



Measuring through glass windows with laser tracker under cold-vacuum conditions: investigations and results

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Outline

- Motivation
- Measuring through air-glass-air
- Measuring through air-glass-vacuum-cold
- Building a mathematical model (MM) to gain absolute coordinates in a given reference system
- Summary and outlook



Motivation

What was the trigger for this investigation...



Measuring through glass window in cold conditions up to 4K

- Observing targets which are positioned on the cold mass
- Combination of theodolite and laser tracker
- Only 2D information gained from this procedure



Motivation



The high precise monitoring regarding deformations of the cold mass along with movements vs. cryostat of superconducting components in 3D!!



First phase measurements



Nothing did really work!



Measuring through other glass windows



Autocollimation of the laser beam

possible

- Reproducibility of the position behind the windows was chaotic
- Laser tracker head could not find the target by autocollimation
- No tracking was possible through the window
- The reflection of the glass window was too high



Two main parameters are highly important to know before coating a glass window:

- 1. The max. allowed reflection from both planes of the glass (in our case 0.5 %)
- 2. What is the needed wavelength which is allowed to pass through? (in our case for all laser trackers)

The glass window that we released to coat was a 15 mm thickness borosilicate (N-BK7) coplanar glass window

Step 3 - What is the wavelength of our instruments?



Wavelengths of the laser trackers
Leica LTD 500 Leica AT402 FARO SI2 FARO Vantage









$ \begin{array}{c} \text{wavelength} \\ \downarrow \checkmark \\ \lambda \\ \hline \end{array} $	Leica LTD 500	Leica AT402	FARO SI2	FARO Vantage
	[nm]	[nm]	[nm]	[nm]
Absolute Distance Measurement (ADM)	780	795	1550	1550
Laser Interferometer (IFM)	633	*	633	*
Automatically Target Recognition (ATR)	*	905	*	*
Laser-Pointer	633	635	633-635	653-663

Source: Leica and Faro

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GSI Helmholtz Centre for Heavy Ion Research

Step 3 - What is the wavelength of our instruments?



Reflection diagram including all our laser trackers



Source of the diagram: Prinz Optiks GmbH

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Second phase measurements



Coating the glass was successful!



Autocollimation of the laser beam



Extreme position (approx.60°) of the glass window regarding the laser beam

*The position of the points behind the glass window is highly reproducible for all instruments sd_{XYZ} = 5 µm (1 σ)

instruments and the SMRs regarding the glass window

- Measuring the same position of the targets at least five times in two telescope positions
- All laser trackers could find the targets without any problem Tracking the laser beam behind the glass window was possible



Results





Results





Results



Step 5 – Measuring through coated glass window in air-glass-vacuum-cold



 Setup of the instruments and conditions for the measurements



- ✓ Using of break resistant reflector (BRR)
- ✓ Vacuum in the chamber 10⁻³ mbar
- ✓ Cold conditions up to 90 K using liquid nitrogen
- ✓ The angle of incidence (AOI) is up to 5°



The chamber (front side)

Step 5 – Measuring through coated glass window in air-glass-vacuum-cold



Third phase measurements



The chamber



Set up in a short distance

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Set up in a long distance



The insight of the chamber

• All laser trackers could find the target without any problem, in vacuum as well as in cold condition

*The position of the points behind the glass window is <u>again</u> highly reproducible for all instruments $sd_{XYZ} = 5 \mu m (1\sigma)$ Step 6 – Recognizing the problem measuring through different optical media by laser trackers. Definition of the absolute position



 Pointing error (top view)



Range error (side view)



Step 6 – Recognizing the problem measuring through different optical media by laser trackers. Definition of the absolute position



 The problem of the range error caused by different optical media which the laser tracker can not understand



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 The problem of the range error caused by different optical media which the laser tracker can not understand

LB: n₂=f(Glass material, LT wavelength)



Step 6 – Recognizing the problem measuring through different optical media by laser trackers. Definition of the absolute position



 For the correction of the pointing error quaternions (mathematical tool) were used to manipulate the rotation in 3D in combination with Snell's law





Step 7 – Building a Mathematical Model (MM)

- To calculate <u>absolute coordinates</u> to a given reference system a MM is needed to correct the pointing and range errors
- The MM is a function of all parameters which are known and measureable:











Results in air-glass-air (FARO Vantage)





Results in air-glass-air (FARO Vantage)





Results in air-glass-vacuum-cold (all instruments)





Conclusion and outlook

- The reproducibility of the points behind the glass window is highly accurate in air-glass-air as well as in air-glass-vacuum-cold condition (sd_{XZY}= 5 µm).
- Comparing relative coordinates behind the glass window requires a position of the instrument more than 3 m in order to avoid disturbance. Combining the instruments in this case is fatal, <u>do not do this!</u>
- Using the mathematical model absolute coordinates can be calculated. The pointing and range errors can be eliminated which are caused by the glass window (sd_{XZY}= 15 µm).
- The material of the glass window in combination with the wavelength of the instrument defines the refractive index of the glass window, thus the material of the glass window has to be chosen wisely.



- The mechanical properties of the window (size of the glass surface, thickness) has to be taken in account in order to reduce or eliminate the bulge of the window, caused by the vacuum in the chamber, which can produce an error in the mathematical model. Also, as smaller the angle of incidence is, as more negligible this error can be.
- Cross checking and optimization of the mathematical model by a practical approach is in progress.
- The movement of the SMR center point because of the contraction in cold environment has to be taken in account in order to distinguish it from the displacement of the cold mass.



Thank you for your attention!

