 0th-order diffracted luminous flux, −1st-order diffracted luminous flux, +1st-order diffracted luminous flux, and higher-order diffracted luminous fluxes that are not shown. In FIG. **2**, m represents the order of the diffracted luminous fluxes. An angle θ between the direction in which the 0th-order diffracted luminous flux exits and the direction in which each of the −1st-order diffracted luminous flux and the +1st-order diffracted luminous flux exits is given approximately by λ/p when θ is very small. The energy of each of the diffracted luminous fluxes can also be determined by calculation. In general, a higher-order diffracted luminous flux higher than the −1st-order diffracted luminous flux and the +1st-order diffracted luminous flux has lower energy than the −1st order diffracted luminous flux and the +1st order diffracted luminous flux.

[0184] FIG. **3** shows a combination of multiple diffraction gratings **631** to **635** to illustrate the principle of the diffractive optical element **63**. The diffractive optical element **63** can be so designed that multiple diffracted luminous fluxes are arranged in a desired pattern by appropriately combining the diffraction gratings **631** to **635** having different grating periods with one another. FIG. **4** shows an example of the thus designed diffractive optical element **63**.

[0185] FIG. **5** shows an example of a pattern of the diffracted luminous fluxes radiated from the diffractive optical element **63** onto the workpiece SUB. For example, the diffractive optical element **63** is designed to output **16** diffracted luminous fluxes that each exit in a desired direction. The diffracted luminous fluxes are each focused by the focusing optical system **67** at a desired processing point on the workpiece SUB. As a result, 16 fine holes are simultaneously processed in the workpiece SUB. The 16 holes having a necessary depth are formed in one processing region by radiating the pulse laser light having radiated pulses the number of which is Nm with the position of the XYZ stage **501** fixed. The number of radiated pulses Nm is determined by dividing the

necessary depth of the holes by the depth of the holes formed by one pulse of the pulse laser light Out. The step of radiating the pulse laser light having the number of radiated pulses Nm may be referred to as single laser processing. The point where the diffracted luminous fluxes are each focused to form a hole may be referred to as a processing point. After the single laser processing, the position of the XYZ stage **501** is controlled to form the sixteen holes in another processing region of the workpiece SUB.

[0186] It is conceivable to perform processing according to the pattern of a mask that is not shown by irradiating the workpiece SUB with the pulse laser light having passed through the mask and a transfer optical system, but a large amount of energy is lost at the mask. In contrast, patterned diffracted luminous fluxes formed by the diffractive optical element **63** can reduce the loss of energy, and improve the processing speed.

1.4 Processes Carried Out by Laser Processing Processor **53**

[0187] FIG. **6** is a flowchart showing laser processing processes in Comparative Example. In S**100**, the laser processing processor **53** reads information on the laser processing system. In S**200**, the laser processing processor **53** reads information on the workpiece SUB. In S**300**, the laser processing processor **53** reads information on the diffractive optical element **63**. The information read in S**100** to S**300** may be read from the data managing server **93** or may be read from the memory **53***a* in the laser processing processor **53**.

[0188] In S**400**, the laser processing processor **53** determines a target fluence Fmt at a processing point. In S**500**, the laser processing processor **53** determines the number of radiated pulses Nm and a repetition frequency f in the single laser processing. In S**600**, the laser processing processor **53** adjusts the laser processing system based on the target fluence Fmt. In S**700**, the laser processing processor **53** controls the laser processing system to cause it to perform the laser processing. The processes will be described below in detail with reference to FIGS. **7** to **14**.

1.4.1 Read Laser Processing System Information

[0189] FIG. **7** is a flowchart showing the process of reading the information on the laser processing system in detail. The processes shown in FIG. **7** correspond to the subroutine labeled with S**100** in FIG. **6**.

[0190] In S**101**, the laser processing processor **53** reads transmittance TO of elements disposed in the optical path of the pulse laser light Out excluding the diffractive optical element **63** and the attenuator **52**. The transmittance TO corresponds to the ratio of the energy of the light incident on the workpiece SUB to the energy of the pulse laser light Out output via the output coupling mirror **15** on the assumption that transmittance T.sub.DOE of the diffractive optical element **63** and the transmittance Ta of the attenuator **52** are each 100%.

[0191] In S**102**, the laser processing processor **53** reads the number of holes P to be simultaneously processed. The number of holes P corresponds to the number of processing points, and is 16 in the example shown in FIG. **5**.

[0192] In S**103**, the laser processing processor **53** reads an irradiated area S of the surface of the workpiece SUB, which is irradiated with one of the diffracted luminous fluxes that processes one hole. When the beam of one of the diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece SUB has a circular cross-sectional shape having a diameter D, the irradiated area S is given by $\pi(D/2).\text{sup.}2$.

[0193] After S**103**, the laser processing processor **53** terminates the processes in the present flowchart, and returns to the processes shown in FIG. **6**.

1.4.2 Read Workpiece Information

[0194] FIG. **8** is a flowchart showing the process of reading the information on the workpiece SUB in detail. The processes shown in FIG. **8** correspond to the subroutine labeled with S**200** in FIG. **6**.

[0195] In S**201**, the laser processing processor **53** reads a processing threshold Fth for the workpiece SUB. The processing threshold Fth is a threshold of the fluence of diffracted luminous flux used to process the workpiece SUB. When the workpiece SUB is irradiated with the pulse

laser light having a fluence smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth, the workpiece SUB is not processed, whereas when the workpiece SUB is irradiated with the pulse laser light having a fluence greater than the processing threshold Fth, the workpiece SUB is processed. The processing threshold Fth will be described later with reference to FIG. **9**.

[0196] In S**202**, the laser processing processor **53** reads a thickness t of the workpiece SUB. To form a through hole in the workpiece SUB, the value as a result of multiplication of the depth of the hole to be formed by one pulse of the pulse laser light and the number of radiated pulses Nm only needs to be greater than or equal to the thickness t.

[0197] After S**202**, the laser processing processor **53** terminates the processes in the present flowchart, and returns to the processes shown in FIG. **6**.

[0198] FIG. **9** is a graph showing an example of the definition of the processing threshold Fth. In FIG. **9**, the horizontal axis represents the fluence of a diffracted luminous flux, and the vertical axis represents the processing speed. The processing speed corresponds to the depth of the hole per radiated pulse of the pulse laser light. In a graph representing the fluence and the processing speed based on a result of measurement, the horizontal-axis value of the intersection of a straight line that approximates the graph and the horizontal axis, where the processing speed is zero, is the processing threshold Fth.

1.4.3 Read Diffractive Optical Element Information

[0199] FIG. **10** is a flowchart showing the process of reading the information on the diffractive optical element **63** in detail. The process shown in FIG. **10** corresponds to the subroutine labeled with S**300** in FIG. **6**.

[0200] In S**301**, the laser processing processor **53** reads the transmittance T.sub.DOE of the diffractive optical element **63**.

[0201] The information on the diffractive optical element **63** may include the number of diffracted luminous fluxes Ln. The process of reading the information on the diffractive optical element **63** may include the steps of reading the number of the diffracted luminous fluxes Ln and ascertaining that the number of the diffracted luminous fluxes Ln coincides with the number of holes P to be simultaneously processed (see FIG. **7**).

[0202] After S**301**, the laser processing processor **53** terminates the process in the present flowchart, and returns to the processes shown in FIG. **6**.

1.4.4 Determine Target Fluence

[0203] FIG. **11** is a flowchart showing the process of determining the target fluence Fmt at a processing point in detail. The process shown in FIG. **11** corresponds to the subroutine labeled with S**400** in FIG. **6**.

[0204] In S**410**, the laser processing processor **53** determines the target fluence Fmt that satisfies the following expression:

Fth<Fmt

[0205] When the workpiece SUB is irradiated with the pulse laser light having a fluence greater than the processing threshold Fth, the workpiece SUB is processed.

[0206] After S**410**, the laser processing processor **53** terminates the process in the present flowchart, and returns to the processes shown in FIG. **6**.

1.4.5 Determine Number of Radiated Pulses Nm and Repetition Frequency f

[0207] FIG. **12** is a flowchart showing details of the process of determining the number of radiated pulses Nm and the repetition frequency f in the single laser processing. The processes shown in FIG. **12** correspond to the subroutine labeled with S**500** in FIG. **6**.

[0208] In S**501**, the laser processing processor **53** determines the number of radiated pulses Nm based on the target fluence Fmt and thickness t.

[0209] In S**502**, the laser processing processor **53** determines the repetition frequency f suitable for the processing. The repetition frequency f is set at a value within the range of the rated repetition

frequency of the laser apparatus **1**. However, when the repetition frequency f is too high, the shape of the holes formed in the workpiece SUB may vary, and it is desirable to set the repetition frequency f at a value within a range over which the variation is suppressed.

[0210] After S**502**, the laser processing processor **53** terminates the processes in the present flowchart, and returns to the processes shown in FIG. **6**.

1.4.6 Adjust Laser Processing System

[0211] FIG. **13** is a flowchart showing details of the process for adjusting the laser processing system based on the target fluence Fmt. The processes shown in FIG. **13** correspond to the subroutine labeled with S**600** in FIG. **6**.

[0212] In S**601**, the laser processing processor **53** sets the target pulse energy Et of the laser apparatus **1** and transmits the set target pulse energy Et to the laser apparatus **1**. The target pulse energy Et is pulse energy that falls within a range over which the performance of the laser apparatus **1** can be maintained.

[0213] The laser control processor **13** of the laser apparatus **1** having received the target pulse energy Et closes the shutter **19**, and controls the laser apparatus **1** to cause it to perform adjustment oscillation based on the target pulse energy Et. The laser control processor **13** outputs a pulse energy OK signal when the value of the pulse energy of the pulse laser light Out measured by the monitor module **16** becomes stable within an allowable range including the target pulse energy Et and values therearound.

[0214] In S**602**, the laser processing processor **53** determines whether the pulse energy OK signal has been received from the laser apparatus **1**. When the pulse energy OK signal has not been received (NO in S**602**), the laser processing processor **53** waits until the pulse energy OK signal is received. When the pulse energy OK signal has been received (YES in S**602**), the laser processing processor **53** proceeds to the process in S**603**.

[0215] In S**603**, the laser processing processor **53** sets the transmittance Ta of the attenuator **52** as shown below.

[0216] The pulse energy of the light that passes through the focusing optical system **67** and is incident on the workpiece SUB is expressed by the following equality:

$$Et.Math.Ta.Math.T0.Math.T.sub.DOE=Fmt.Math.P.Math.S$$

[0217] From the expression, the transmittance Ta of the attenuator **52** is calculated as follows:

$$Ta=Fmt.Math.P.Math.S/(Et.Math.T0.Math.T.sub.DOE)$$

[0218] In S**604**, the laser processing processor **53** adjusts the attenuator **52** based on the transmittance Ta. As a result, the pulse energy of the pulse laser light Out to be incident on the diffractive optical element **63** can be adjusted, and the fluence at the processing point can be set at a value close to the target fluence Fmt.

[0219] However, an adjustment mechanism that adjusts the pulse energy of the pulse laser light Out to be incident on the diffractive optical element **63** is not limited to the attenuator **52**. The pulse energy of the pulse laser light Out incident on the diffractive optical element **63** may be controlled by adjusting the target pulse energy Et of the pulse laser light Out output via the output coupling mirror **15**, and the adjustment mechanism in this case is the power supply apparatus **12**.

[0220] After S**604**, the laser processing processor **53** terminates the processes in the present flowchart, and returns to the processes shown in FIG. **6**.

1.4.7 Laser Processing

[0221] FIG. **14** is a flowchart showing the process of performing the laser processing in detail. The processes shown in FIG. **14** correspond to the subroutine labeled with S**700** in FIG. **6**.

[0222] In S**701**, the laser processing processor **53** sets data on the position of the XYZ stage **501** in such a way that a first processing region of the workpiece SUB is irradiated with the diffracted luminous fluxes.

[0223] In S**702**, the laser processing processor **53** positions the XYZ stage **501** in the X and Y directions in accordance with the set position data.

[0224] In S**703**, the laser processing processor **53** positions the XYZ stage **501** in the Z direction in accordance with the set position data.

[0225] In S**704**, the laser processing processor **53** transmits a trigger signal carrying the repetition frequency f and the number of radiated pulse Nm to the laser apparatus **1**. The single laser processing is thus performed.

[0226] In S**705**, the laser processing processor **53** determines whether the processing of the workpiece SUB has been completed. When there are regions that have not been processed (NO in S**705**), the laser processing processor **53** proceeds to the process in S**706**. When all the processing regions have been processed (YES in S**705**), the laser processing processor **53** terminates the processes in the present flowchart, and returns to the processes shown in FIG. **6**.

[0227] In S**706**, the laser processing processor **53** sets the data on the position of the XYZ stage **501** in such a way that the subsequent processing region is irradiated with the diffracted luminous fluxes. After S**706**, the laser processing processor **53** returns the process in S**702**.

1.5 Problems with Comparative Example

[0228] FIG. **15** shows another example of the pattern of the diffracted luminous fluxes radiated from the diffractive optical element **63** onto the workpiece SUB. The diffracted luminous fluxes output from the diffractive optical element **63** are not limited only to the diffracted luminous fluxes necessary for the laser processing. That is, the multiple diffracted luminous fluxes, into which the pulse laser light Out is divided by the diffractive optical elements **63** and with which the workpiece SUB is irradiated, may include not only the diffracted luminous fluxes that are focused at desired processing points on the workpiece SUB but also diffracted luminous fluxes that are focused at non-processing points that are not intended to be processed. The diffracted luminous fluxes focused at the processing points on the workpiece SUB are hereinafter referred to as first diffracted luminous fluxes, and the diffracted luminous fluxes focused at the non-processing points on the workpiece SUB are hereinafter referred to as second diffracted luminous fluxes. The first diffracted luminous fluxes are diffracted luminous fluxes necessary for the laser processing, and the second diffracted luminous fluxes are diffracted luminous fluxes unnecessary for the laser processing. It is noted that not every diffracted luminous flux unnecessary for the laser processing is irradiated onto the workpiece SUB. For example, higher-order diffracted luminous fluxes out of the luminous fluxes diffracted by the diffractive optical element **63** may exit outward from the focusing optical system **67**, or may be incident on a circumferential wall of an aperture that is not shown but is separately provided, and may therefore not be radiated onto the workpiece SUB.

[0229] FIG. **16** is a bar graph showing a problem with Comparative Example. In FIG. **16**, the horizontal axis shows the first and second diffracted luminous fluxes, and the vertical axis represents the fluence F of each of the diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece SUB. When the pulse energy of the pulse laser light Out incident on the diffractive optical element **63** is increased, the fluence of the first diffracted luminous fluxes increases, and it is therefore believed that the efficiency of the laser processing can be improved. However, when the pulse energy of the pulse laser light Out is increased, the fluence of the second diffracted luminous fluxes also increases in conjunction with the first diffracted luminous fluxes. When the fluence of the second diffracted luminous fluxes exceeds the processing threshold Fth, holes may also be formed at the non-processing points on the workpiece SUB.

2. Laser Processing System in which Target Fluence is so Set that Fluence of Second Diffracted Luminous Fluxes is Smaller than or Equal to Processing Threshold Fth

2.1 Concept

2.1.1 Fluences of First and Second Diffracted Luminous Fluxes

[0230] FIG. **17** is a bar graph showing an example of the result of control in a first embodiment. In FIG. **17**, the horizontal axis shows the first and second diffracted luminous fluxes, and the vertical

axis represents the fluence F of each of the diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece SUB. In the first embodiment, the laser processing processor **53** controls the adjustment mechanism, such as the attenuator **52**, in such a way that a fluence F.sub.OKm of the first diffracted luminous fluxes is greater than the processing threshold Fth and a fluence F.sub.NGm of the second diffracted luminous fluxes is smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth.

2.1.2 Set Target Fluence F.SUB.OK.mt

[0231] In the first embodiment, a target fluence F.sub.OKmt of the first diffracted luminous fluxes is set as shown below. When the fluence F.sub.OKm of the first diffracted luminous fluxes is controlled to the target fluence F.sub.OKmt, the fluence F.sub.NGm of the second diffracted luminous fluxes is determined in accordance with an optical intensity ratio R of the optical intensity of the second diffracted luminous fluxes to that of the first diffracted luminous fluxes.

[0232] FIG. **18** is a bar graph showing an example of the target fluence F.sub.OKmt of the first diffracted luminous fluxes that is set in the first embodiment. In FIG. **18**, the horizontal axis shows the first and second diffracted luminous fluxes, and the vertical axis represents the fluence F of each of the diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece SUB. In FIG. **18** and FIGS. **25**, **34**, **40**, **41**, and **48**, the latter five of which will be described later, vertical arrows indicate the range of a value, black arrows each indicate that the value indicated by the tip of the arrow falls within the range, and white arrows each indicate that the value indicated by the tip of the arrow does not fall within the range.

2.1.2.1 Lower Limit of Target Fluence F.SUB.OK.mt

[0233] The target fluence F.sub.OKmt is set at a value greater than the processing threshold Fth. As a result, the fluence F.sub.OKm of the first diffracted luminous fluxes is greater than the processing threshold Fth.

2.1.2.2 Upper Limit of Target Fluence F.SUB.OK.mt

[0234] It is assumed that the optical intensity ratio R is a value as a result of division of an optical intensity I.sub.NG of the second diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece SUB by an optical intensity I.sub.OK of the first diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece SUB, as expressed by the following expression:

R=I.sub.NG*/I*.sub.OK

[0235] The optical intensity I.sub.OK of the first diffracted luminous fluxes and the optical intensity I.sub.NG of the second diffracted luminous fluxes are measured, for example, by using a measurement system that will be described with reference to FIG. **26**. The optical intensities may instead be determined by a simulation of diffracted luminous fluxes based on design data on the diffractive optical element **63**. When the optical intensity I.sub.OK of the first diffracted luminous fluxes varies, the average of the varying optical intensity I.sub.OK is used to calculate the optical intensity ratio R. When the optical intensity I.sub.NG of the second diffracted luminous fluxes varies, the average of the varying optical intensity I.sub.NG is used to calculate the optical intensity ratio R.

[0236] The target fluence F.sub.OKmt is set at a value smaller than or equal to a value Fth/R, which is a result of division of the processing threshold Fth by the optical intensity ratio R. Setting the target fluence F.sub.OKmt at a value smaller than or equal to the value Fth/R causes the fluence F.sub.NGm of the second diffracted luminous fluxes to be a value smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth. Setting the target fluence F.sub.OKmt at a value greater than the processing threshold Fth causes the fluence F.sub.NGm of the second diffracted luminous fluxes to be a value greater than the value Fth.Math.R.

2.1.2.3 Range of Target Fluence F.SUB.OK.mt

[0237] FIG. **18** and the description thereof show that setting the target fluence F.sub.OKmt at a value that falls within the range shown below causes the fluence F.sub.OKm of the first diffracted luminous fluxes to be a value greater than the processing threshold Fth, and the fluence F.sub.NGm

of the second diffracted luminous fluxes to be a value smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth.

$$Fth < F.sub.OKmt \leq Fth/R$$

2.2 Configuration of Laser Processing System

[0238] The configuration of the laser processing system according to the first embodiment is the same as the configuration in Comparative Example described with reference to FIG. **1**.

2.3 Processes Carried Out by Laser Processing Processor **53**

[0239] FIG. **19** is a flowchart showing laser processing processes in the first embodiment. Out of the laser processing processes in the first embodiment, the processes in S**300***a*, S**400***a*, S**500***a* and S**600***a* differ from the corresponding processes in Comparative Example. The different processes will be described below in detail with reference to FIGS. **20** to **23**.

2.3.1 Read Diffractive Optical Element Information

[0240] FIG. **20** is a flowchart showing the process of reading information on the diffractive optical element **63** in detail. The processes shown in FIG. **20** correspond to the subroutine labeled with S**300***a* in FIG. **19**.

[0241] In S**301**, the laser processing processor **53** reads the transmittance T.sub.DOE of the diffractive optical element **63**. This point is the same as that in Comparative Example.

[0242] In S**302***a*, the laser processing processor **53** reads the value of the optical intensity ratio R. The optical intensity ratio R is used in S**401***a*, which will be described with reference to FIG. **21**.

[0243] After S**302***a*, the laser processing processor **53** terminates the processes in the present flowchart, and returns to the processes shown in FIG. **19**.

2.3.2 Determine Target Fluence

[0244] FIG. **21** is a flowchart showing the process of determining the target fluence F.sub.OKmt at a processing point in detail. The processes shown in FIG. **21** correspond to the subroutine labeled with S**400***a* in FIG. **19**.

[0245] In S**401***a*, the laser processing processor **53** calculates a fluence F.sub.OKmth of the first diffracted luminous fluxes, which is provided when the fluence F.sub.NGm of the second diffracted luminous fluxes becomes the processing threshold Fth, using the following expression:

$$F.sub.OKmth = Fth/R$$

[0246] In S**410***a*, the laser processing processor **53** determines the target fluence F.sub.OKmt that satisfies the following expression:

$$Fth < F.sub.OKmt \leq Fth/R$$

[0247] The target fluence F.sub.OKmt may be set at Fth/R, which is the upper limit. This can maximize the efficiency of the laser processing while suppressing the processing performed at the non-processing points that require no processing. The target fluence F.sub.OKmt may instead be set at the average of Fth and Fth/R. In this case, even when the pulse energy of the pulse laser light Out unexpectedly varies, a situation in which the processing is performed at the non-processing points or a situation in which sufficient processing is not performed at the processing points that require the processing can be avoided.

[0248] After S**410***a*, the laser processing processor **53** terminates the processes in the present flowchart, and returns to the processes shown in FIG. **19**.

2.3.3 Determine Number of Radiated Pulses Nm and Repetition Frequency f

[0249] FIG. **22** is a flowchart showing details of the process of determining the number of radiated pulses Nm and the repetition frequency f in the single laser processing. The processes shown in FIG. **22** correspond to the subroutine labeled with S**500***a* in FIG. **19**.

[0250] In S**501***a*, the laser processing processor **53** determines the number of radiated pulses Nm based on the target fluence F.sub.OKmt and the thickness t.

[0251] In S**502**, the laser processing processor **53** determines the repetition frequency f suitable for the processing. This point is the same as that in Comparative Example.

[0252] After S**502**, the laser processing processor **53** terminates the processes in the present flowchart, and returns to the processes shown in FIG. **19**.

2.3.4 Adjust Laser Processing System

[0253] FIG. **23** is a flowchart showing details of the process of adjusting the laser processing system based on the target fluence F.sub.OKmt. The processes shown in FIG. **23** correspond to the subroutine labeled with S**600**a in FIG. **19**.

[0254] The processes shown in FIG. **23** differ from those in Comparative Example shown in FIG. **13** in terms of expression for setting the transmittance Ta of the attenuator **52** in S**603**a. The transmittance Ta of the attenuator **52** is calculated by the following expression, and the target fluence F.sub.OKmt is used in place of the target fluence Fmt.

Ta=F.sub.OK*mt.Math.P.Math.S/*(*Et.Math.T*0.Math.*T*.sub.DOE)

[0255] In the first embodiment, to calculate the transmittance Ta of the attenuator **52**, it is assumed that the sum of the pulse energy values of the second diffracted luminous fluxes out of the pulse laser light Out incident on the diffractive optical element **63** be sufficiently smaller than the pulse energy of the pulse laser light Out.

[0256] The processes shown in FIG. **23** are otherwise the same as the processes shown in FIG. **13**.

2.4 Effects

[0257] (1) According to the first embodiment, the laser processing system includes the laser apparatus **1**, the diffractive optical element **63**, the focusing optical system **67**, the adjustment mechanism, such as the attenuator **52**, and the laser processing processor **53**. The laser apparatus **1** outputs the pulse laser light Out. The diffractive optical element **63** divides the pulse laser light Out into luminous fluxes containing the first diffracted luminous fluxes, which are multiple diffracted luminous fluxes radiated to multiple processing points on the workpiece SUB, and the second diffracted luminous fluxes, which are multiple diffracted luminous fluxes radiated to multiple non-processing points. The focusing optical system **67** focuses each of the first and second diffracted luminous fluxes at the workpiece SUB. The adjustment mechanism is configured to be capable of adjusting the pulse energy of the pulse laser light Out to be incident on the diffractive optical element **63**. The laser processing processor **53** controls the adjustment mechanism in such a way that the conditions described below are satisfied based on parameters including the processing threshold Fth of the fluence for processing the workpiece SUB. (a) The fluence F.sub.OKm of the first diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece SUB is greater than the processing threshold Fth. (b) The fluence F.sub.NGm of the second diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece SUB is smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth.

[0258] When the conditions described above are satisfied, the fluence F.sub.OKm of the first diffracted luminous fluxes radiated to the processing points is greater than the processing threshold Fth, and the fluence F.sub.NGm of the second diffracted luminous fluxes radiated to the non-processing points is smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth, so that required processing can be performed with unnecessary processing suppressed.

[0259] (2) According to the first embodiment, the laser processing processor **53** controls the adjustment mechanism such as the attenuator **52** by setting the target fluence F.sub.OKmt, which is the target value of the fluence F.sub.OKm of the first diffracted luminous fluxes, as follows: (a) The target fluence F.sub.OKmt is greater than the processing threshold Fth. (b) The target fluence F.sub.OKmt is smaller than or equal to the value Fth/R, which is a result of division of the processing threshold Fth by the optical intensity ratio R, which is a result of division of the optical intensity I.sub.NG of the second diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece SUB by the optical intensity I.sub.OK of the first diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece SUB.

[0260] With the conditions described above satisfied, when the target fluence F_{OKmt} of the first diffracted luminous fluxes is set, the optical intensity ratio R can be used to cause not only the fluence F_{OKm} of the first diffracted luminous fluxes but also the fluence F_{NGm} of the second diffracted luminous fluxes to each fall within a desired range.

[0261] The first embodiment is otherwise the same as Comparative Example.

3. Laser Processing System in Consideration of Variation in Fluence Between First Diffracted Luminous Fluxes and Between Second Diffracted Luminous Fluxes

3.1 Concept

3.1.1 Fluences of First and Second Diffracted Luminous Fluxes

[0262] FIG. **24** is a bar graph showing an example of the result of control in a second embodiment. In the second embodiment, variation in fluence between the first diffracted luminous fluxes focused at the processing points and variation in fluence between the second diffracted luminous fluxes focused at the non-processing points are taken into consideration. The diffracted luminous flux having the maximum fluence out of the first diffracted luminous fluxes is called a first maximum diffracted luminous flux, and the fluence of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux is called F_{OKmax}. The diffracted luminous flux having the minimum fluence out of the first diffracted luminous fluxes is called a first minimum diffracted luminous flux, and the fluence of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux is called F_{OKmin}. The diffracted luminous flux having the maximum fluence out of the second diffracted luminous fluxes is called a second maximum diffracted luminous flux, and the fluence of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux is called F_{NGmax}. The diffracted luminous flux having the minimum fluence out of the second diffracted luminous fluxes is called a second minimum diffracted luminous flux, and the fluence of the second minimum diffracted luminous flux is called F_{NGmin}.

[0263] In FIG. **24**, the horizontal axis shows the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, the second maximum diffracted luminous flux, and the second minimum diffracted luminous flux, and the vertical axis represents the fluence F of each of the diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece SUB. In the second embodiment, the laser processing processor **53** controls the adjustment mechanism such as the attenuator **52** in such a way that the fluence F_{OKmin} of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux is greater than the processing threshold Fth and the fluence F_{NGmax} of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux is smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth.

3.1.2 Set Target Fluence $F_{OK.mint}$

[0264] In the second embodiment, a target fluence F_{OKmint} of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux is set as shown below. When the fluence F_{OKmin} of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux is controlled to be the target fluence F_{OKmint}, the fluence of each of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, the second maximum diffracted luminous flux, and the second minimum diffracted luminous flux is a value determined in accordance with the optical intensity ratio of the diffracted luminous flux to the first minimum diffracted luminous flux.

[0265] FIG. **25** is a bar graph showing an example of the target fluence F_{OKmint} of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux that is set in the second embodiment. In FIG. **25**, the horizontal axis shows the first minimum diffracted luminous flux and the second maximum diffracted luminous flux, and the vertical axis represents the fluence F of each of the diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece SUB.

3.1.2.1 Lower Limit of Target Fluence $F_{OK.mint}$

[0266] The target fluence F_{OKmint} is set at a value greater than the processing threshold Fth. As a result, the fluence F_{OKmin} of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux is greater than the processing threshold Fth. The fluences of the first diffracted luminous fluxes including the fluence F_{OKmax} of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, which are all greater than or equal to the fluence F_{OKmin} of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, are also greater than the processing threshold Fth.

3.1.2.2 Upper Limit of Target Fluence F.SUB.OK.mint

[0267] An optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O is assumed to be a value as a result of division of an optical intensity I.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux at the surface of the workpiece SUB by an optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux at the surface of the workpiece SUB, as expressed by the following expression:

R.sub.N/O=*I*.sub.NGmax/*I*.sub.OKmin

[0268] The target fluence F.sub.OKmint is set at a value smaller than or equal to a value Fth/R.sub.N/O as a result of division of the processing threshold Fth by the optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O. Setting the target fluence F.sub.OKmint at a value smaller than or equal to the value Fth/R.sub.N/O causes the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux to be a value smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth. The fluences of the second diffracted luminous fluxes including the fluence F.sub.NGmin of the second minimum diffracted luminous flux, which are all smaller than or equal to the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux, are also smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth. It is noted that setting the target fluence F.sub.OKmint at a value greater than the processing threshold Fth causes the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux to be a value greater than a value Fth.Math.R.sub.N/O.

3.1.2.3 Range of Target Fluence F.SUB.OK.mint

[0269] FIG. **25** and the description thereof show that setting the target fluence F.sub.OKmint at a value that falls within the range shown below causes the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux to be a value greater than the processing threshold Fth, and the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux to be a value smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth.

Fth<F.sub.OKmin*t≤Fth/R*.sub.N/O

3.2 Configuration of Laser Processing System

[0270] The configuration of the laser processing system according to the second embodiment is the same as the configuration in Comparative Example described with reference to FIG. **1**.

3.3 Measurement of Diffractive Optical Element Information

[0271] FIG. **26** schematically shows the configuration of a measurement system that measures information on the diffractive optical element **63** in the second embodiment. In the optical system including the diffractive optical element **63** and the focusing optical system **67** shown in FIG. **1**, an image sensor **81** is disposed at a position separate from the focusing optical system **67** by the focal length f.sub.67 in place of the workpiece SUB. The measurement system may be provided separately from the laser processing apparatus **5**, or may be provided inside the laser processing apparatus **5**.

[0272] The image sensor **81** is connected to an optical intensity measuring processor **83**, and the optical intensity measuring processor **83** is connected to the data managing server **93**. The optical intensity measuring processor **83** is a processing apparatus including a memory **83***a*, which stores a control program, and a CPU **83***b*, which executes the control program. The optical intensity measuring processor **83** is specially configured or programmed to carry out various processes described in the present disclosure.

[0273] The pulse laser light Out incident on the diffractive optical element **63** has the same wavelength λ as the pulse laser light Out output from the laser apparatus **1**. The image sensor **81** outputs image data containing the optical intensity at each position on the light receiving surface of the image sensor **81** or a time integral value of the optical intensity. The optical intensity measuring processor **83** measures the optical intensities of the first and second diffracted luminous fluxes based on the image data output from the image sensor **81**.

[0274] The optical intensities of the first and second diffracted luminous fluxes are not limited to

the actually measured values measured by using the measurement system shown in FIG. **26**, and may instead be determined by a simulation of the diffracted luminous fluxes based on the design data on the diffractive optical element **63**.

[0275] FIG. **27** is a flowchart showing the process of measuring optical intensities in the second embodiment. The processes shown below allow the optical intensity measuring processor **83** to measure the optical intensities of the diffracted luminous fluxes to acquire information on the diffractive optical element **63**.

[0276] In S**901**, the optical intensity measuring processor **83** measures the optical intensities I.sub.NG of the second diffracted luminous fluxes. Let Jmax be the number of the second diffracted luminous fluxes, and the optical intensities I.sub.NG of the second diffracted luminous fluxes can be expressed in the form of the following data sequence: [0277] I.sub.NG(1), I.sub.NG(2), . . . , I.sub.NG(Jmax)

[0278] In S**902**, the optical intensity measuring processor **83** calculates the following values: [0279] Optical intensity I.sub.NGmax of second maximum diffracted luminous flux [0280] Sum I.sub.NGsum of optical intensities I.sub.NG of second diffracted luminous fluxes

[0281] The optical intensity I.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux is the maximum of the optical intensities I.sub.NG of the second diffracted luminous fluxes. The sum I.sub.NGsum of the optical intensities I.sub.NG of the second diffracted luminous fluxes is a value calculated by I.sub.NG(1)+I.sub.NG(2)+ . . . +I.sub.NG(Jmax).

[0282] In S**903**, the optical intensity measuring processor **83** measures the optical intensities I.sub.OK of the first diffracted luminous fluxes. Let Kmax be the number of the first diffracted luminous fluxes, and the optical intensities I.sub.OK of the first diffracted luminous fluxes can be expressed in the form of the following data sequence: [0283] I.sub.OK(1), I.sub.OK(2), . . . , I.sub.OK(Kmax)

[0284] In S**904**, the optical intensity measuring processor **83** calculates the following values: [0285] Optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of first minimum diffracted luminous flux [0286] Sum I.sub.OKsum of optical intensities I.sub.OK of first diffracted luminous fluxes

[0287] The optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux is the minimum of the optical intensities I.sub.OK of the first diffracted luminous fluxes. The sum I.sub.OKsum of the optical intensities I.sub.OK of the first diffracted luminous fluxes is a value calculated by I.sub.OK(1)+I.sub.OK(2)+ . . . +I.sub.OK(Kmax).

[0288] In S**905**, the optical intensity measuring processor **83** calculates the optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O of the optical intensity I.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux to the optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux using the following expression:

$$R.sub.N/O = I.sub.NGmax / I.sub.OKmin$$

[0289] In S**907**, the optical intensity measuring processor **83** calculates a sum Isum of the optical intensities of the first and second diffracted luminous fluxes using the following expression:

$$Isum = I.sub.OKsum + I.sub.NGsum$$

[0290] In S**908**, the optical intensity measuring processor **83** saves the following calculated values in the data managing server **93**: [0291] Sum Isum of optical intensities of first and second diffracted luminous fluxes [0292] Optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of first minimum diffracted luminous flux [0293] Optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O of optical intensity I.sub.NGmax of second maximum diffracted luminous flux to optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of first minimum diffracted luminous flux

3.4 Processes Carried Out by Laser Processing Processor **53**

[0294] FIG. **28** is a flowchart showing laser processing processes in the second embodiment. Out of the laser processing processes in the second embodiment, the processes in S**300***b*, S**400***b*, S**500***b*,

and S**600***b* differ from the corresponding processes in the first embodiment. The different processes will be described below in detail with reference to FIGS. **29** to **32**.

3.4.1 Read Diffractive Optical Element Information

[0295] FIG. **29** is a flowchart showing the process of reading information on the diffractive optical element **63** in detail. The processes shown in FIG. **29** correspond to the subroutine labeled with S**300***b* in FIG. **28**.

[0296] In S**301**, the laser processing processor **53** reads the transmittance T.sub.DOE of the diffractive optical element **63**. This point is the same as that in Comparative Example.

[0297] In S**302***b*, the laser processing processor **53** reads the following information calculated in FIG. **27**: [0298] Sum Isum of optical intensities of first and second diffracted luminous fluxes [0299] Optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of first minimum diffracted luminous flux [0300] Optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O of optical intensity I.sub.NGmax of second maximum diffracted luminous flux to optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of first minimum diffracted luminous flux

[0301] The sum Isum of the optical intensities of the first and second diffracted luminous fluxes and the optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux are used in S**603***b*, which will be described with reference to FIG. **32**. The optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O is used in S**401***b*, which will be described with reference to FIG. **30**.

[0302] After S**302***b*, the laser processing processor **53** terminates the processes in the present flowchart, and returns to the processes shown in FIG. **28**.

3.4.2 Determine Target Fluence

[0303] FIG. **30** is a flowchart showing the process of determining the target fluence F.sub.OKmint of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux in detail. The processes shown in FIG. **30** correspond to the subroutine labeled with S**400***b* in FIG. **28**.

[0304] In S**401***b*, the laser processing processor **53** calculates a fluence F.sub.OKminth of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, which is provided when the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux becomes the processing threshold Fth, using the following expression:

$$F.sub.OKmin\textit{th}=Fth/R.sub.N/O$$

[0305] In S**410***b*, the laser processing processor **53** determines the target fluence F.sub.OKmint that satisfies the following expression:

$$Fth<F.sub.OKmin\textit{t}\leq Fth/R.sub.N/O$$

[0306] The target fluence F.sub.OKmint may be set at Fth/R.sub.N/O, which is the upper limit. This can maximize the efficiency of the laser processing while suppressing the processing performed at the non-processing points that require no processing. The target fluence F.sub.OKmint may instead be set at the average of Fth and Fth/R.sub.N/O. In this case, even when the pulse energy of the pulse laser light Out unexpectedly varies, a situation in which the processing is performed at the non-processing points or a situation in which sufficient processing is not performed at the processing points can be avoided.

[0307] After S**410***b*, the laser processing processor **53** terminates the processes in the present flowchart, and returns to the processes shown in FIG. **28**.

3.4.3 Determine Number of Radiated Pulses Nm and Repetition Frequency f

[0308] FIG. **31** is a flowchart showing details of the process of determining the number of radiated pulses Nm and the repetition frequency f in the single laser processing. The processes shown in FIG. **31** correspond to the subroutine labeled with S**500***b* in FIG. **28**.

[0309] In S**501***b*, the laser processing processor **53** determines the number of radiated pulses Nm based on the target fluence F.sub.OKmint of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux and the thickness t. The first minimum diffracted luminous flux and the first maximum diffracted luminous flux differ in fluence from each other, and therefore give different processing speeds. Determining

the number of radiated pulses Nm based on the target fluence F.sub.OKmint of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, which performs the laser processing at the slowest processing speed, holes having a sufficient depth can be formed at all the processing points. For example, when the depth of the hole formed at the processing point on which the first minimum diffracted luminous flux is incident is equal to the thickness t, through holes can be formed at all the processing points.

[0310] In S**502**, the laser processing processor **53** determines the repetition frequency f suitable for the processing. This point is the same as that in Comparative Example.

[0311] After S**502**, the laser processing processor **53** terminates the processes in the present flowchart, and returns to the processes shown in FIG. **28**.

3.4.4 Adjust Laser Processing System

[0312] FIG. **32** is a flowchart showing details of the process of adjusting the laser processing system based on the target fluence F.sub.OKmint. The processes shown in FIG. **32** correspond to the subroutine labeled with S**600***b* in FIG. **28**.

[0313] The processes shown in FIG. **32** differ from those in the first embodiment shown in FIG. **23** in terms of expression for setting the transmittance Ta of the attenuator **52** in S**603***b*. The energy per pulse of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux is expressed by the following equality:

$$(I.\text{sub}.OKmin/I\text{sum}).Math.Et.Math.Ta.Math.T0.Math.T.\text{sub}.DOE=F.\text{sub}.OKmin\,t.Math.S$$

[0314] The transmittance Ta of the attenuator **52** is therefore calculated by the following expression:

$$Ta=F.\text{sub}.OKmin\,t.Math.S.Math.(I\text{sum}/I.\text{sub}.OKmin)/(Et.Math.T0.Math.T.\text{sub}.DOE)$$

[0315] The processes shown in FIG. **32** are otherwise the same as the processes shown in FIG. **23**.

3.5 Effects

[0316] (3) According to the second embodiment, the first diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F.sub.OKm, and the second diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F.sub.NGm. The laser processing processor **53** controls the adjustment mechanism in such a way that the following conditions are satisfied: (a) The fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, which is the minimum of the fluences F.sub.OKm, out of the first diffracted luminous fluxes is greater than the processing threshold Fth. (b) The fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux, which is the maximum of the fluences F.sub.NGm, out of the second diffracted luminous fluxes is smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth.

[0317] Under the conditions described above, even when the plural diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of fluence, satisfying the condition on the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux allows the fluences F.sub.OKm of the first luminous fluxes radiated to the multiple processing points to be greater than the processing threshold Fth. Furthermore, satisfying the condition on the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux allows the fluences F.sub.NGm of the second diffracted luminous fluxes radiated to the multiple non-processing points to be smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth. Necessary processing can therefore be performed with unnecessary processing suppressed.

[0318] (4) According to the second embodiment, the laser processing processor **53** controls the adjustment mechanism such as the attenuator **52** by setting the target fluence F.sub.OKmint, which is the target value of the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, as follows: (a) The target fluence F.sub.OKmint is greater than the processing threshold Fth. (b) The target fluence F.sub.OKmint is smaller than or equal to the value Fth/R.sub.N/O, which is a result of division of the processing threshold Fth by the optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O, which is a result of division of the optical intensity I.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux by the optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux.

[0319] With the two conditions satisfied, even when the multiple diffracted luminous fluxes vary in

terms of fluence, setting the target fluence F.sub.OKmint of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux allows the fluences F.sub.OKm of the first luminous fluxes radiated to the multiple processing points to fall within a desired range. Furthermore, when the target fluence F.sub.OKmint of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux is set, the optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O can be used to cause the fluences F.sub.NGm of the second diffracted luminous fluxes radiated to the multiple non-processing points to fall within a desired range.

[0320] (5) According to the second embodiment, the laser processing processor **53** calculates parameters such as the transmittance Ta of the attenuator **52**, which adjusts the pulse energy of the pulse laser light Out to be incident on the diffractive optical element **63**, and controls the adjustment mechanism such as the attenuator **52**. The parameters are calculated based on the ratio between the sum Isum of the optical intensities of the first and second diffracted luminous fluxes and the optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, and the target fluence F.sub.OKmint.

[0321] In the thus configured second embodiment, even when the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of fluence, or when part of the pulse energy of the pulse laser light Out is discarded as the energy of the second diffracted luminous fluxes, the ratio of the sum Isum of the optical intensities of the first and second diffracted luminous fluxes and the optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux can be used to set the target fluence F.sub.OKmint of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux.

[0322] The second embodiment is otherwise the same as the first embodiment.

4. Laser Processing System in Consideration of Variation in Pulse Energy of Pulse Laser Light Output from Laser Apparatus

4.1 Concept

4.1.1 Fluences of First and Second Diffracted Luminous Fluxes

[0323] FIG. **33** is a bar graph showing an example of the result of control in a variation of the second embodiment. In the variation of the second embodiment, variation δE of the pulse energy of the pulse laser light Out output from the laser apparatus **1** is taken into account. When the pulse energy of the pulse laser light Out varies, the fluences of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, the second maximum diffracted luminous flux, and the second minimum diffracted luminous flux all vary based on the same pulse energy variation δE. The pulse energy variation δE is calculated from the standard deviation and the average of the pulse energy values of the multiple pulses contained in the pulse laser light Out. For example, the pulse energy variation δE is a value as a result of division of the standard deviation multiplied by one, two, or three by the average.

[0324] In FIG. **33**, the horizontal axis shows the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, the second maximum diffracted luminous flux, and the second minimum diffracted luminous flux, and the vertical axis represents the fluence F of each of the diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece SUB. The fluence F of each of the diffracted luminous fluxes varies based on the pulse energy variation δE as described below.

[0325] The range over which the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux varies based on the pulse energy variation δE is called a first variation range. The first variation range can be expressed by the following expression using the target fluence F.sub.OKmint of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux:

F.sub.OKmin$t$.Math.$(1-\delta E) \leq F$.sub.OKmin$\leq F$.sub.OKmin$t$.Math.$(1+\delta E)$

[0326] The range over which the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux varies based on the pulse energy variation δE is called a second variation range. The second variation range can be expressed by the following expression using a target fluence F.sub.NGmaxt of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux:

$$F\text{.sub.NGmax}t\text{.Math.}(1-\delta E) \le F\text{.sub.NGmax} \le F\text{.sub.NGmax}t\text{.Math.}(1+\delta E)$$

[0327] The target fluence F.sub.NGmaxt of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux is obtained by multiplying the target fluence F.sub.OKmint of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux by the optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O. The target fluence F.sub.NGmaxt of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux is a name for convenience to compare with the target fluence F.sub.OKmint of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, and the value of the target fluence F.sub.NGmaxt may not be used as the fluence target value.

[0328] The fluence F.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux and the fluence F.sub.NGmin of the second minimum diffracted luminous flux similarly vary based on the pulse energy variation δE.

[0329] In the variation of the second embodiment, the laser processing processor **53** controls the adjustment mechanism such as the attenuator **52** in such a way that the minimum value F.sub.OKmint.Math.(1−δE) in the first variation range of the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux is greater than the processing threshold Fth and the maximum value F.sub.NGmaxt.Math.(1+δE) in the second variation range of the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux is smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth.

4.1.2 Set Target Fluence F.SUB.OK.mint

[0330] FIG. **34** is a bar graph showing an example of the target fluence F.sub.OKmint of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux that is set in the variation of the second embodiment. In FIG. **34**, the horizontal axis shows the first minimum diffracted luminous flux and the second maximum diffracted luminous flux, and the vertical axis represents the fluence F of each of the diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece SUB.

4.1.2.1 Lower Limit of Target Fluence F.SUB.OK.mint

[0331] The target fluence F.sub.OKmint is set at a value that causes the minimum value F.sub.OKmint.Math.(1−δE) in the first variation range of the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux to be a value greater than the processing threshold Fth. The following relationship is therefore given:

$$Fth < F\text{.sub.OKmin}t\text{.Math.}(1-\delta E)$$

[0332] The following relationship indicating the lower limit of the target fluence F.sub.OKmint is derived from the above inequality.

$$Fth/(1-\delta E) < F\text{.sub.OKmin}t$$

[0333] The left-hand side of the above expression, Fth/(1−δE), corresponds to a value as a result of addition of Fth.Math.δE/(1−δE) to the processing threshold Fth, as expressed by the following expression:

$$Fth/(1-\delta E) = Fth + Fth\text{.Math.}\delta E/(1-\delta E)$$

[0334] Fth.Math.δE/(1−δE) corresponds to the first variation range in the present disclosure.

[0335] Setting the lower limit of the target fluence F.sub.OKmint of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux as described above causes the minimum value F.sub.OKmint.Math.(1−δE) in the first variation range of the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux to be a value greater than the processing threshold Fth. The fluences of the first diffracted luminous fluxes including the fluence F.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, which are all greater than or equal to the minimum value F.sub.OKmint.Math.(1−δE) in the first variation range of the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, are also greater than the processing threshold Fth.

4.1.2.2 Upper Limit of Target Fluence F.SUB.OK.mint

[0336] The target fluence F.sub.OKmint is set at a value that causes the maximum value F.sub.NGmaxt.Math.(1+δE) in the second variation range of the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the

second maximum diffracted luminous flux to be a value smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth. The following relationship is therefore given:

F.sub.NGmax$t$.Math.$(1+\delta E) \leq Fth$

[0337] The target fluence F.sub.NGmaxt is obtained by multiplying the target fluence F.sub.OKmint of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux by the optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O. The following relationship indicating the upper limit of the target fluence F.sub.OKmint is then derived from the above inequality.

F.sub.OKmin$t \leq (Fth/R$.sub.N/O$)/(1+\delta E)$

[0338] The right-hand side of the above expression, (Fth/R.sub.N/O)/(1+δE), corresponds to a value as a result of subtraction of (Fth/R.sub.N/O).Math.δE/(1+δE) from the value Fth/R.sub.N/O as a result of division of the processing threshold Fth by the optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O, as expressed by the following expression:

$(Fth/R$.sub.N/O$)/(1+\delta E)=Fth/R$.sub.N/O$-(Fth/R$.sub.N/O$)$.Math.$\delta E/(1+\delta E)$

[0339] (Fth/R.sub.N/O).Math.δE/(1+δE) corresponds to the second variation range in the present disclosure.

[0340] Setting the upper limit of the target fluence F.sub.OKmint of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux as described above causes the maximum value F.sub.NGmaxt.Math.(1+δE) in the second variation range of the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux to be a value smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth. The fluences of the second diffracted luminous fluxes including the fluence F.sub.NGmin of the second minimum diffracted luminous flux, which are all smaller than or equal to the maximum value F.sub.NGmaxt.Math.(1+δE) in the second variation range of the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux, are also smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth. It is noted that when the minimum value F.sub.OKmint.Math.(1−δE) in the first variation range of the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux is set at a value greater than the processing threshold Fth, setting the target fluence F.sub.OKmint at a value greater than Fth/(1−δE) causes the minimum value F.sub.NGmaxt.Math.(1−δE) in the second variation range of the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux to be a value greater than the value Fth.Math.R.sub.N/O.

4.1.2.3 Range of Target Fluence F.SUB.OK.mint

[0341] FIG. **34** and the description thereof show that setting the target fluence F.sub.OKmint at a value that falls within the range shown below causes the entire first variation range of the fluences of the first diffracted luminous fluxes to be a value greater than the processing threshold Fth, and the entire second variation range of the fluences of the second diffracted luminous fluxes to be a value smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth.

$Fth/(1-\delta E)<F$.sub.OKmin$t \leq (Fth/R$.sub.N/O$)/(1+\delta E)$

4.2 Configuration of Laser Processing System

[0342] The configuration of the laser processing system according to the variation of the second embodiment is the same as the configuration in Comparative Example described with reference to FIG. **1**.

4.3 Processes Carried Out by Laser Processing Processor **53**

[0343] FIG. **35** is a flowchart showing laser processing processes in the variation of the second embodiment. Out of the laser processing processes in the variation of the second embodiment, the processes in S**100**c and S**400**c differ from the corresponding processes in the second embodiment. The different processes will be described below in detail with reference to FIGS. **36** and **37**.

4.3.1 Read Laser Processing System Information

[0344] FIG. **36** is a flowchart showing the process of reading information on the laser processing system in detail. The processes shown in FIG. **36** correspond to the subroutine labeled with S**100***c* in FIG. **35**.

[0345] In S**101** to S**103**, the laser processing processor **53** reads the transmittance TO, the number of holes P, and the irradiated area S. This point is the same as that in Comparative Example.

[0346] In S**104***c*, the laser processing processor **53** reads the pulse energy variation δE. The pulse energy variation δE is used in S**410***c*, which will be described with reference to FIG. **37**.

[0347] After S**104***c*, the laser processing processor **53** terminates the processes in the present flowchart, and returns to the processes shown in FIG. **35**.

4.3.2 Determine Target Fluence

[0348] FIG. **37** is a flowchart showing the process of determining the target fluence F.sub.OKmint of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux in detail. The processes shown in FIG. **37** correspond to the subroutine labeled with S**400***c* in FIG. **35**.

[0349] In S**401***b*, the laser processing processor **53** calculates the fluence F.sub.OKminth of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, which is provided when the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux becomes the processing threshold Fth. This point is the same as that in the second embodiment.

[0350] In S**410***c*, the laser processing processor **53** determines the target fluence F.sub.OKmint that satisfies the following expression:

$$Fth/(1-\delta E) < F.\text{sub.OKmin} t \leq (Fth/R.\text{sub.N/O})/(1+\delta E)$$

[0351] The target fluence F.sub.OKmint may be set at (Fth/R.sub.N/O)/(1+δE), which is the upper limit. This can maximize the efficiency of the laser processing while suppressing the processing performed at the non-processing points that require no processing. The target fluence F.sub.OKmint may instead be set at the average of Fth/(1−δE) and (Fth/R.sub.N/O)/(1+δE). In this case, even when the pulse energy of the pulse laser light Out unexpectedly varies, a situation in which the processing is performed at the non-processing points or a situation in which sufficient processing is not performed at the processing points that require the processing can be avoided.

[0352] After S**410***c*, the laser processing processor **53** terminates the processes in the present flowchart, and returns to the processes shown in FIG. **35**.

4.4 Effects

[0353] (6) According to the variation of the second embodiment, the first diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F.sub.OKm, and the second diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F.sub.NGm. The laser processing processor **53** controls the adjustment mechanism in such a way that the following conditions are satisfied: (a) The minimum value F.sub.OKmint.Math.(1−δE) in the first variation range of the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux having the minimum of the fluences F.sub.OKm out of the first diffracted luminous fluxes, the first variation range derived based on the variation δE of the pulse energy of the pulse laser light Out incident on the diffractive optical element **63**, is greater than the processing threshold Fth. (b) The maximum value F.sub.NGmaxt.Math.(1+δE) in the second variation range of the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux having the maximum of the fluences F.sub.NGm out of the second diffracted luminous fluxes, the second variation range derived based on the pulse energy variation δE, is smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth.

[0354] With the conditions described above satisfied, the entire variation range of the fluences F.sub.OKm of the first diffracted luminous fluxes radiated to the multiple processing points can be greater than the processing threshold Fth not only when the multiple diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of fluence but also when the pulse laser light Out contains the pulse energy variation δE. In addition, the entire variation range of the fluences F.sub.NGm of the second diffracted luminous fluxes radiated to the multiple non-processing points can be smaller than or equal to the

processing threshold Fth. Necessary processing can therefore be performed with unnecessary processing suppressed.

[0355] (7) According to the variation of the second embodiment, the laser processing processor **53** controls the adjustment mechanism such as the attenuator **52** by setting the target fluence F.sub.OKmint, which is the target value of the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, as follows: (a) The target fluence F.sub.OKmint is greater than the value Fth/(1−δE) as a result of addition of the first variation range Fth **6**E/(1−δE), which indicates the pulse energy variation δE, to the processing threshold Fth. (b) The target fluence F.sub.OKmint is smaller than or equal to the value (Fth/R.sub.N/O)/(1+δE), which is a result of subtraction of the second variation range (Fth/R.sub.N/O).Math.δE/(1+δE) indicating the pulse energy variation δE from the value Fth/R.sub.N/O, which is a result of division of the processing threshold Fth by the optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O, which is a result of division of the optical intensity I.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux by the optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux.

[0356] With the conditions described above satisfied, the entire variation range of the fluences F.sub.OKm of the first diffracted luminous fluxes radiated to the multiple processing points are allowed to fall within a desired range not only when the multiple diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of fluence but also when the pulse laser light Out contains the pulse energy variation δE. Furthermore, when the target fluence F.sub.OKmint of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux is set, the optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O can be used to cause the entire variation range of the fluences F.sub.NGm of the second diffracted luminous fluxes radiated to the multiple non-processing points to fall within a desired range.

[0357] The variation of the second embodiment is otherwise the same as the second embodiment.

5. Laser Processing System in Consideration of Fluence Upper Limit

5.1 Concept

5.1.1 Fluences of First and Second Diffracted Luminous Fluxes

[0358] FIG. **38** is a bar graph showing an example of the result of control in a third embodiment. In the third embodiment, consideration is given to an upper limit of the fluences of the first diffracted luminous fluxes focused at the processing points. For example, when the fluence is too high, the workpiece SUB may unintendedly crack.

[0359] In FIG. **38**, the horizontal axis shows the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, the second maximum diffracted luminous flux, and the second minimum diffracted luminous flux, and the vertical axis represents the fluence F of each of the diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece SUB. The laser processing processor **53** controls the adjustment mechanism such as the attenuator **52** in such a way that the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux is greater than the processing threshold Fth and the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux is smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth, as in the second embodiment. Furthermore, in the third embodiment, the laser processing processor **53** controls the adjustment mechanism such as the attenuator **52** in such a way that the fluence F.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux is smaller than or equal to a fluence upper limit Fcr. That is, the adjustment mechanism is so controlled that the following three conditions are satisfied at the same time.

$$F.\text{sub.OKmin} > Fth$$

$$F.\text{sub.NGmax} \leq Fth$$

$$F.\text{sub.OKmax} \leq Fcr$$

[0360] FIG. **39** is a graph showing an example of the definition of the fluence upper limit Fcr. In FIG. **39**, the horizontal axis represents the fluence of the diffracted luminous fluxes. Multiple

workpieces SUB are irradiated with the diffracted luminous fluxes having different fluences, and whether the workpieces SUB crack is generated. The fluence upper limit Fcr is the fluence of the diffracted luminous flux having the minimum fluence out of the crack generating diffracted luminous fluxes. The workpiece SUB irradiated with the diffracted luminous fluxes having a fluence smaller than the fluence upper limit Fcr is unlikely to crack, whereas the workpiece SUB irradiated with the diffracted luminous fluxes having a fluence greater than or equal to the fluence upper limit Fcr is likely to crack.

5.1.2 Set Target Fluence F.SUB.OK.mint

[0361] FIGS. **40** and **41** are bar graphs showing examples of the target fluence F.sub.OKmint of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux that is set in the third embodiment. In FIGS. **40** and **41**, the horizontal axis shows the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, and the second maximum diffracted luminous flux, and the vertical axis represents the fluence F of each of the diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece SUB.

5.1.2.1 Lower Limit of Target Fluence F.SUB.OK.mint

[0362] The target fluence F.sub.OKmint is set at a value greater than the processing threshold Fth, as in the second embodiment. As a result, the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux is greater than the processing threshold Fth. The fluences of the first diffracted luminous fluxes including the fluence F.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, which are all greater than or equal to the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, are also greater than the processing threshold Fth.

5.1.2.2 Upper Limit (1) of Target Fluence F.SUB.OK.mint

[0363] The target fluence F.sub.OKmint is set at a value smaller than or equal to the value Fth/R.sub.N/O as a result of division of the processing threshold Fth by the optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O, as in the second embodiment. Setting the target fluence F.sub.OKmint at a value smaller than or equal to the value Fth/R.sub.N/O causes the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux to be a value smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth. The fluences of the second diffracted luminous fluxes including the fluence F.sub.NGmin of the second minimum diffracted luminous flux, which are all smaller than or equal to the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux, are also smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth. It is noted that setting the target fluence F.sub.OKmint at a value greater than the processing threshold Fth causes the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux to be a value greater than a value Fth R.sub.N/O.

5.1.2.3 Upper Limit (2) of Target Fluence F.SUB.OK.mint

[0364] An optical intensity ratio R.sub.O/O is assumed to be a value as a result of division of an optical intensity I.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux at the surface of the workpiece SUB by the optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux at the surface of the workpiece SUB, as expressed by the following expression:

$$R\text{.sub.}O/O = I\text{.sub.}OKmax / I\text{.sub.}OKmin$$

[0365] A fluence F.sub.OKmincr of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux that is provided when the fluence F.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux becomes the fluence upper limit Fcr is given by the following expression:

$$F\text{.sub.}OKmin cr = Fcr / R\text{.sub.}O/O$$

[0366] The target fluence F.sub.OKmint is set at a value smaller than or equal to the value Fcr/R.sub.O/O as a result of division of the fluence upper limit Fcr by the optical intensity ratio R.sub.O/O. Setting the target fluence F.sub.OKmint at a value smaller than or equal to the value Fcr/R.sub.O/O causes the fluence F.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux to be a value smaller than or equal to the fluence upper limit Fcr. The fluences of the first diffracted luminous fluxes including the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux,

which are all smaller than or equal to the fluence F.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, are also smaller than or equal to the fluence upper limit Fcr.

5.1.2.4 Range of Target Fluence F.SUB.OK.mint

[0367] In the third embodiment, the target fluence F.sub.OKmint has two upper limits, as described above. That is, the target fluence F.sub.OKmint is set at a value smaller than or equal to the value Fth/R.sub.N/O and smaller than or equal to the value Fcr/R.sub.O/O.

[0368] When the value Fcr/R.sub.O/O is greater than the value Fth/R.sub.N/O, that is, when the fluence upper limit Fcr is greater than the value (Fth/R.sub.N/O).Math.R.sub.O/O, making the target fluence F.sub.OKmint smaller than or equal to the value Fth/R.sub.N/O eliminates the need for consideration of the value Fcr/R.sub.O/O (see FIG. **40**).

[0369] In this case, setting the target fluence F.sub.OKmint at a value that falls within the range shown below causes the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux to be a value greater than the processing threshold Fth, the fluence F.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux to be a value smaller than or equal to the fluence upper limit Fcr, and the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux to be a value smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth, as in the second embodiment.

$Fth<F$.sub.OKmin$t\leq Fth/R$.sub.N/O

[0370] In other words, when the fluence upper limit Fcr is greater than the value (Fth/R.sub.N/O).Math.R.sub.O/O, the following two conditions only need to be satisfied at the same time.

F.sub.OKmin$>Fth$

F.sub.NGmax$\leq Fth$

[0371] When the value Fcr/R.sub.O/O is smaller than the value Fth/R.sub.N/O, that is, when the fluence upper limit Fcr is smaller than the value (Fth/R.sub.N/O).Math.R.sub.O/O, making the target fluence F.sub.OKmint smaller than or equal to the value Fcr/R.sub.O/O eliminates the need for consideration of the value Fth/R.sub.N/O (see FIG. **41**). The value (Fth/R.sub.N/O).Math.R.sub.O/O corresponds to a fluence F.sub.OKmaxth of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux provided when the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux becomes the processing threshold Fth.

[0372] In this case, setting the target fluence F.sub.OKmint at a value that falls within the range shown below causes the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux to be a value greater than the processing threshold Fth, the fluence F.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux to be a value smaller than or equal to the fluence upper limit Fcr, and the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux to be a value smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth.

$Fth<F$.sub.OKmin$t\leq Fcr/R$.sub.O/O

[0373] In other words, when the fluence upper limit Fcr is smaller than the value (Fth/R.sub.N/O).Math.R.sub.O/O, the following two conditions only need to be satisfied at the same time.

F.sub.OKmin$>Fth$

F.sub.OKmax$\leq Fcr$

5.2 Configuration of Laser Processing System

[0374] The configuration of the laser processing system according to the third embodiment is the same as the configuration in Comparative Example described with reference to FIG. **1**.

5.3 Measure Diffractive Optical Element Information

[0375] FIG. **42** is a flowchart showing the process of measuring the optical intensities in the third embodiment. The configuration of the measurement system that measures the information on the diffractive optical element **63** in the third embodiment is the same as that in the second embodiment described with reference to FIG. **26**. Out of the processes shown in FIG. **42**, the processes in S**904***d* and S**908***d* differ from corresponding processes in the second embodiment, and the process in S**906***d* is added.

[0376] In S**904***d*, the optical intensity measuring processor **83** calculates the following values:

[0377] Optical intensity I.sub.OKmax of first maximum diffracted luminous flux [0378] Optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of first minimum diffracted luminous flux [0379] Sum I.sub.OKsum of optical intensities I.sub.OK of first diffracted luminous fluxes

[0380] The optical intensity I.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux is the maximum of the optical intensities I.sub.OK of the first diffracted luminous fluxes.

[0381] In S**906***d* after S**905** but before S**907**, the optical intensity measuring processor **83** calculates the optical intensity ratio R.sub.O/O of the optical intensity I.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux to the optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux using the following expression:

R.sub.O/O=*I*.sub.OKmax/*I*.sub.OKmin

[0382] In S**908***d*, the optical intensity measuring processor **83** saves the calculated values below in the data managing server **93**. [0383] Sum Isum of optical intensities of first and second diffracted luminous fluxes [0384] Optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of first minimum diffracted luminous flux [0385] Optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O of optical intensity I.sub.NGmax of second maximum diffracted luminous flux to optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of first minimum diffracted luminous flux [0386] Optical intensity ratio R.sub.O/O of optical intensity I.sub.OKmax of first maximum diffracted luminous flux to optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of first minimum diffracted luminous flux

5.4 Processes Carried Out by Laser Processing Processor **53**

[0387] FIG. **43** is a flowchart showing laser processing processes in the third embodiment. Out of the laser processing processes in the third embodiment, the processes in S**200***d*, S**300***d*, and S**400***d* differ from the corresponding processes in the second embodiment. The different processes will be described below in detail with reference to FIGS. **44** to **46**.

5.4.1 Read Workpiece Information

[0388] FIG. **44** is a flowchart showing the process of reading information on the workpiece SUB in detail. The processes shown in FIG. **44** correspond to the subroutine labeled with S**200***d* in FIG. **43**.

[0389] In S**201** and S**202**, the laser processing processor **53** reads the processing threshold Fth and the thickness t. This point is the same as that in Comparative Example.

[0390] In S**203***d*, the laser processing processor **53** reads the fluence upper limit Fcr. The fluence upper limit Fcr is used in S**405***d* and S**412***d*, which will be described with reference to FIG. **46**.

[0391] After S**203***d*, the laser processing processor **53** terminates the processes in the present flowchart, and returns to the processes shown in FIG. **43**.

5.4.2 Read Diffractive Optical Element Information

[0392] FIG. **45** is a flowchart showing the process of reading information on the diffractive optical element **63** in detail. The processes shown in FIG. **45** correspond to the subroutine labeled with S**300***d* in FIG. **43**.

[0393] In S**301**, the laser processing processor **53** reads the transmittance T.sub.DOE of the diffractive optical element **63**. This point is the same as that in Comparative Example.

[0394] In S**302***d*, the laser processing processor **53** reads the following information calculated in FIG. **42**: [0395] Sum Isum of optical intensities of first and second diffracted luminous fluxes [0396] Optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of first minimum diffracted luminous flux [0397] Optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O of optical intensity I.sub.NGmax of second maximum diffracted

luminous flux to optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of first minimum diffracted luminous flux [0398]
Optical intensity ratio R.sub.O/O of optical intensity I.sub.OKmax of first maximum diffracted luminous flux to optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of first minimum diffracted luminous flux

[0399] The optical intensity ratio R.sub.O/O is used in S**403***d* and S**412***d* described with reference to FIG. **46**.

[0400] After S**302***d,* the laser processing processor **53** terminates the processes in the present flowchart, and returns to the processes shown in FIG. **43**.

5.4.3 Determine Target Fluence

[0401] FIG. **46** is a flowchart showing the process of determining the target fluence F.sub.OKmint of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux in detail. The processes shown in FIG. **46** correspond to the subroutine labeled with S**400***d* in FIG. **43**.

[0402] In S**401***b*, the laser processing processor **53** calculates the fluence F.sub.OKminth of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, which is provided when the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux becomes the processing threshold Fth. This point is the same as that in the second embodiment described with reference to FIG. **30**.

[0403] In S**403***d*, the laser processing processor **53** calculates the fluence F.sub.OKmaxth of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, which is provided when the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux becomes the processing threshold Fth using the following expression:

$$F.\text{sub.OKmax}th=F.\text{sub.OKmin}th/R.\text{sub.O/O}$$

$$=(Fth/R.\text{sub.N/O}).\text{Math.}R.\text{sub.O/O}$$

[0404] In S**405***d*, the laser processing processor **53** compares the fluence F.sub.OKmaxth of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, which is provided when the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux becomes the processing threshold Fth, with the fluence upper limit Fcr. When the fluence F.sub.OKmaxth is smaller than or equal to the fluence upper limit Fcr (F.sub.OKmaxth≤Fcr), the laser processing processor **53** proceeds to the process in S**410***b*. When the fluence F.sub.OKmaxth is greater than the fluence upper limit Fcr (F.sub.OKmaxth>Fcr), the laser processing processor **53** proceeds to the process in S**412***d.*

[0405] In S**410***b*, the laser processing processor **53** determines the target fluence F.sub.OKmint that satisfies the following expression (see FIG. **40**), as in the second embodiment:

$$Fth<F.\text{sub.OKmin}t≤Fth/R.\text{sub.N/O}$$

[0406] In S**412***d,* the laser processing processor **53** determines the target fluence F.sub.OKmint that satisfies the following expression (see FIG. **41**):

$$Fth<F.\text{sub.OKmin}t≤Fcr/R.\text{sub.O/O}$$

[0407] The target fluence F.sub.OKmint may be set at Fcr/R.sub.O/O, which is the upper limit. This can maximize the efficiency of the laser processing while suppressing the processing performed at the non-processing points that require no processing. The target fluence F.sub.OKmint may instead be set at the average of Fth and Fcr/R.sub.O/O. In this case, even when the pulse energy of the pulse laser light Out unexpectedly varies, a situation in which the processing is performed at the non-processing points or a situation in which sufficient processing is not performed at the processing points that require the processing can be avoided.

[0408] After S**410***b* and S**412***d,* the laser processing processor **53** terminates the processes in the present flowchart, and returns to the processes shown in FIG. **43**.

5.5 Effects

[0409] (8) According to the third embodiment, the first diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F.sub.OKm, and the second diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence

F.sub.NGm. The laser processing processor **53** controls the adjustment mechanism in such a way that the following conditions are satisfied: (a) The fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, which is the minimum of the fluences F.sub.OKm, out of the first diffracted luminous fluxes is greater than the processing threshold Fth. (b) The fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux, which is the maximum of the fluences F.sub.NGm, out of the second diffracted luminous fluxes is smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth. (c) The fluence F.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, which is the maximum of the fluences F.sub.OKm, out of the first diffracted luminous fluxes, is smaller than or equal to the fluence upper limit Fcr.

[0410] Under the conditions described above, even when the plural diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of fluence, satisfying the condition on the fluence F.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux allows the fluences F.sub.OKm of the first luminous fluxes radiated to the multiple processing points to be a value smaller than or equal to the fluence upper limit Fcr. Therefore, not only can necessary processing be performed with unnecessary processing suppressed but also breakage of the workpiece SUB or other problems can be suppressed.

[0411] (9) According to the third embodiment, the laser processing processor **53** compares the fluence F.sub.OKmaxth of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, which is provided when the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux becomes the processing threshold Fth, with the fluence upper limit Fcr.

[0412] When the fluence upper limit Fcr is greater than the fluence F.sub.OKmaxth of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, which is provided when the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux becomes the processing threshold Fth, the laser processing processor **53** controls the adjustment mechanism in such a way that the following conditions are satisfied: (a) The fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux is greater than the processing threshold Fth. (b) The fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux is smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth.

[0413] When the fluence upper limit Fcr is smaller than the fluence F.sub.OKmaxth of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, which is provided when the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux becomes the processing threshold Fth, the laser processing processor **53** controls the adjustment mechanism in such a way that the following conditions are satisfied: (a) The fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux is greater than the processing threshold Fth. (c) The fluence F.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux is smaller than or equal to the fluence upper limit Fcr.

[0414] The adjustment mechanism can therefore be controlled with one of the conditions (b) and (c) omitted based on the result of the comparison between the fluence F.sub.OKmaxth of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux and the fluence upper limit Fcr, so that the control of the adjustment mechanism can be simplified.

[0415] (10) According to the third embodiment, the laser processing processor **53** controls the adjustment mechanism such as the attenuator **52** by setting the target fluence F.sub.OKmint, which is the target value of the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, as follows: (a) The target fluence F.sub.OKmint is greater than the processing threshold Fth. (b) The target fluence F.sub.OKmint is smaller than or equal to the value Fth/R.sub.N/O, which is a result of division of the processing threshold Fth by the optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O, which is a result of division of the optical intensity I.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux by the optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux. (c) The target fluence F.sub.OKmint is smaller than or equal to the value Fcr/R.sub.O/O, which is a result of division of the fluence upper limit Fcr by the optical intensity ratio R.sub.O/O, which is a result of division of the optical intensity I.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux by the optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux.

[0416] Therefore, even when the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of fluence,

the optical intensity ratio R.sub.O/O can be used, when the target fluence F.sub.OKmint of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux is set, to cause the fluences F.sub.OKm of the first luminous fluxes radiated to the multiple processing points to fall within a desired range, so that breakage of the workpiece SUB or other problems can be suppressed.

[0417] (11) According to the third embodiment, the laser processing processor **53** compares the fluence F.sub.OKmaxth of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, which is provided when the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux becomes the processing threshold Fth, with the fluence upper limit Fcr.

[0418] When the fluence upper limit Fcr is greater than the fluence F.sub.OKmaxth of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, which is provided when the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux becomes the processing threshold Fth, the laser processing processor **53** controls the adjustment mechanism such as the attenuator **52** by setting the target fluence F.sub.OKmint, which is the target value of the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, as follows: (a) The target fluence F.sub.OKmint is greater than the processing threshold Fth. (b) The target fluence F.sub.OKmint is smaller than or equal to the value Fth/R.sub.N/O, which is a result of division of the processing threshold Fth by the optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O.

[0419] When the fluence upper limit Fcr is smaller than the fluence F.sub.OKmaxth of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, which is provided when the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux becomes the processing threshold Fth, the laser processing processor **53** controls the adjustment mechanism such as the attenuator **52** by setting the target fluence F.sub.OKmint as follows: (a) The target fluence F.sub.OKmint is greater than the processing threshold Fth. (c) The target fluence F.sub.OKmint is smaller than or equal to the value Fcr/R.sub.O/O, which is a result of division of the fluence upper limit Fcr by the optical intensity ratio R.sub.O/O.

[0420] The target fluence F.sub.OKmint can therefore be set with one of the conditions (b) and (c) omitted based on the result of the comparison between the fluence F.sub.OKmaxth of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux and the fluence upper limit Fcr, so that the control of the adjustment mechanism can be simplified.

[0421] The third embodiment is otherwise the same as the second embodiment.

6. Laser Processing System in Consideration of Fluence Upper Limit and Variation of Pulse Energy of Pulse Laser Light Output from Laser Apparatus

6.1 Concept

6.1.1 Fluences of First and Second Diffracted Luminous Fluxes

[0422] FIG. **47** is a bar graph showing an example of the result of control in a variation of the third embodiment. In the variation of the third embodiment, the variation δE of the pulse energy of the pulse laser light Out output from the laser apparatus **1** is taken into account.

[0423] In FIG. **47**, the horizontal axis shows the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, the second maximum diffracted luminous flux, and the second minimum diffracted luminous flux, and the vertical axis represents the fluence F of each of the diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece SUB. The fluence F of each of the diffracted luminous fluxes varies based on the pulse energy variation δE as described below.

[0424] The range over which the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux varies based on the pulse energy variation δE is called a first variation range. The first variation range can be expressed by the following expression using the target fluence F.sub.OKmint of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux:

$$F.\text{sub.OKmin}t.\text{Math.}(1-\delta E) \leq F.\text{sub.OKmin} \leq F.\text{sub.OKmin}t.\text{Math.}(1+\delta E)$$

[0425] The range over which the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux varies based on the pulse energy variation δE is called a second variation range. The

second variation range can be expressed by the following expression using a target fluence F.sub.NGmaxt of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux:

$$F.sub.NGmaxt.Math.(1-\delta E) \le F.sub.NGmax \le F.sub.NGmaxt.Math.(1+\delta E)$$

[0426] The target fluence F.sub.NGmaxt of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux is obtained by multiplying the target fluence F.sub.OKmint of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux by the optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O.

[0427] The range over which the fluence F.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux varies based on the pulse energy variation δE is called a third variation range. The third variation range can be expressed by the following expression using the target fluence F.sub.OKmaxt of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux:

$$F.sub.OKmaxt.Math.(1-\delta E) \le F.sub.OKmax \le F.sub.OKmaxt.Math.(1+\delta E)$$

[0428] The target fluence F.sub.OKmaxt of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux is obtained by multiplying the target fluence F.sub.OKmint of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux by the optical intensity ratio R.sub.O/O.

[0429] The fluence F.sub.NGmin of the second minimum diffracted luminous flux similarly varies based on the pulse energy variation δE.

[0430] As in the variation of the second embodiment, the laser processing processor **53** controls the adjustment mechanism such as the attenuator **52** in such a way that the minimum value F.sub.OKmint.Math.(1−δE) in the first variation range of the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux is greater than the processing threshold Fth and the maximum value F.sub.NGmaxt.Math.(1+δE) in the second variation range of the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux is smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth. Furthermore, in the variation of the third embodiment, the laser processing processor **53** controls the adjustment mechanism such as the attenuator **52** in such a way that the maximum value F.sub.OKmaxt (1+δE) in the third variation range of the fluence F.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux is smaller than or equal to the fluence upper limit Fcr.

6.1.2 Set Target Fluence F.SUB.OK.mint

[0431] FIG. **48** is a bar graph showing an example of the target fluence F.sub.OKmint of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux that is set in the variation of the third embodiment. In FIG. **48**, the horizontal axis shows the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, and the second maximum diffracted luminous flux, and the vertical axis represents the fluence F of each of the diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece SUB.

6.1.2.1 Lower Limit of Target Fluence F.SUB.OK.mint

[0432] The target fluence F.sub.OKmint is set at a value that causes the minimum value F.sub.OKmint.Math.(1−δE) in the first variation range of the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux to be a value greater than the processing threshold Fth, as in the variation of the second embodiment. The following relationship is therefore derived:

$$Fth/(1-\delta E) < F.sub.OKmint$$

[0433] The left-hand side of the above expression, Fth/(1−δE), corresponds to a value as a result of addition of Fth.Math.δE/(1−δE) to the processing threshold Fth. Fth.Math.δE/(1−δE) corresponds to the first variation range in the present disclosure.

6.1.2.2 Upper Limit (1) of Target Fluence F.SUB.OK.mint

[0434] The target fluence F.sub.OKmint is set at a value that causes the maximum value F.sub.NGmaxt.Math.(1+δE) in the second variation range of the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux to be a value smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth, as in the variation of the second embodiment. The following relationship is therefore derived:

F.sub.OKmin$t \leq (Fth/R$.sub.N/O$)/(1+\delta E)$

[0435] The right-hand side of the above expression, (Fth/R.sub.N/O)/(1+δE), corresponds to a value as a result of subtraction of (Fth/R.sub.N/O).Math.δE/(1+δE) from the value Fth/R.sub.N/O as a result of division of the processing threshold Fth by the optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O. (Fth/R.sub.N/O).Math.δE/(1+δE) corresponds to the second variation range in the present disclosure.

6.1.2.3 Upper Limit (2) of Target Fluence F.SUB.OK.mint

[0436] The target fluence F.sub.OKmint is set at a value that causes the maximum value F.sub.OKmaxt (1+δE) in the third variation range of the fluence F.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux to be a value smaller than or equal to the fluence upper limit Fcr. The following relationship is therefore given:

F.sub.OKmax$t$.Math.$(1+\delta E) \leq Fcr$

[0437] F.sub.OKmaxt is a value obtained by multiplying the target fluence F.sub.OKmint of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux by the optical intensity ratio R.sub.O/O. The following relationship is therefore derived from the above inequality.

F.sub.OKmin$t \leq (Fcr/R$.sub.O/O$)/(1+\delta E)$

[0438] The right-hand side of the above expression, (Fcr/R.sub.O/O)/(1+δE), corresponds to a value as a result of subtraction of (Fcr/R.sub.O/O) **6**E/(1+δE) from the value Fcr/R.sub.O/O as a result of division of the fluence upper limit Fcr by the optical intensity ratio R.sub.O/O, as expressed by the following expression:

$(Fcr/R$.sub.O/O$)/(1+\delta E)=Fcr/R$.sub.O/O$-(Fcr/R$.sub.O/O$)$.Math.$\delta E/(1+\delta E)$

[0439] (Fcr/R.sub.O/O).Math.δE/(1+δE) corresponds to the third variation range in the present disclosure.

[0440] Setting the upper limit of the target fluence F.sub.OKmint of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux as described above causes the maximum value F.sub.OKmaxt (1+δE) in the third variation range of the fluence F.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux to be a value smaller than or equal to the fluence upper limit Fcr. The fluences of the first diffracted luminous fluxes including the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, which are all smaller than or equal to the maximum value F.sub.OKmaxt (1+δE) in the third variation range of the fluence F.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, are also smaller than or equal to the fluence upper limit Fcr.

6.1.2.4 Range of Target Fluence F.SUB.OK.mint

[0441] In the variation of the third embodiment, the target fluence F.sub.OKmint has two upper limits, as described above. That is, the target fluence F.sub.OKmint is set at a value smaller than or equal to the value (Fth/R.sub.N/O)/(1+δE) and smaller than or equal to the value (Fcr/R.sub.O/O)/(1+δE).

[0442] When the value (Fcr/R.sub.O/O)/(1+δE) is greater than the value (Fth/R.sub.N/O)/(1+δE), that is, when the fluence upper limit Fcr is greater than the value (Fth/R.sub.N/O).Math.R.sub.O/O, making the target fluence F.sub.OKmint smaller than or equal to the value (Fth/R.sub.N/O)/(1+δE) eliminates the need for consideration of the value (Fcr/R.sub.O/O)/(1+δE).

[0443] In this case, setting the target fluence F.sub.OKmint at a value that falls within the range expressed by the following expression causes the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux to be a value greater than the processing threshold Fth, the fluence F.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux to be a value smaller than or equal to the fluence upper limit Fcr, and the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux to be a value smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth, as in the variation

of the second embodiment:

$Fth/(1−\delta E)<F.\text{sub.OK min}t\leq(Fth/R.\text{sub.N/O})/(1+\delta E)$

[0444] In other words, when the fluence upper limit Fcr is greater than the value (Fth/R.sub.N/O).Math.R.sub.O/O, the adjustment mechanism may be so controlled that the minimum value F.sub.OKmint.Math.(1−δE) in the first variation range of the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux is greater than the processing threshold Fth and the maximum value F.sub.NGmaxt.Math.(1+δE) in the second variation range of the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux is smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth.

[0445] When the value (Fcr/R.sub.O/O)/(1+δE) is smaller than the value (Fth/R.sub.N/O)/(1+δE), that is, when the fluence upper limit Fcr is smaller than the value (Fth/R.sub.N/O).Math.R.sub.O/O, making the target fluence F.sub.OKmint smaller than or equal to the value (Fcr/R.sub.O/O)/(1+δE) eliminates the need for consideration of the value (Fth/R.sub.N/O)/(1+δE) (see FIG. **48**).

[0446] In this case, setting the target fluence F.sub.OKmint at a value that falls within the range shown below causes the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux to be a value greater than the processing threshold Fth, the fluence F.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux to be a value smaller than or equal to the fluence upper limit Fcr, and the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux to be a value smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth.

$Fth/(1−\delta E)<F.\text{sub.OKmin}t\leq(Fcr/R.\text{sub.O/O})/(1+\delta E)$

[0447] In other words, when the fluence upper limit Fcr is smaller than the value (Fth/R.sub.N/O).Math.R.sub.O/O, the adjustment mechanism may be so controlled that the minimum value F.sub.OKmint.Math.(1−δE) in the first variation range of the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux is greater than the processing threshold Fth and the maximum value F.sub.OKmaxt (1+δE) in the third variation range of the fluence F.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux is smaller than or equal to the fluence upper limit Fcr.

6.2 Configuration of Laser Processing System

[0448] The configuration of the laser processing system according to the variation of the third embodiment is the same as the configuration in Comparative Example described with reference to FIG. **1**.

6.3 Processes Carried Out by Laser Processing Processor **53**

[0449] FIG. **49** is a flowchart showing laser processing processes in the variation of the third embodiment. Out of the laser processing processes in the variation of the third embodiment, the processes in S**100**c and S**400**e differ from the corresponding processes in the third embodiment.

[0450] The process in S**100**c is the same as that in the variation of the second embodiment described with reference to FIG. **36**. The process in S**400**e will be described below in detail with reference to FIG. **50**.

[0451] FIG. **50** is a flowchart showing the process of determining the target fluence F.sub.OKmint of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux in detail. The processes shown in FIG. **50** correspond to the subroutine labeled with S**400**e in FIG. **49**.

[0452] The processes in steps from S**401**b to S**405**d are the same as those in the third embodiment. In S**405**d, when the fluence F.sub.OKmaxth is smaller than or equal to the fluence upper limit Fcr (F.sub.OKmaxth≤Fcr), the laser processing processor **53** proceeds to the process in S**410**c. When the fluence F.sub.OKmaxth is greater than the fluence upper limit Fcr (F.sub.OKmaxth>Fcr), the laser processing processor **53** proceeds to the process in S**412**e.

[0453] In S**410**c, the laser processing processor **53** determines the target fluence F.sub.OKmint that satisfies the following expression, as in the variation of the second embodiment:

$Fth/(1−δE)<F.\text{sub}.OKmint≤(Fth/R.\text{sub}.N/O)/(1+δE)$

[0454] In S412*e*, the laser processing processor **53** determines the target fluence F.sub.OKmint that satisfies the following expression (see FIG. **48**):

$Fth/(1−δE)<F.\text{sub}.OKmint≤(Fcr/R.\text{sub}.O/O)/(1+δE)$

[0455] The target fluence F.sub.OKmint may be set at (Fcr/R.sub.O/O)/(1+δE), which is the upper limit. This can maximize the efficiency of the laser processing while suppressing the processing performed at the non-processing points that require no processing. The target fluence F.sub.OKmint may instead be set at the average of Fth/(1−δE) and (Fcr/R.sub.O/O)/(1+δE). In this case, even when the pulse energy of the pulse laser light Out unexpectedly varies, a situation in which the processing is performed at the non-processing points or a situation in which sufficient processing is not performed at the processing points that require the processing can be avoided.

[0456] After S410*c* and S412*e*, the laser processing processor **53** terminates the processes in the present flowchart, and returns to the processes shown in FIG. **49**.

6.4 Effects

[0457] (12) According to the variation of the third embodiment, the first diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F.sub.OKm, and the second diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F.sub.NGm. The laser processing processor **53** controls the adjustment mechanism in such a way that the following conditions are satisfied: (a) The minimum value F.sub.OKmint.Math. (1−δE) in the first variation range of the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux having the minimum of the fluences F.sub.OKm out of the first diffracted luminous fluxes, the first variation range derived based on the variation δE of the pulse energy of the pulse laser light Out incident on the diffractive optical element **63**, is greater than the processing threshold Fth. (b) The maximum value F.sub.NGmaxt.Math.(1+δE) in the second variation range of the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux having the maximum of the fluences F.sub.NGm out of the second diffracted luminous fluxes, the second variation range derived based on the pulse energy variation δE, is smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth. (c) The maximum value F.sub.OKmaxt (1+δE) in the third variation range of the fluence F.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux having the maximum of the fluences F.sub.OKm out of the first diffracted luminous fluxes, the third variation range derived based on the pulse energy variation δE, is smaller than or equal to the fluence upper limit Fcr.

[0458] With the conditions described above satisfied, the entire variation range of the fluences F.sub.OKm of the first diffracted luminous fluxes radiated to the multiple processing points can be smaller than or equal to the fluence upper limit Fcr not only when the multiple diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of fluence but also when the pulse laser light Out contains the pulse energy variation δE. Therefore, not only can necessary processing be performed with unnecessary processing suppressed but also breakage of the workpiece SUB or other problems can be suppressed.

[0459] (13) According to the variation of the third embodiment, the laser processing processor **53** compares the fluence F.sub.OKmaxth of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux provided when the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux becomes the processing threshold Fth with the fluence upper limit Fcr.

[0460] When the fluence upper limit Fcr is greater than the fluence F.sub.OKmaxth of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, which is provided when the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux becomes the processing threshold Fth, the laser processing processor **53** controls the adjustment mechanism in such a way that the following conditions are satisfied: (a) The minimum value F.sub.OKmint.Math.(1−δE) in the first variation range of the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, the first variation range derived based on the pulse energy variation δE, is greater than the processing threshold Fth. (b) The maximum value F.sub.NGmaxt.Math.(1+δE) in the second variation range of the fluence

F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux, the second variation range derived based on the pulse energy variation δE, is smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth.

[0461] When the fluence upper limit Fcr is smaller than the fluence F.sub.OKmaxth of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, which is provided when the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux becomes the processing threshold Fth, the laser processing processor **53** controls the adjustment mechanism in such a way that the following conditions are satisfied: (a) The minimum value F.sub.OKmint.Math.$(1-\delta E)$ in the first variation range of the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux is greater than the processing threshold Fth. (c) The maximum value F.sub.OKmaxt $(1+\delta E)$ in the third variation range of the fluence F.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, the third variation range derived based on the pulse energy variation δE, is smaller than or equal to the fluence upper limit Fcr.

[0462] The adjustment mechanism can therefore be controlled with one of the conditions (b) and (c) omitted based on the result of the comparison between the fluence F.sub.OKmaxth of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux and the fluence upper limit Fcr, so that the control of the adjustment mechanism can be simplified.

[0463] (14) According to the variation of the third embodiment, the laser processing processor **53** controls the adjustment mechanism such as the attenuator **52** by setting the target fluence F.sub.OKmint, which is the target value of the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, as follows: (a) The target fluence F.sub.OKmint is greater than the value Fth/$(1-\delta E)$ as a result of addition of the first variation range Fth.Math.$\delta E/(1-\delta E)$, which indicates the pulse energy variation δE, to the processing threshold Fth. (b) The target fluence F.sub.OKmint is smaller than or equal to the value (Fth/R.sub.N/O)/$(1+\delta E)$, which is a result of subtraction of the second variation range (Fth/R.sub.N/O).Math.$\delta E/(1+\delta E)$ indicating the pulse energy variation δE from the value Fth/R.sub.N/O, which is a result of division of the processing threshold Fth by the optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O, which is a result of division of the optical intensity I.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux by the optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux. (c) The target fluence F.sub.OKmint is smaller than or equal to the value (Fcr/R.sub.O/O)/$(1+\delta E)$, which is a result of subtraction of the third variation range (Fcr/R.sub.O/O) **6**E/$(1+\delta E)$ indicating the pulse energy variation δE from the value Fcr/R.sub.O/O, which is a result of division of the fluence upper limit Fcr by the optical intensity ratio R.sub.O/O, which is a result of division of the optical intensity I.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux by the optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux.

[0464] Therefore, even when not only the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of fluence but also the pulse laser light Out contains the pulse energy variation δE, the optical intensity ratio R.sub.O/O can be used, when the target fluence F.sub.OKmint of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux is set, to cause the fluences F.sub.OKm of the first luminous fluxes radiated to the multiple processing points to fall within a desired range.

[0465] (15) According to the variation of the third embodiment, the laser processing processor **53** compares the fluence F.sub.OKmaxth of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, which is provided when the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux becomes the processing threshold Fth, with the fluence upper limit Fcr.

[0466] When the fluence upper limit Fcr is greater than the fluence F.sub.OKmaxth of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, which is provided when the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux becomes the processing threshold Fth, the laser processing processor **53** controls the adjustment mechanism such as the attenuator **52** by setting the target fluence F.sub.OKmint, which is the target value of the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, as follows: (a) The target fluence F.sub.OKmint is greater than the value Fth/$(1-\delta E)$ as a result of addition of the first variation range Fth SE/$(1-\delta E)$, which indicates the pulse energy variation δE, to the processing threshold Fth. (b) The target fluence

F.sub.OKmint is smaller than or equal to the value (Fth/R.sub.N/O)/(1+δE), which is a result of subtraction of the second variation range (Fth/R.sub.N/O).Math.δE/(1+δE) indicating the pulse energy variation δE from the value Fth/R.sub.N/O, which is a result of division of the processing threshold Fth by the optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O.

[0467] When the fluence upper limit Fcr is smaller than the fluence F.sub.OKmaxth of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, which is provided when the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux becomes the processing threshold Fth, the laser processing processor **53** controls the adjustment mechanism such as the attenuator **52** by setting the target fluence F.sub.OKmint as follows: (a) The target fluence F.sub.OKmint is greater than the value Fth/(1−δE) as a result of addition of the first variation range Fth **6**E/(1−δE) to the processing threshold Fth. (c) The target fluence F.sub.OKmint is smaller than or equal to the value (Fcr/R.sub.O/O)/(1+δE) as a result of subtraction of the third variation range (Fcr/R.sub.O/O).Math.δE/(1+δE) indicating the pulse energy variation δE from the value Fcr/R.sub.O/O as a result of division of the fluence upper limit Fcr by the optical intensity ratio R.sub.O/O.

[0468] The target fluence F.sub.OKmint can therefore be set with one of the conditions (b) and (c) omitted based on the result of the comparison between the fluence F.sub.OKmaxth of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux and the fluence upper limit Fcr, so that the control of the adjustment mechanism can be simplified.

[0469] The variation of the third embodiment is otherwise the same as the third embodiment.

7. Others

7.1 Configuration of Electronic Device

[0470] FIG. **51** diagrammatically shows the configuration of an electronic device. The electronic device shown in FIG. **51** includes the integrated circuit chip IC, the interposer IP, and the circuit substrate CS.

[0471] The integrated circuit chip IC is, for example, a chip in which an integrated circuit that is not shown is formed in a silicon substrate. The integrated circuit chip IC is provided with multiple bumps ICB electrically connected to the integrated circuit.

[0472] The interposer IP includes an insulating substrate having multiple through holes that are not shown but are formed therein, and an electrical conductor that is not shown but electrically connects the front and rear sides of the substrate to each other is provided in each of the through holes. Multiple lands that are not shown but are connected to the bumps ICB are formed at one surface of the interposer IP, and the lands are each electrically connected to one of the electrical conductors in the through holes. Multiple bumps IPB are provided at the other surface of the interposer IP, and the bumps IPB are each electrically connected to one of the electrical conductors in the through holes.

[0473] Multiple lands that are not shown but are connected to the bumps IPB are formed at one surface of the circuit substrate CS. The circuit substrate CS includes multiple terminals to be electrically connected to the lands.

7.2 Method for Manufacturing Electronic Device

[0474] FIG. **52** is a flowchart showing a method for manufacturing an electronic device.

[0475] In step S**1**, the interposer substrate, which constitutes the interposer IP, is processed with laser light, and wiring is formed in the interposer substrate. The laser processing performed on the interposer substrate includes forming through holes by irradiating the interposer substrate, which is an example of the workpiece SUB, with the pulse laser light Out. The wiring formation includes forming an electrically conductive film at the inner wall surface of each of the through holes formed in the interposer substrate. The interposer IP is produced through the steps described above.

[0476] In step S**2**, the interposer IP and the integrated circuit chip IC are coupled to each other. Step S**2** includes, for example, placing the bumps ICB of the integrated circuit chip IC on the lands of the interposer IP, and electrically connecting the bumps ICB and the lands to each other.

[0477] In step S**3**, the interposer IP and the circuit substrate CS are coupled to each other. Step S**3** includes, for example, placing the bumps IPB of the interposer IP on the lands of the circuit substrate CS, and electrically connecting the bumps IPB and the lands to each other.

7.3 Supplements

[0478] The description above is intended to be illustrative and the present disclosure is not limited thereto. Therefore, it would be obvious to those skilled in the art that various modifications to the embodiments of the present disclosure would be possible without departing from the spirit and the scope of the appended claims. Further, it would be also obvious for those skilled in the art that embodiments of the present disclosure would be appropriately combined.

[0479] The terms used throughout the present specification and the appended claims should be interpreted as non-limiting terms. For example, terms such as "comprise", "include", "have", and "contain" should not be interpreted to be exclusive of other structural elements. Further, indefinite articles "a/an" described in the present specification and the appended claims should be interpreted to mean "at least one" or "one or more". Further, the term "at least one of A, B, and C" should be interpreted to mean any of A, B, C, A+B, A+C, B+C, and A+B+C. Moreover, the term described above should be interpreted to include combinations of any thereof and any other than A, B, and C.

Claims

1. A laser processing system comprising: a laser apparatus configured to output pulse laser light; a diffractive optical element configured to divide the pulse laser light into multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes to be radiated to multiple processing points on a workpiece, and multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes to be radiated to multiple non-processing points on the workpiece; a focusing optical system configured to focus each of the first and second diffracted luminous fluxes at the workpiece; an adjustment mechanism configured to adjust pulse energy of the pulse laser light incident on the diffractive optical element; and a processor configured to control the adjustment mechanism based on parameters including a processing threshold Fth of a fluence for processing the workpiece in such a way that a fluence F.sub.OKm of the first diffracted luminous fluxes at a surface of the workpiece is greater than the processing threshold Fth, and a fluence F.sub.NGm of the second diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece is smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth.

2. The laser processing system according to claim 1, wherein the processor is configured to control the adjustment mechanism by setting a target fluence F.sub.OKmt, which is a target value of the fluence F.sub.OKm of the first diffracted luminous fluxes, in such a way that the target fluence F.sub.OKmt is greater than the processing threshold Fth, and is smaller than or equal to a value Fth/R, which is a result of division of the processing threshold Fth by an optical intensity ratio R, which is a result of division of an optical intensity I.sub.NG of the second diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece by an optical intensity I.sub.OK of the first diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece.

3. The laser processing system according to claim 1, wherein the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F.sub.OKm, and the multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F.sub.NGm, and the processor is configured to control the adjustment mechanism in such a way that a fluence F.sub.OKmin of a first minimum diffracted luminous flux having a minimum of the fluences F.sub.OKm out of the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes is greater than the processing threshold Fth, and a fluence F.sub.NGmax of a second maximum diffracted luminous flux having a maximum of the fluences F.sub.NGm out of the multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes is smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth.

4. The laser processing system according to claim 1, wherein the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F.sub.OKm, and the multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F.sub.NGm, and the processor is configured to control the adjustment

mechanism by setting a target fluence F.sub.OKmint, which is a target value of a fluence F.sub.OKmin of a first minimum diffracted luminous flux having a minimum of the fluences F.sub.OKm out of the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes, in such a way that the target fluence F.sub.OKmint is greater than the processing threshold Fth, and is smaller than or equal to a value Fth/R.sub.N/O, which is a result of division of the processing threshold Fth by an optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O, which is a result of division of an optical intensity I.sub.NGmax of a second maximum diffracted luminous flux having a maximum of the fluences F.sub.NGm out of the multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes by an optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux.

5. The laser processing system according to claim 4, wherein the processor is configured to control the adjustment mechanism by calculating a parameter for adjusting the pulse energy of the pulse laser light incident on the diffractive optical element based on a ratio of a sum Isum of optical intensities of the first and second diffracted luminous fluxes to the optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, and the target fluence F.sub.OKmint.

6. The laser processing system according to claim 1, wherein the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F.sub.OKm, and the multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F.sub.NGm, and the processor is configured to control the adjustment mechanism in such a way that a minimum in a first variation range of a fluence F.sub.OKmin of a first minimum diffracted luminous flux having a minimum of the fluences F.sub.OKm out of the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes, the first variation range derived based on a pulse energy variation SE of the pulse energy of the pulse laser light incident on the diffractive optical element, is greater than the processing threshold Fth, and a maximum in a second variation range of a fluence F.sub.NGmax of a second maximum diffracted luminous flux having a maximum of the fluences F.sub.NGm out of the multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes, the second variation range derived based on the pulse energy variation SE, is smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth.

7. The laser processing system according to claim 1, wherein the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F.sub.OKm, and the multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F.sub.NGm, and the processor is configured to control the adjustment mechanism by setting a target fluence F.sub.OKmint, which is a target value of a fluence F.sub.OKmin of a first minimum diffracted luminous flux having a minimum of the fluences F.sub.OKm out of the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes, in such a way that the target fluence F.sub.OKmint is greater than a value as a result of addition of a first variation range indicating a pulse energy variation δE of the pulse energy of the pulse laser light incident on the diffractive optical element to the processing threshold Fth, and is smaller than or equal to a value as a result of subtraction of a second variation range indicating the pulse energy variation SE from a value Fth/R.sub.N/O, which is a result of division of the processing threshold Fth by an optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O, which is a result of division of an optical intensity I.sub.NGmax of a second maximum diffracted luminous flux having a maximum of the fluences F.sub.NGm out of the multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes by an optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux.

8. The laser processing system according to claim 1, wherein the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F.sub.OKm, and the multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F.sub.NGm, and the processor is configured to control the adjustment mechanism in such a way that a fluence F.sub.OKmin of a first minimum diffracted luminous flux having a minimum of the fluences F.sub.OKm out of the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes is greater than the processing threshold Fth, a fluence F.sub.NGmax of a second maximum diffracted luminous flux having a maximum of the fluences F.sub.NGm out of the multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes is smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth, and a fluence F.sub.OKmax of a first maximum diffracted luminous flux having a maximum of the fluences

F.sub.OKm out of the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes is smaller than or equal to a fluence upper limit Fcr.

9. The laser processing system according to claim 1, wherein the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F_{OKm}, and the multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F_{NGm}, and the processor is configured to compare a fluence upper limit Fcr with a fluence $F_{OKmaxth}$ of a first maximum diffracted luminous flux having a maximum of the fluences F_{OKm} out of the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes, which is provided when a fluence F_{NGmax} of a second maximum diffracted luminous flux having a maximum of the fluences F_{NGm} out of the multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes becomes the processing threshold Fth, control the adjustment mechanism when the fluence upper limit Fcr is greater than the fluence $F_{OKmaxth}$ of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, which is provided when the fluence F_{NGmax} of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux becomes the processing threshold Fth, in such a way that a fluence F_{OKmin} of a first minimum diffracted luminous flux having a minimum of the fluences F_{OKm} out of the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes is greater than the processing threshold Fth, and the fluence F_{NGmax} of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux is smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth, and control the adjustment mechanism when the fluence upper limit Fcr is smaller than the fluence $F_{OKmaxth}$ of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, which is provided when the fluence F_{NGmax} of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux becomes the processing threshold Fth, in such a way that the fluence F_{OKmin} of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux is greater than the processing threshold Fth, and the fluence F_{OKmax} of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux is smaller than or equal to the fluence upper limit Fcr.

10. The laser processing system according to claim 1, wherein the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F_{OKm}, and the multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F_{NGm}, and the processor is configured to control the adjustment mechanism by setting a target fluence F_{OKmint}, which is a target value of a fluence F_{OKmin} of a first minimum diffracted luminous flux having a minimum of the fluences F_{OKm} out of the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes, in such a way that the target fluence F_{OKmint} is greater than the processing threshold Fth, is smaller than or equal to a value $Fth/R_{N/O}$, which is a result of division of the processing threshold Fth by an optical intensity ratio $R_{N/O}$, which is a result of division of an optical intensity I_{NGmax} of a second maximum diffracted luminous flux having a maximum of the fluences F_{NGm} out of the multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes by an optical intensity I_{OKmin} of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, and is smaller than or equal to a value $Fcr/R_{O/O}$, which is a result of division of a fluence upper limit Fcr by an optical intensity ratio $R_{O/O}$, which is a result of division of an optical intensity I_{OKmax} of a first maximum diffracted luminous flux having a maximum of the fluences F_{OKm} out of the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes by the optical intensity I_{OKmin} of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux.

11. The laser processing system according to claim 1, wherein the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F_{OKm}, and the multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F_{NGm}, and the processor is configured to compare a fluence upper limit Fcr with a fluence $F_{OKmaxth}$ of a first maximum diffracted luminous flux having a maximum of the fluences F_{OKm} out of the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes, which is provided when a fluence F_{NGmax} of a second maximum diffracted luminous flux having a maximum of the fluences F_{NGm} out of the multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes becomes the processing threshold Fth, control the adjustment mechanism when the fluence upper limit Fcr is greater than the fluence $F_{OKmaxth}$ of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, which is provided when the fluence F_{NGmax} of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux becomes the processing threshold Fth, by setting a target fluence F_{OKmint}, which is a target

value of a fluence F_{OKmin} of a first minimum diffracted luminous flux having a minimum of the fluences F_{OKm} out of the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes, in such a way that the target fluence F_{OKmint} is greater than the processing threshold Fth, and is smaller than or equal to a value $Fth/R_{N/O}$, which is a result of division of the processing threshold Fth by an optical intensity ratio $R_{N/O}$, which is a result of division of an optical intensity I_{NGmax} of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux by an optical intensity I_{OKmin} of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, and control the adjustment mechanism when the fluence upper limit Fcr is smaller than the fluence $F_{OKmaxth}$ of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, which is provided when the fluence F_{NGmax} of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux becomes the processing threshold Fth, by setting the target fluence F_{OKmint} in such a way that the target fluence F_{OKmint} is greater than the processing threshold Fth, and is smaller than or equal to a value $Fcr/R_{O/O}$, which is a result of division of the fluence upper limit Fcr by an optical intensity ratio $R_{O/O}$, which is a result of division of an optical intensity I_{OKmax} of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, by the optical intensity I_{OKmin} of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux.

12. The laser processing system according to claim 1, wherein the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F_{OKm}, and the multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F_{NGm}, and the processor is configured to control the adjustment mechanism in such a way that a minimum in a first variation range of a fluence F_{OKmin} of a first minimum diffracted luminous flux having a minimum of the fluences F_{OKm} out of the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes, the first variation range derived based on a pulse energy variation δE of pulse energy of the pulse laser light incident on the diffractive optical element, is greater than the processing threshold Fth, a maximum in a second variation range of a fluence F_{NGmax} of a second maximum diffracted luminous flux having a maximum of the fluences F_{NGm} out of the multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes, the second variation range derived based on the pulse energy variation δE, is smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth, and a maximum in a third variation range of a fluence F_{OKmax} of a first maximum diffracted luminous flux having a maximum of the fluences F_{OKm} out of the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes, the third variation range derived based on the pulse energy variation δE, is smaller than or equal to a fluence upper limit Fcr.

13. The laser processing system according to claim 1, wherein the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F_{OKm}, and the multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F_{NGm}, and the processor is configured to compare a fluence upper limit Fcr with a fluence $F_{OKmaxth}$ of a first maximum diffracted luminous flux, which is provided when a fluence F_{NGmax} of a second maximum diffracted luminous flux having a maximum of the fluences F_{NGm} out of the multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes becomes the processing threshold Fth, control the adjustment mechanism when the fluence upper limit Fcr is greater than the fluence $F_{OKmaxth}$ of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, which is provided when the fluence F_{NGmax} of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux becomes the processing threshold Fth, in such a way that a minimum in a first variation range of a fluence F_{OKmin} of a first minimum diffracted luminous flux having a minimum of the fluences F_{OKm} out of the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes, the first variation range derived based on a pulse energy variation δE of the pulse energy of the pulse laser light incident on the diffractive optical element, is greater than the processing threshold Fth, and a maximum value in a second variation range of the fluence F_{NGmax} of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux, the second variation range derived based on the pulse energy variation δE, is smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth, and control the adjustment mechanism when the fluence upper limit Fcr is smaller than the fluence $F_{OKmaxth}$ of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, which is provided when the fluence F_{NGmax} of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux becomes the processing threshold Fth in such a way that a minimum in the

first variation range of the fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux is greater than the processing threshold Fth, and a maximum value in a third variation range of a fluence F.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, the third variation range derived based on the pulse energy variation δE, is smaller than or equal to the fluence upper limit Fcr.

14. The laser processing system according to claim 1, wherein the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F.sub.OKm, and the multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F.sub.NGm, and the processor is configured to control the adjustment mechanism by setting a target fluence F.sub.OKmint, which is a target value of a fluence F.sub.OKmin of a first minimum diffracted luminous flux having a minimum of the fluences F.sub.OKm out of the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes, in such a way that the target fluence F.sub.OKmint is greater than a value as a result of addition of a first variation range indicating pulse energy variation δE of the pulse energy of the pulse laser light incident on the diffractive optical element to the processing threshold Fth, is smaller than or equal to a value as a result of subtraction of a second variation range indicating the pulse energy variation SE from a value Fth/R.sub.N/O, which is a result of division of the processing threshold Fth by an optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O, which is a result of division of an optical intensity I.sub.NGmax of a second maximum diffracted luminous flux having a maximum of the fluences F.sub.NGm out of the multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes by an optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, and is smaller than or equal to a value as a result of subtraction of a third variation range indicating the pulse energy variation δE from a value Fcr/R.sub.O/O, which is a result of division of a fluence upper limit Fcr by an optical intensity ratio R.sub.O/O, which is a result of division of an optical intensity I.sub.OKmax of a first maximum diffracted luminous flux having a maximum of the fluences F.sub.OKm out of the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes by the optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux.

15. The laser processing system according to claim 1, wherein the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F.sub.OKm, and the multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes vary in terms of the fluence F.sub.NGm, and the processor is configured to compare a fluence upper limit Fcr with a fluence F.sub.OKmaxth of a first maximum diffracted luminous flux having a maximum of the fluences F.sub.OKm out of the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes, which is provided when a fluence F.sub.NGmax of a second maximum diffracted luminous flux having a maximum of the fluences F.sub.NGm out of the multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes becomes the processing threshold Fth, control the adjustment mechanism when the fluence upper limit Fcr is greater than the fluence F.sub.OKmaxth of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, which is provided when the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux becomes the processing threshold Fth, by setting a target fluence F.sub.OKmint, which is a target value of a fluence F.sub.OKmin of a first minimum diffracted luminous flux having a minimum of the fluences F.sub.OKm out of the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes, in such a way that the target fluence F.sub.OKmint is greater than a value as a result of addition of a first variation range indicating pulse energy variation δE of the pulse energy of the pulse laser light incident on the diffractive optical element to the processing threshold Fth, is smaller than or equal to a value as a result of subtraction of a second variation range indicating the pulse energy variation δE from a value Fth/R.sub.N/O, which is a result of division of the processing threshold Fth by an optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O, which is a result of division of an optical intensity I.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux by an optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, control the adjustment mechanism when the fluence upper limit Fcr is smaller than the fluence F.sub.OKmaxth of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux, which is provided when the fluence F.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux becomes the processing threshold Fth by setting the target fluence F.sub.OKmint in such a way that

the target fluence F.sub.OKmint is greater than a value as a result of addition of the first variation range to the processing threshold Fth, and is smaller than or equal to a value as a result of subtraction of a third variation range indicating the pulse energy variation δE from a value Fcr/R.sub.O/O, which is a result of division of the fluence upper limit Fcr by an optical intensity ratio R.sub.O/O, which is a result of division of an optical intensity I.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux by the optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux.

16. A laser processing method comprising: causing a laser apparatus to output pulse laser light; causing a diffractive optical element to divide the pulse laser light into multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes radiated to multiple processing points on a workpiece, and multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes radiated to multiple non-processing points on the workpiece; controlling an adjustment mechanism configured to adjust pulse energy of the pulse laser light based on parameters including a processing threshold Fth of a fluence for processing the workpiece in such a way that a fluence F.sub.OKm of the first diffracted luminous fluxes at a surface of the workpiece is greater than the processing threshold Fth, and a fluence F.sub.NGm of the second diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece is smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth; and causing a focusing optical system to focus each of the first and second diffracted luminous fluxes at the workpiece.

17. The laser processing method according to claim 16, further comprising: measuring an optical intensity I.sub.OK of the first diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece, and an optical intensity I.sub.NG of the second diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece; and controlling the adjustment mechanism by setting a target fluence F.sub.OKmt, which is a target value of the fluence F.sub.OKm of the first diffracted luminous fluxes in such a way that the target fluence F.sub.OKmt is greater than the processing threshold Fth, and the target fluence F.sub.OKmt is smaller than or equal to a value Fth/R, which is a result of division of the processing threshold Fth by an optical intensity ratio R, which is a result of division of the optical intensity I.sub.NG of the second diffracted luminous fluxes by the optical intensity I.sub.OK of the first diffracted luminous fluxes.

18. The laser processing method according to claim 16, further comprising: measuring an optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of a first minimum diffracted luminous flux having a minimum of the fluences F.sub.OKm out of the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes, and an optical intensity I.sub.NGmax of a second maximum diffracted luminous flux having a maximum of the fluences F.sub.NGm out of the multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes; and controlling the adjustment mechanism by setting a target fluence F.sub.OKmint, which is a target value of a fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux in such a way that the target fluence F.sub.OKmint is greater than the processing threshold Fth, and is smaller than or equal to a value Fth/R.sub.N/O, which is a result of division of the processing threshold Fth by an optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O, which is a result of division of the optical intensity I.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux by the optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux.

19. The laser processing method according to claim 16, further comprising: measuring an optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of a first minimum diffracted luminous flux having a minimum of the fluences F.sub.OKm out of the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes, an optical intensity I.sub.NGmax of a second maximum diffracted luminous flux having a maximum of the fluences F.sub.NGm out of the multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes, and an optical intensity I.sub.OKmax of a first maximum diffracted luminous flux having a maximum of the fluences F.sub.OKm out of the multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes; and controlling the adjustment mechanism by setting a target fluence F.sub.OKmint, which is a target value of a fluence F.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux in such a way that the target fluence F.sub.OKmint is greater than the processing threshold Fth, is smaller than or equal to a value

Fth/R.sub.N/O, which is a result of division of the processing threshold Fth by an optical intensity ratio R.sub.N/O, which is a result of division of the optical intensity I.sub.NGmax of the second maximum diffracted luminous flux by the optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux, and is smaller than or equal to a value Fcr/R.sub.O/O, which is a result of division of a fluence upper limit Fcr by an optical intensity ratio R.sub.O/O, which is a result of division of the optical intensity I.sub.OKmax of the first maximum diffracted luminous flux by the optical intensity I.sub.OKmin of the first minimum diffracted luminous flux.

20. A method for manufacturing an electronic device, the method comprising: processing an interposer substrate with laser light by using a laser processing system to produce an interposer; coupling the interposer to an integrated circuit chip to electrically connect the interposer and the integrated circuit chip to each other; and coupling the interposer to a circuit substrate to electrically connect the interposer and the circuit substrate to each other, the laser processing system including a laser apparatus configured to output pulse laser light, a diffractive optical element configured to divide the pulse laser light into multiple first diffracted luminous fluxes radiated to multiple processing points on a workpiece, and multiple second diffracted luminous fluxes radiated to multiple non-processing points on the workpiece, a focusing optical system configured to focus each of the first and second diffracted luminous fluxes at the workpiece; an adjustment mechanism configured to adjust pulse energy of the pulse laser light incident on the diffractive optical element, and a processor configured to control the adjustment mechanism based on parameters including a processing threshold Fth of a fluence for processing the workpiece in such a way that a fluence F.sub.OKm of the first diffracted luminous fluxes at a surface of the workpiece is greater than the processing threshold Fth, and a fluence F.sub.NGm of the second diffracted luminous fluxes at the surface of the workpiece is smaller than or equal to the processing threshold Fth.