



Magnetically Levitated 6 DoF Controlled Sample Manipulator for Tomography

Icaleps 2025, Chicago Mocraf Workshop

Author: Dr. Ir. Ing. Theo Ruijl

Date: 15-08-2025

Version: 1.0

Doc nr MI-P-D2025-243

Partners in Mechatronic Innovation



R&D company, supporting innovation at our customers with the focus on high-end mechatronic systems and products.

Founded in 2007

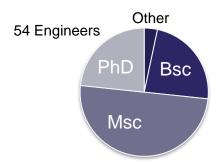
Located in the Eindhoven region, The Netherlands

• Cleanrooms, Temp controlled enclosures, low-nose floor, ...

Market segments, professional production equipment

- Semiconductor (Wafer scanners, die-bonders)
- Analytical and imaging (Electron microscopes)
-
- Scientific instrumentation (Synchrotron beamlines equipment)

Booth: C02







MI-P-D2025-243

From quasi-static to high dynamic positioning



Trent in beamline equipment:

- 1. Higher accuracy: from sub-micron to nm
- 2. Faster: from quasi-static position to high dynamic scanning applications
- 3. Cleaner: not only UHV but also low-outgassing of CxHy to keep optics clean

High-dynamic DCM with nrad performance during fly scan (LNLS)

Sample manipulator (x,y,z,Rz) with fast raster xz-scanning (LNLS)







TUOBM02



Way of approach: Mechatronic system design

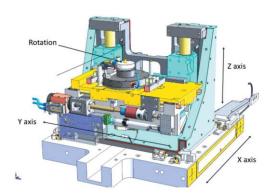


Fast and nm

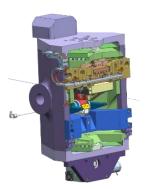
Stacking of multiple "standard 1DoF" motion stage

Limitations:

- Limited stability and repeatability
- Lack of metrology, very indirect metrology loop with many uncontrolled DoF
- Limited dynamics performance
- Not UHV compatible, high CxHy outgassing



Source: Gema Martinez-Criado et al. J. Synchrotron Rad. (2016)

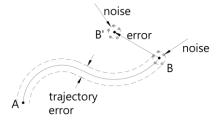




Dedicated (Mechatronic) system design

Benefit:

- Direct control and metrology of all essential DoF
 → high stability and repeatability
- Optimize design: stiff and low mass
 - → High mechanical eigenfrequencies and servo band with high disturbance rejection and tracking performance
- Short/optimal metrology loop
 - → high (thermal) stability
- UHV design, control of outgassing components, cleaning,
-



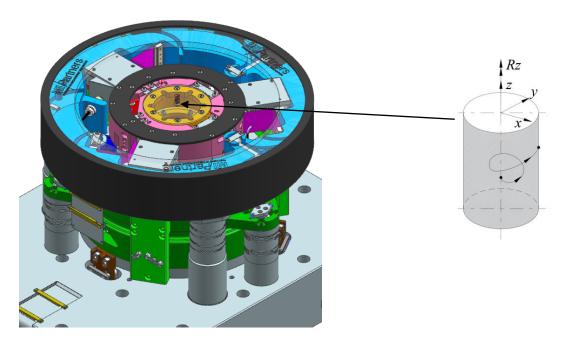
ICALEPCS 2025 MOCRAF

MI-P-D2025-243 4

Magnetically Levitated 6 DOF Manipulator



Single step 6 DoF motion stage with precise 6 DoF metrology for e.g. tomography



Arbitrary scanning motions simultaneously [x,y,z,Rz]:

(spiral, raster,)

Stokes: x,y,z: 3 mm Rz: continuously $Rx,Ry: \approx 0$ (2 mrad)

Velocities:

x,y,z: 50 mm/s (limited by metrology resolution)

Rz: 5 Hz (depending on offset)

Accelerations: x,y,z: 2 m/s²

Metrology and motion performance:

x,y,z: 5 nm (RMS) Rx,Ry: 20 nrad (RMS) Rz: 50 nrad (RMS)

ICALEPCS 2025*

MI-P-D2025-243 5

Content



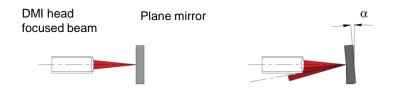
- Position Metrology
- System Overview
- Actuator Design
- Control Architecture
- Positioning Performance

Metrology challenge



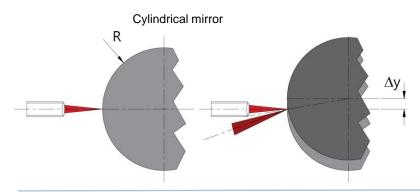
Position metrology in high-end stages typically by Distance Metrology Interferometer (DMI):

- High resolution/accuracy with long travel ranges
- Angular alignment limitations in "plane mirror" configuration



Angular range is very limited: typical 0.1...0.3 °

Tomography manipulator continues Rz: rotation symmetric DMI target



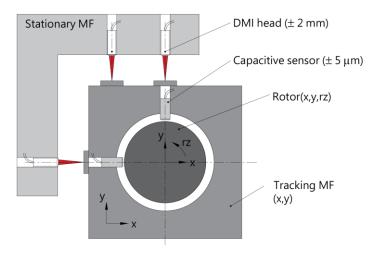
Offset of cylindrical mirror is very limited: 0.1...0.3 mm $\Delta y = Rtan(\alpha)$; $R \approx 50 mm$

Metrology with Tracking Metrology Frame



To allow large translations of the rotor: intermediate tracking metrology frame is used

- 1. Large motion between Stationary MF and Tracking MF measured by DMI (± 2 mm)
- 2. Small tracking error between Tracking MF and rotor (~ 5...10 nm)



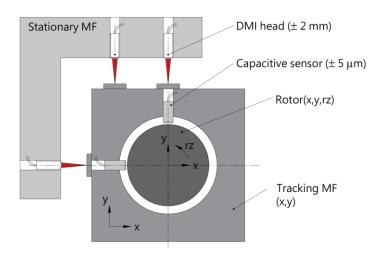


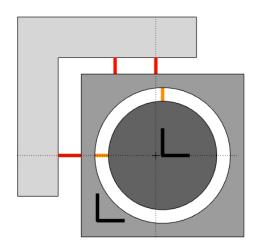
Metrology with Tracking Metrology Frame



To allow large translations of the rotor: intermediate tracking metrology frame is used

- 1. Large motion between Stationary MF and Tracking MF measured by DMI (± 2 mm)
- 2. Small tracking error between Tracking MF and rotor (± 1 μm)

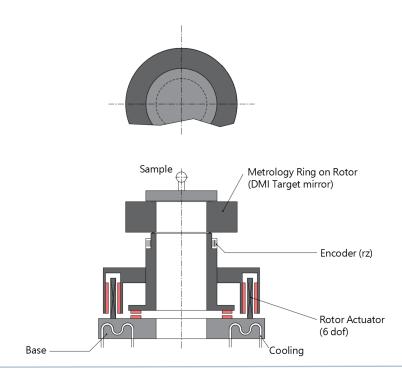






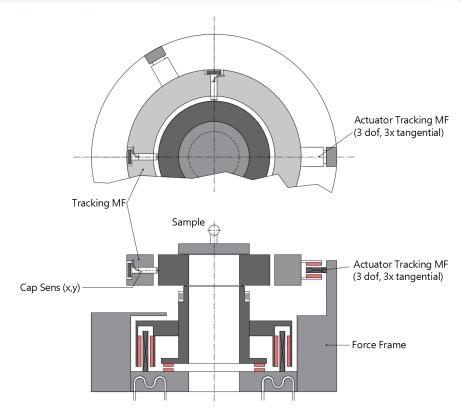


Actuation: Rotor with Actuator and Metrology Ring (DMI target)





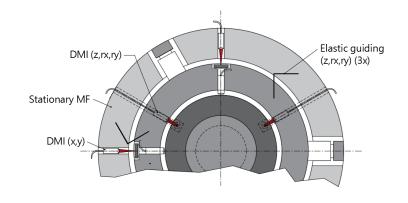
Tracking Metrology Frame

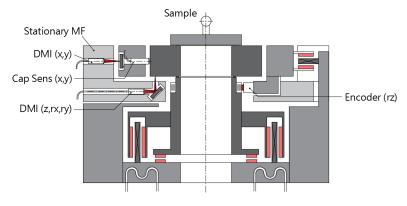






Stationary Metrology Frame

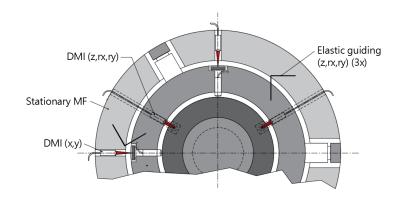


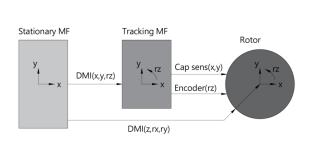


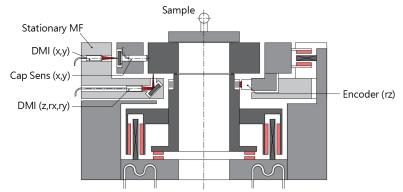




Stationary Metrology Frame



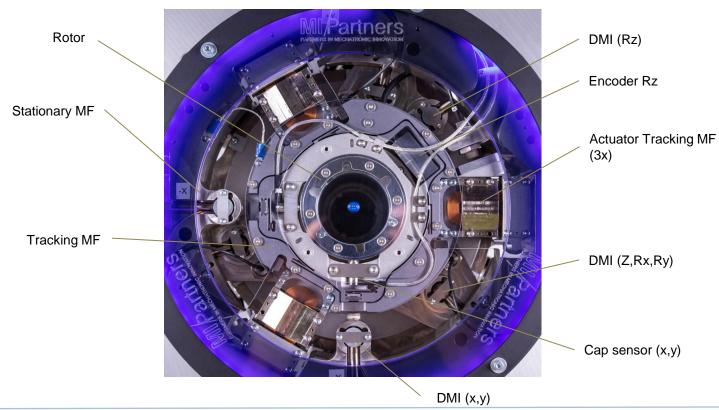






System Overview: Metrology

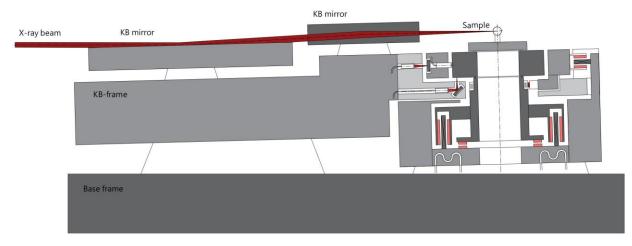




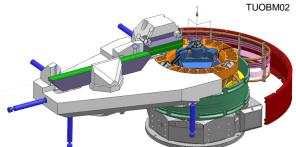
Metrology towards X-ray beam



Metrology frame integrated with dedicated KB frame: sample relative to X-ray beam



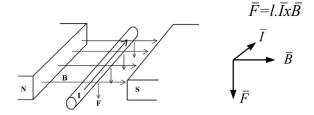
Example: Nanoprobe LNLS

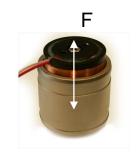


Actuation Principle: Lorentz forces



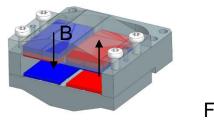
Lorentz force F

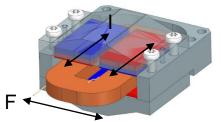




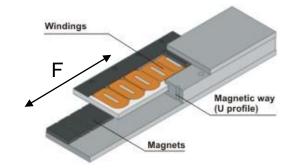
Voice coil actuator

1-phase actauator (small stroke)





Iron-less linear actuator: 3-phase motor



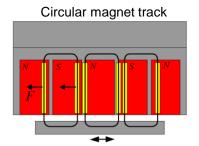


Actuation Principle: Tangential and axial forcer



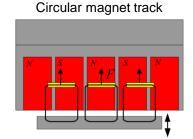
Tangential forcer: 3-phase

S N S N



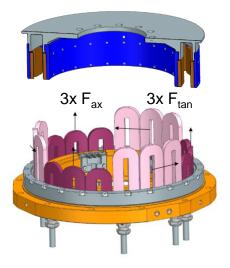
Axial forcer: 3-phase

S N S N

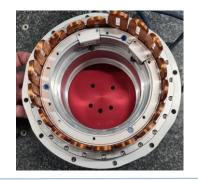


Actuator assembly:

- 3x tangential force
- 3x axial force



Patent Pending



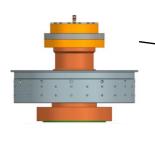




MI-P-D2025-243 17

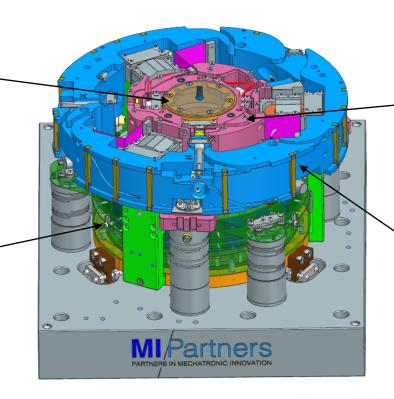


Rotor with metrology target and actuator magnets



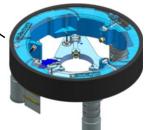
Actuator coils on force frame active cooling (e.g. water)





Tracking Metrology Frame

Stationary Metrology Frame

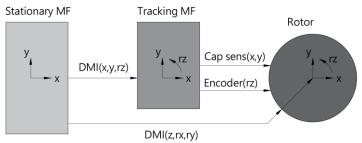


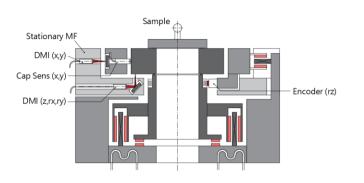


Control Architecture



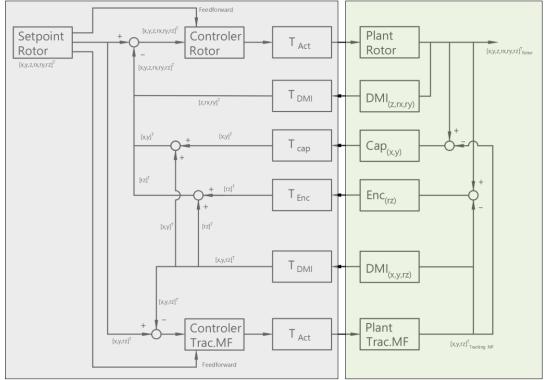
Metrology structure





Control HW/SW

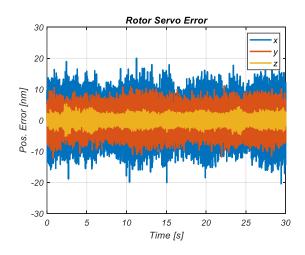
Physical system

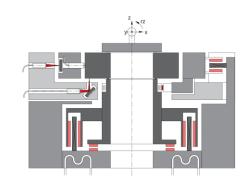


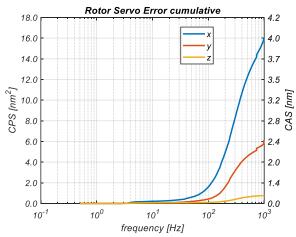
20onfidential

Servo positioning error 1st results

Stand still performance at Rz = fixed







Servo positioning error

X: 4 nm_{RMS}

 $Y: 2.4 \text{ nm}_{RMS}$

 $Z: 0.9 \text{ nm}_{RMS}$

Frequency range

0.3...1000 Hz



Positioning performance Rz = 1 Hz (1st results)

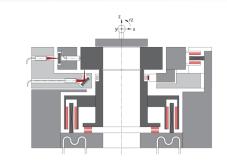


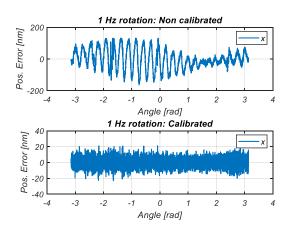
Servo positioning error

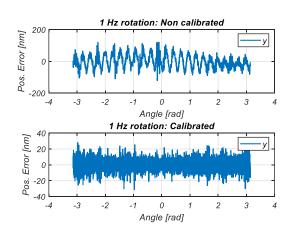
Rz rotation (centric) at 1 Hz

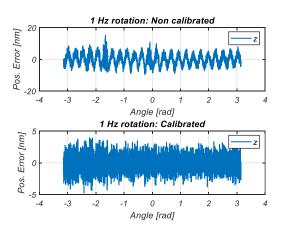
Without actuator calibration and after calibration

Results are comparable to stand-still









x,y: 3...4 nm_{RMS}

 $z : < 1 \text{ nm}_{RMS}$









Thank you for your attention

www.mi-partners.nl

Habraken 1199 5507 TB Veldhoven The Netherlands

+31(0)40-2914920

info@mi-partners.nl