

# **A Novel Laser Tracking System Based on Optical Frequency Comb**

**Zili Zhang**

**Academy of Opto-electronics,  
Chinese Academy of Sciences**

**October 4th, 2016**

1

**Introduction of AOE and Laser measurement  
Technology division**

2

**Research on Traditional Laser Tracker**

3

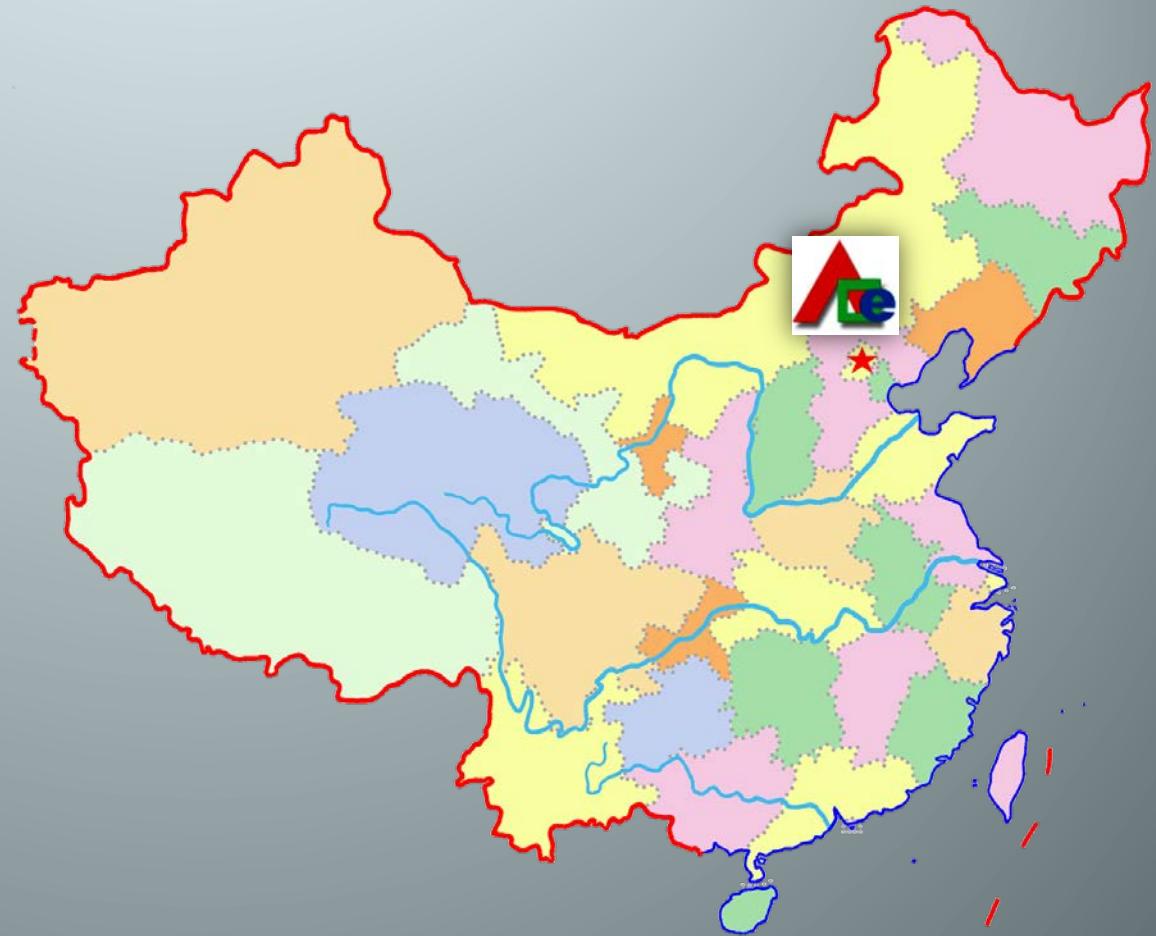
**Laser tracker based on optical frequency comb  
Introduction of the laboratory**

4

**My research work**

# Academy of Opto-electronics, Chinese Academy of Sciences (AOE)

- ★ Founded in Dec. 2003
- ★ Dedicated in the research and development of optical remote sensing, laser and its application, space science & technology.



# The headquarter of AOE (Beijing)



# Division of Laser Measurement Technology



**Employee: 20**

**Professor: 1**

**Research associate: 5**

**Postdoctor: 2**

**Students: 20**

**Doctor: 4**

**Postgraduate: 2**

# Laser measurement technology

- ◆ Traditional ranging technology
- ◆ Femtosecond laser ranging technology
- ◆ Angle measurement technology
- ◆ Precision tracking control technology
- ◆ Calibration and error compensation
- ◆ software



# Traditional Laser Tracker

# Application





# Manufacturers

Leica  
Switzerland

API  
USA

FARO  
USA

PI  
Germany

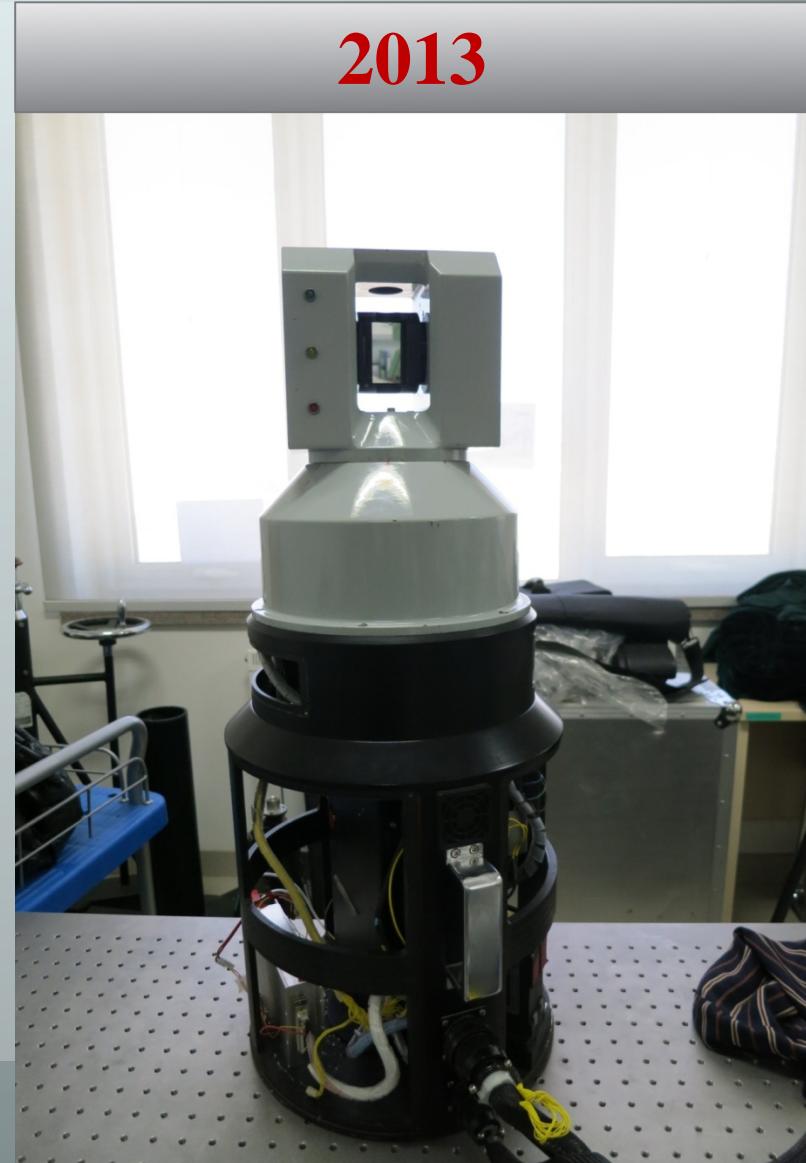


# Prototype



- **Measurement Range**      **0 ~ 42m**
- **Horizontal Angle Range**       **$\pm 270^\circ$**
- **Vertical Angle Range**      **- 45° ~ + 60°**
- **Coordinate Uncertainty**      **17ppm**
- **Tracking Speed**      **2rad/s**
- **Tracking Acceleration**      **2rad/s<sup>2</sup>**
- **Sampling Rate**      **1000pts@1s**

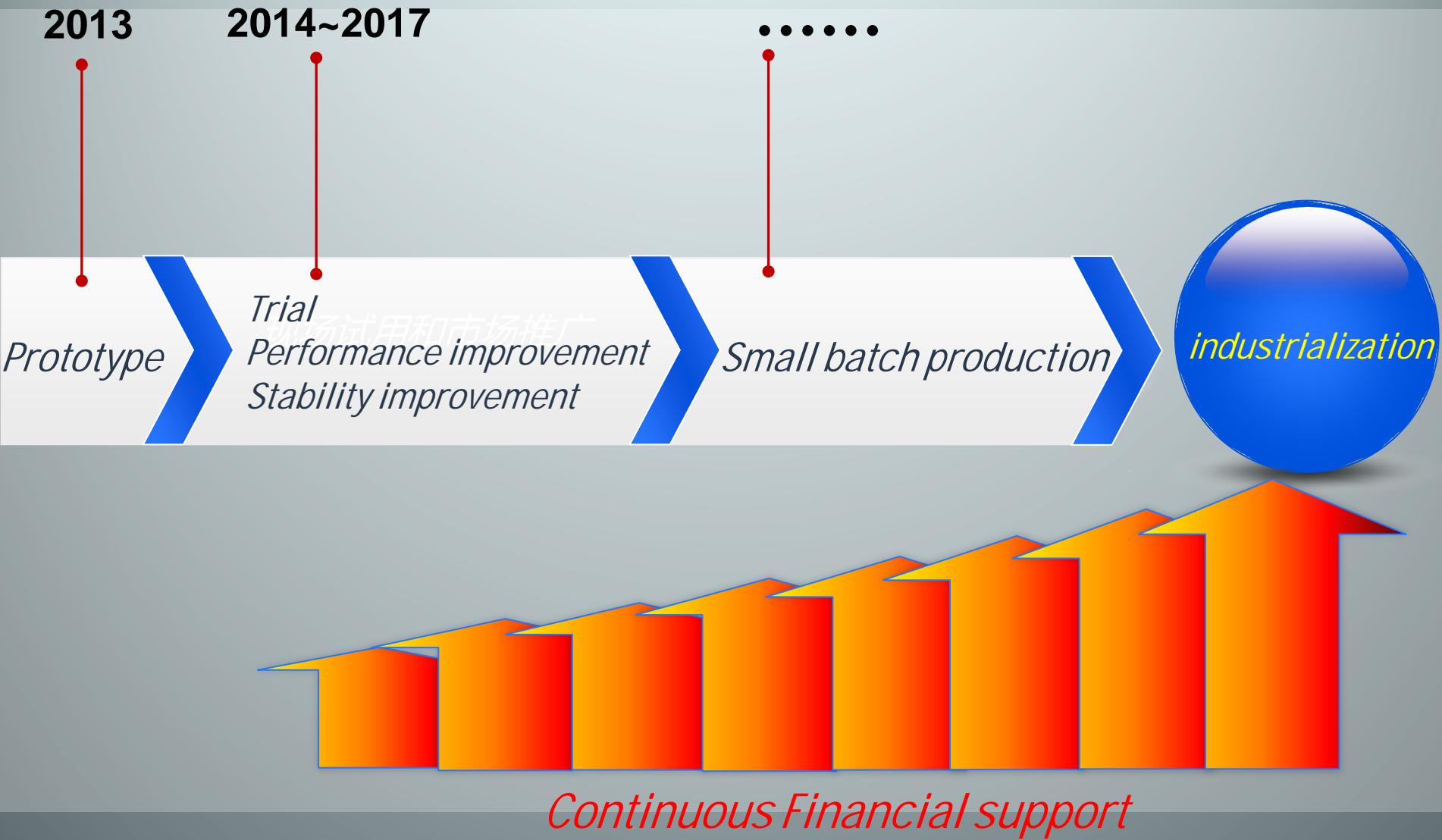
2013



# Performance comparison

Specification	Leica (AT402 )	Our prototype
Measuring scale	320m	42m
Horizontal angle Measuring scale	$\pm 360^\circ$	$\pm 270^\circ$
Horizontal angle Measuring scale	$-145^\circ \sim +145^\circ$	$45^\circ \sim +60^\circ$
Angle measuring accuracy	0.5"	1"
Distance measuring accuracy	$\pm 10\mu\text{m}$	$15\mu\text{m}/\text{m}$
Coordinate measuring accuracy	$\pm 15\mu\text{m}+6\mu\text{m}/\text{m}$	$17\mu\text{m}/\text{m}$
Data acquiring rate	3000pts/s	1000pts/s
Tracking speed	$180^\circ/\text{s}$	2rad/s
Acceleration	$360^\circ/\text{s}^2$	2rad/ $\text{s}^2$

# Development history and Orientation



# Laser Tracker Based on Optical Frequency Comb

Supported by Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China

# Goal of Project

(1) To develop Laser Trakers using Femto-second Laser Distance

Measurement Technology . The function and performance of new tracker will reach the international level (Dist. resolution: 50nm, Accuracy: 0.5ppm) ;

(2) Break through the key technology of Femto-second Laser Source, Femto-

second Laser Frequency Comb Distance Measurement, Air Refractive Index measurement and Compensation;

(3) Develop engineering prototype and study application technology of new

generation laser tracker;

(4) Promote the advancement of metrology technology.

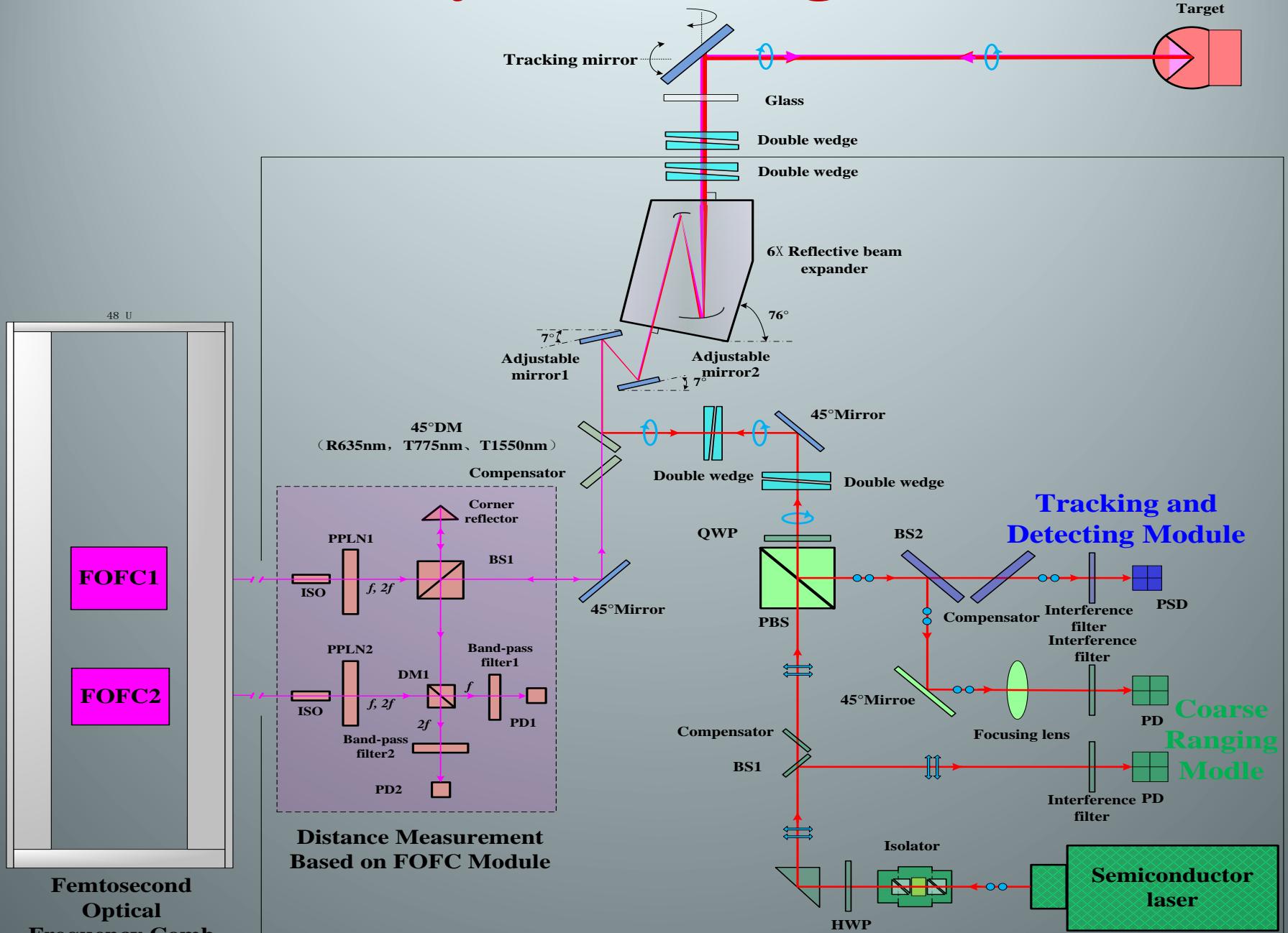
# Performance expected

Title	Performance expected
Coordinate uncertainty	<b>10ppm(10µm/m)</b>
Measuring scale	<b>0-60m</b>
Distance measuring accuracy	<b>1µm+0.5µm/m</b>
Angle measurement accuracy	1.0"
Tracking speed	2rad/s
Tracking acceleration	1rad/s <sup>2</sup>

# **Key Technology**

- ◆ Distance Measurement
- ◆ Precision Angle Measurement
- ◆ Precision Tracking Control
- ◆ Model, Calibration and Error Compensation
- ◆ System Software
- ◆ Optical and Mechanical Integration

# System Design



# Dual-Comb



Atomic clock

Frequency synthesizer × 2

Frequency counter

Pump current source

Phase locked loop

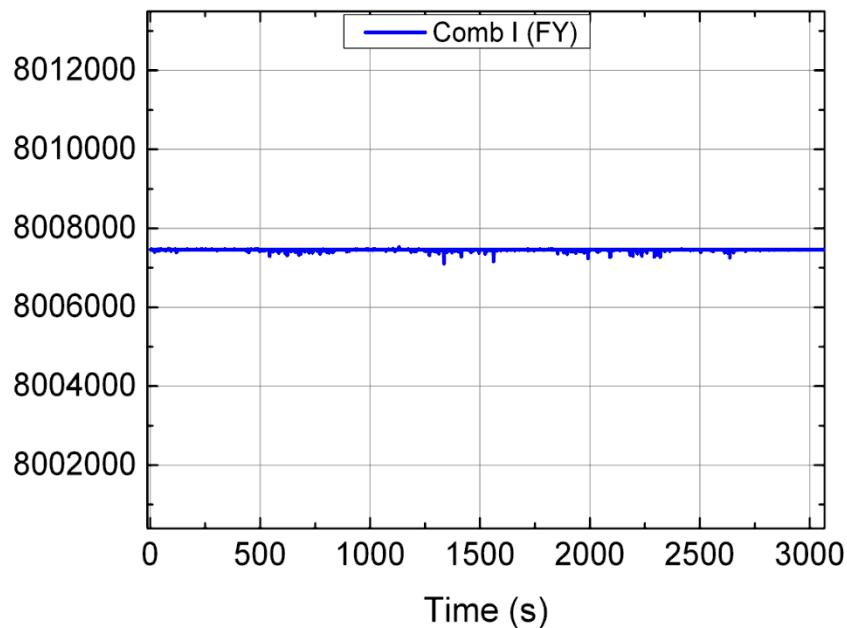
Servo × 2

Coarse stabilization module of  
repetition rate

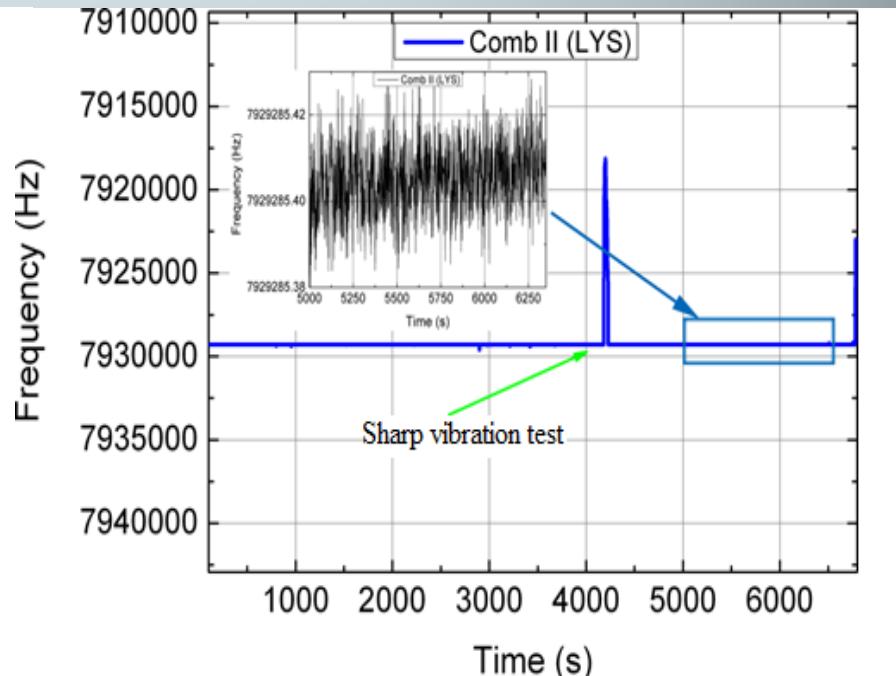
Temperature control module

Oscillator × 2  
amplification and  
compression system × 2

# Stability of $f_{\text{ceo}}$



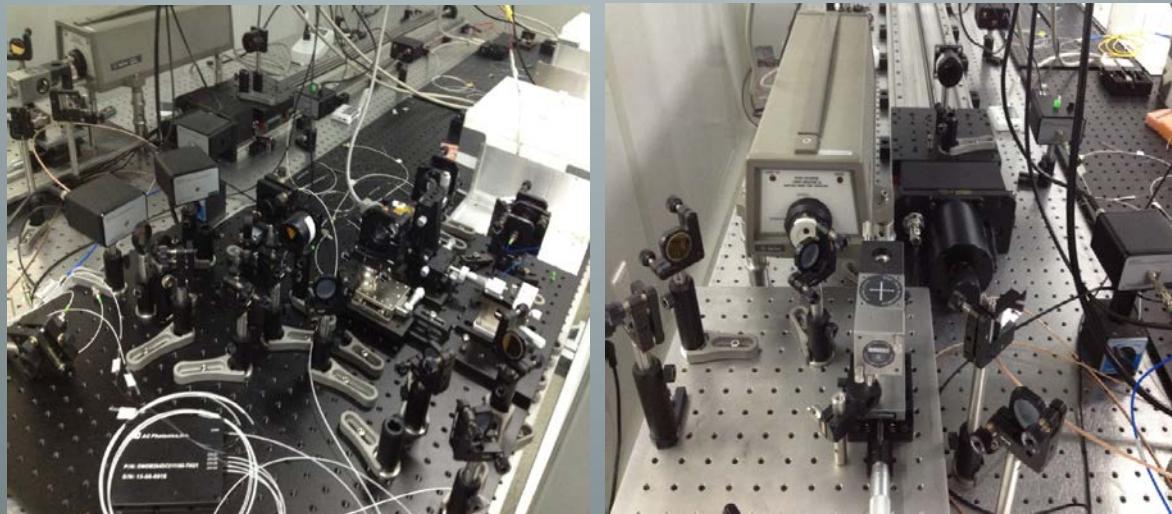
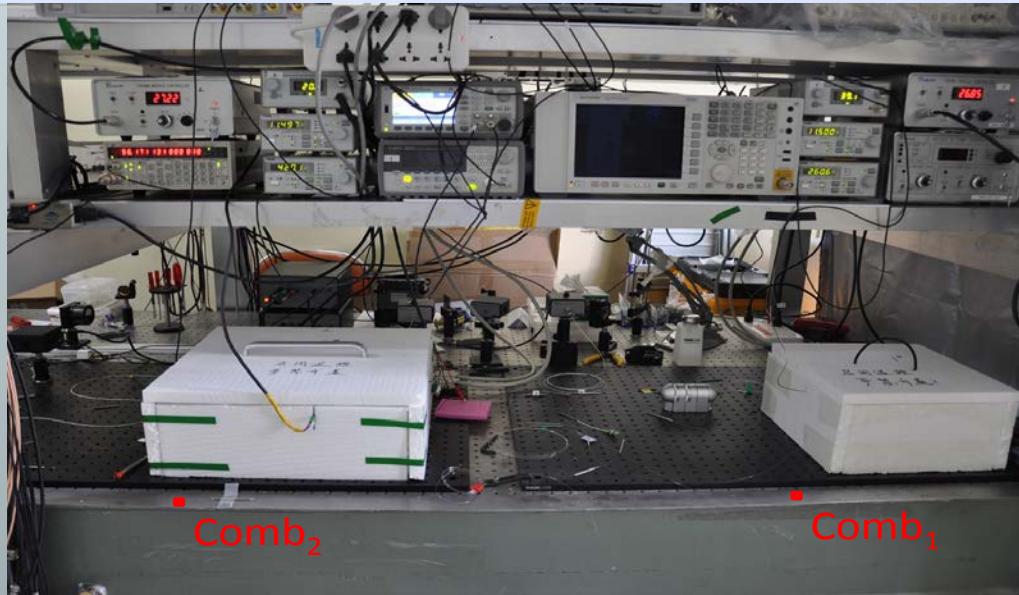
Comb 1



Comb 2

Carrier envelope offset frequency stability:  $1.0 \times 10^{-10}/1\text{S}$

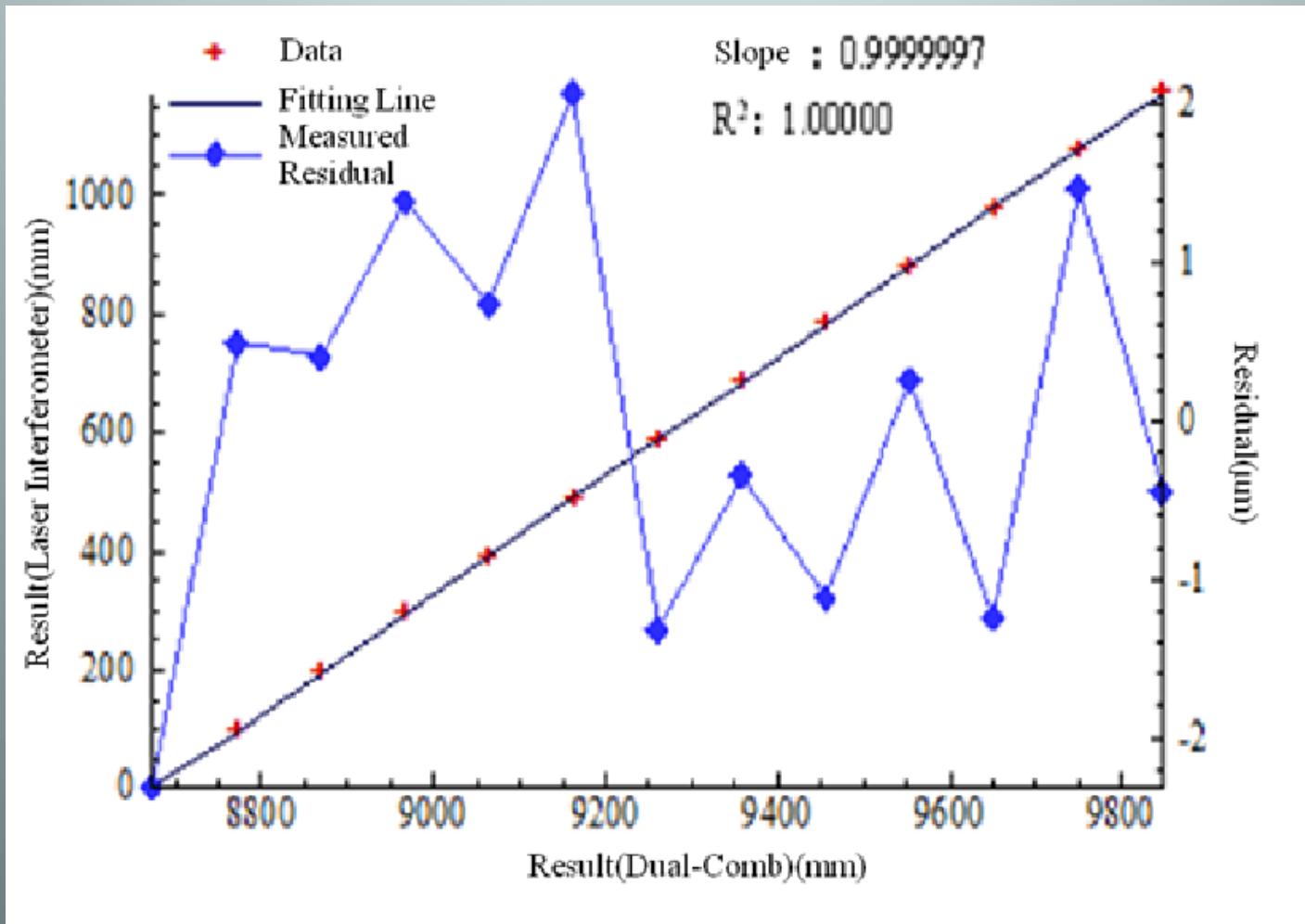
# Distance measurement Setup By Dual-comb



# Distance Measurement Result

Standard deviation is  $\pm 2.3 \mu\text{m}$  when target is moved from 8.7m to 9.9m.

Relative error: 0.1ppm@9m



# Air Refractive Index Compensation

$$D_1 = n_1 D \quad \dots \dots \lambda_1$$

$$D_2 = n_2 D \quad \dots \dots \lambda_2$$

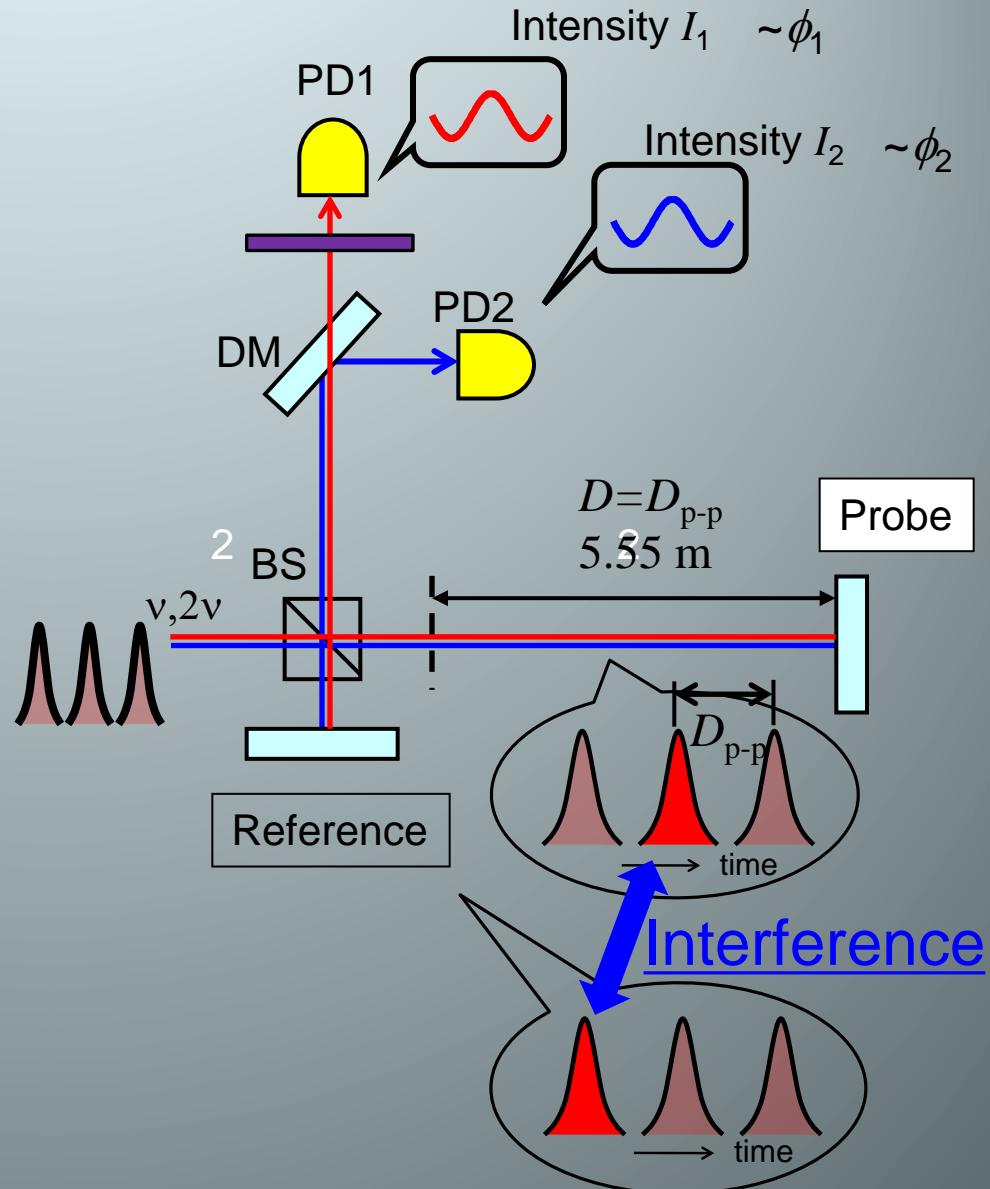
$n_1$  and  $n_2$ : air refractive index

$$A \equiv \frac{n_1 - 1}{n_2 - n_1} \approx const$$

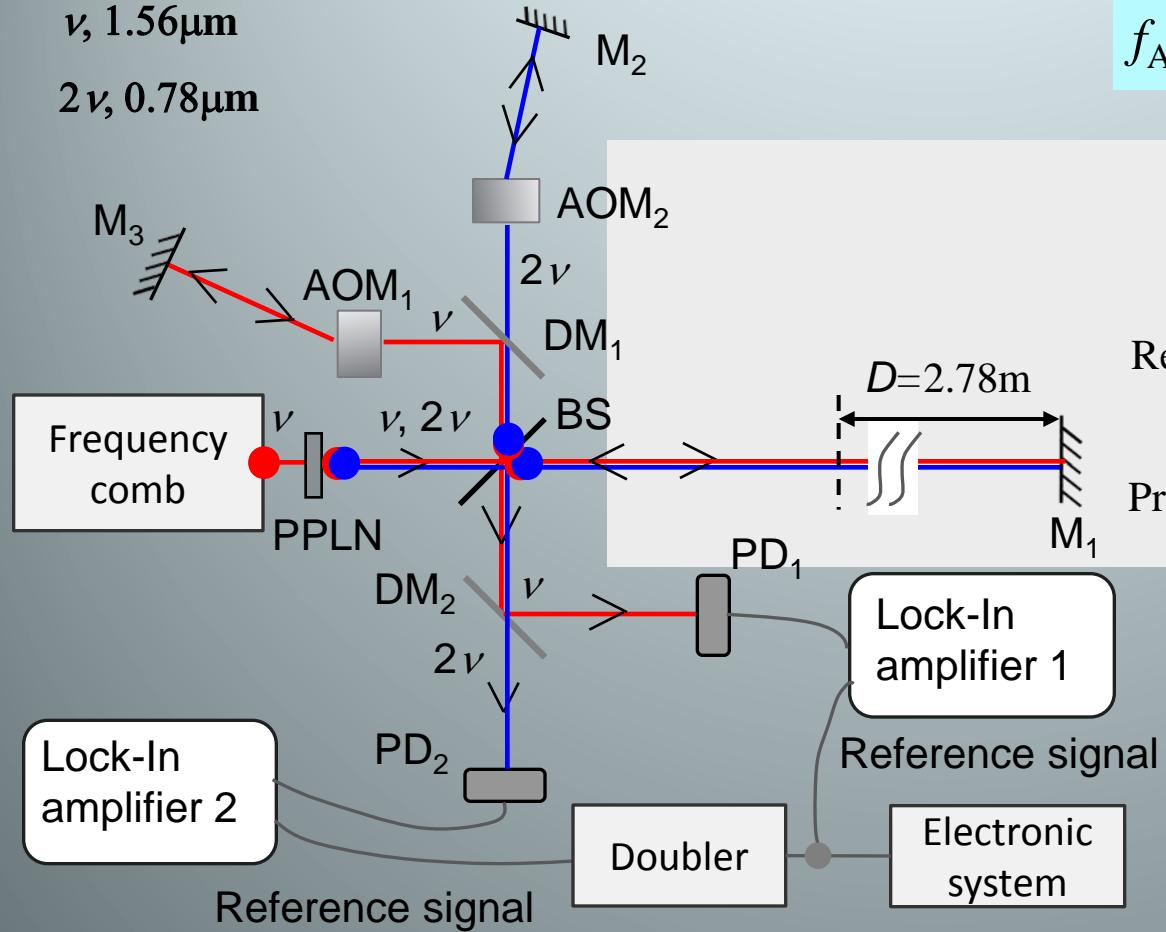
$$D = D_1 - A(D_2 - D_1)$$

For  $1.56\mu\text{m}$  and  $0.78\mu\text{m}$ :

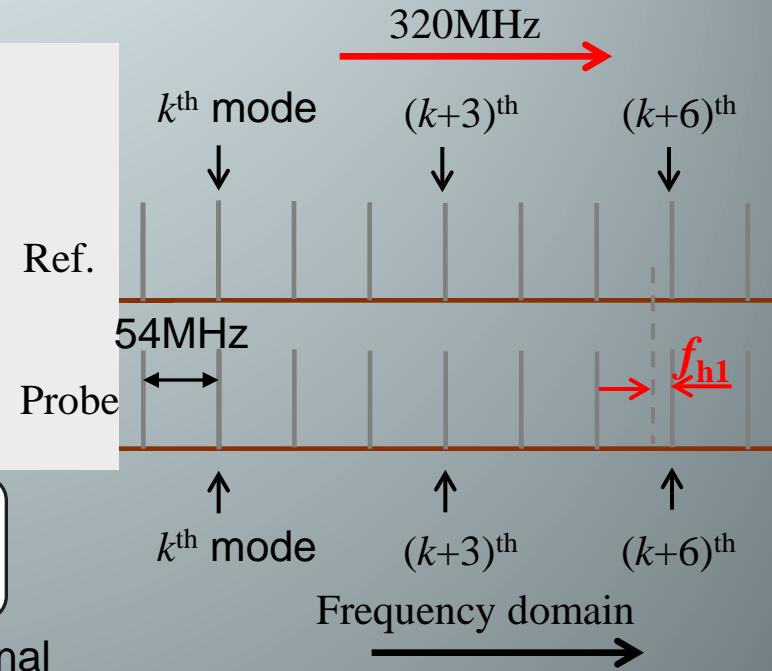
$$A = 141$$



# Air Refractive Index Compensation



$$f_{AOM1} = 160\text{MHz} \quad f_{AOM2} = 80\text{MHz}$$



$$f_{h1} = 4 \text{ MHz}$$

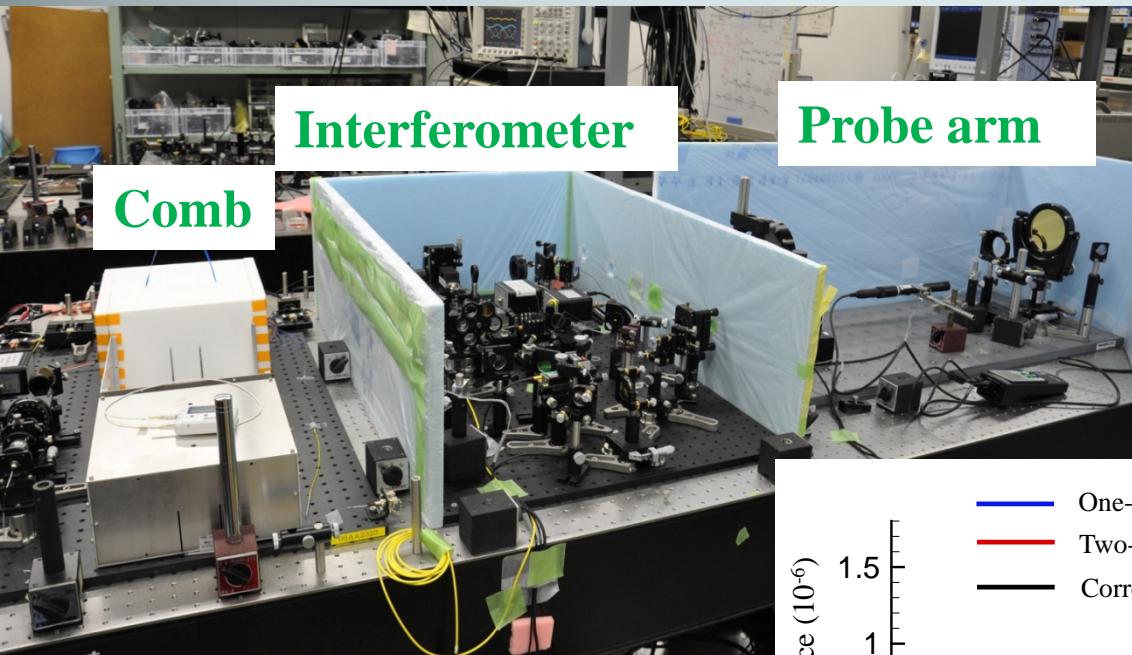
$$f_{h2} = 2 \text{ MHz}$$

$$D_1 = \phi_1 / 2\pi \times \lambda_1 / 2$$

$$D_2 = \phi_2 / 2\pi \times \lambda_2 / 2$$

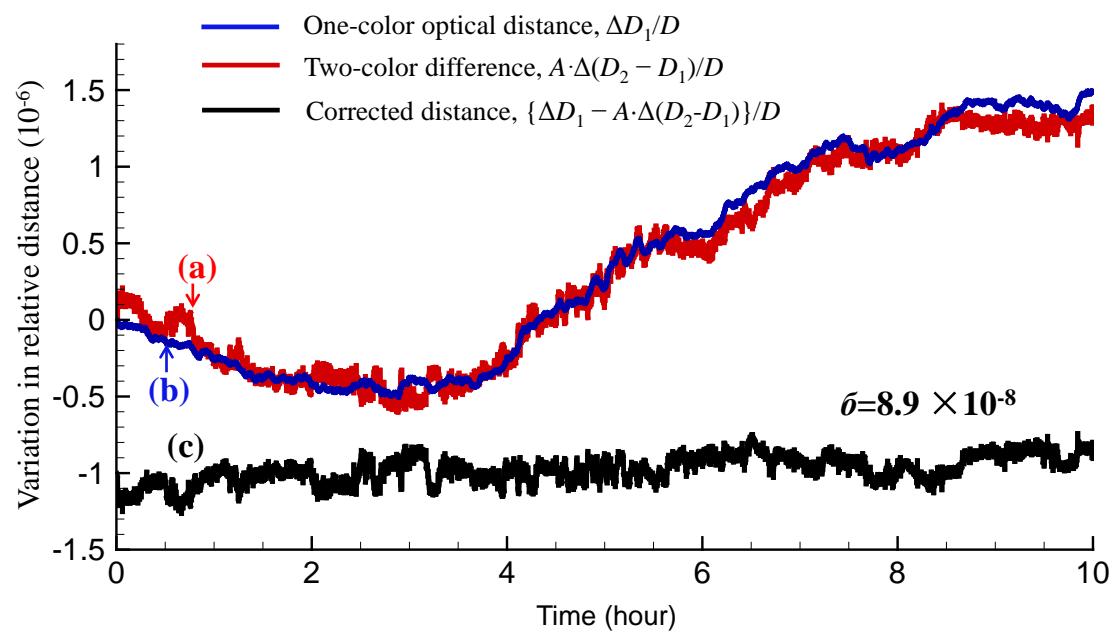
$M_{1-3}$ : Mirror; BS: Beam splitter;  $DM_{1-2}$ : Dichroic mirror;  
 $PD_{1-2}$ : Photodetector; AOM: Acousto-optic modulator

# Setup of Air Refractive Index Compensation

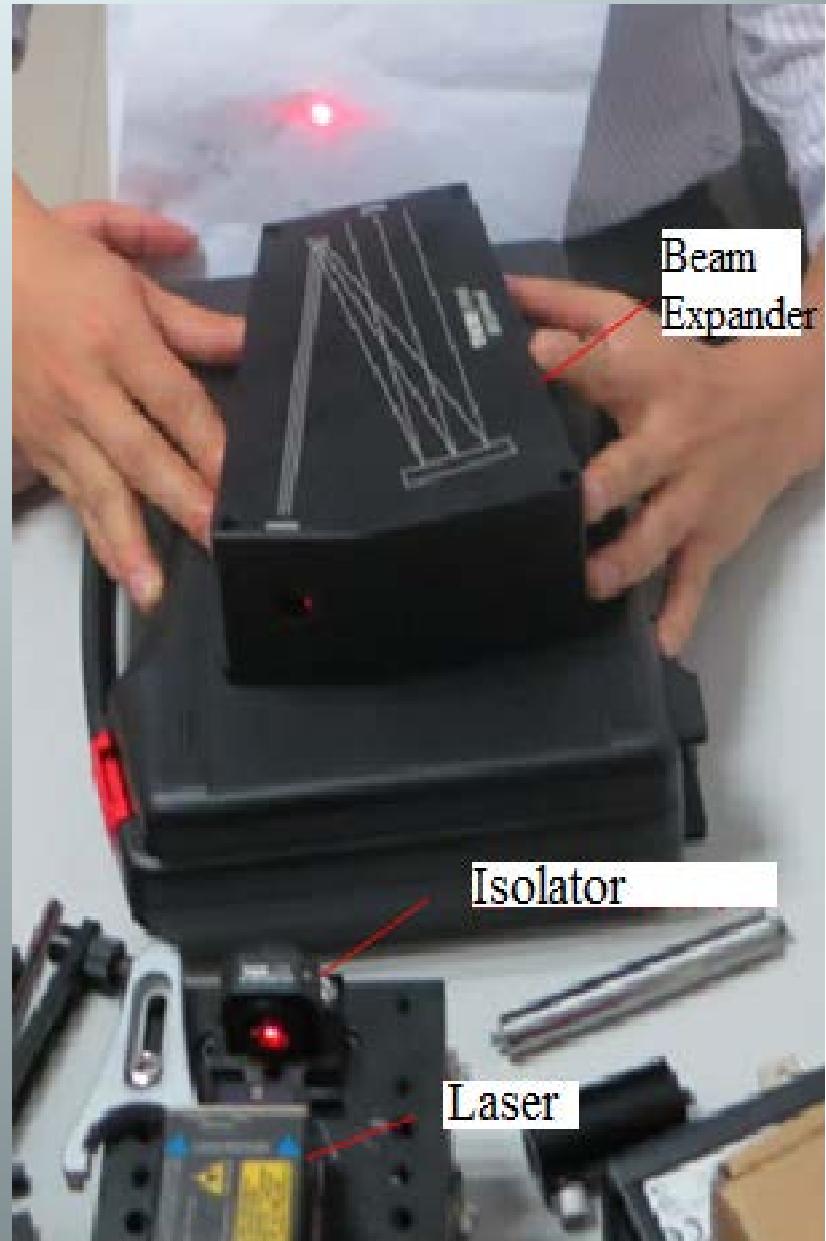
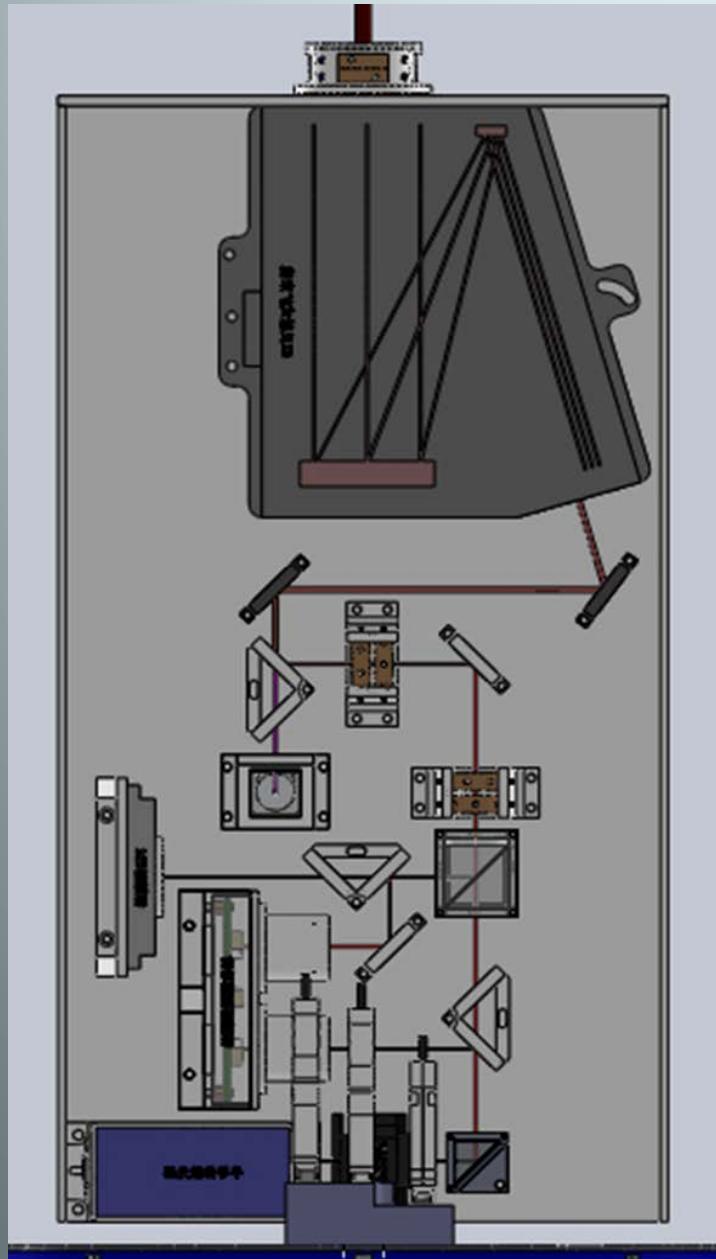


## Experiment Result

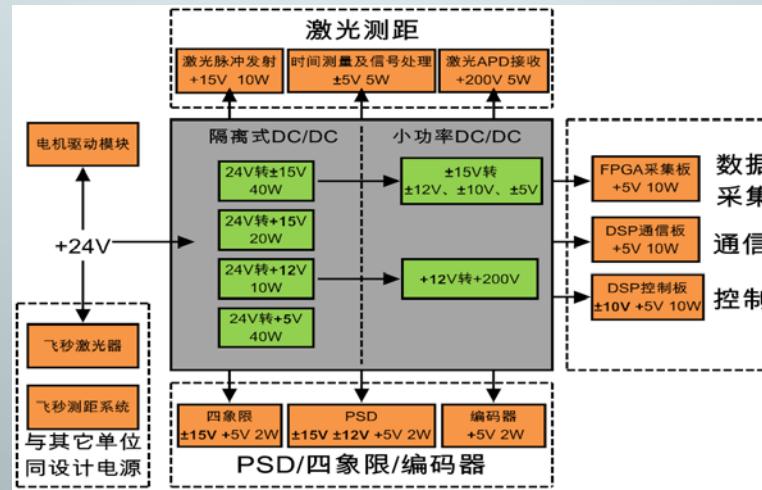
Setup of Air Refractive Index Compensation



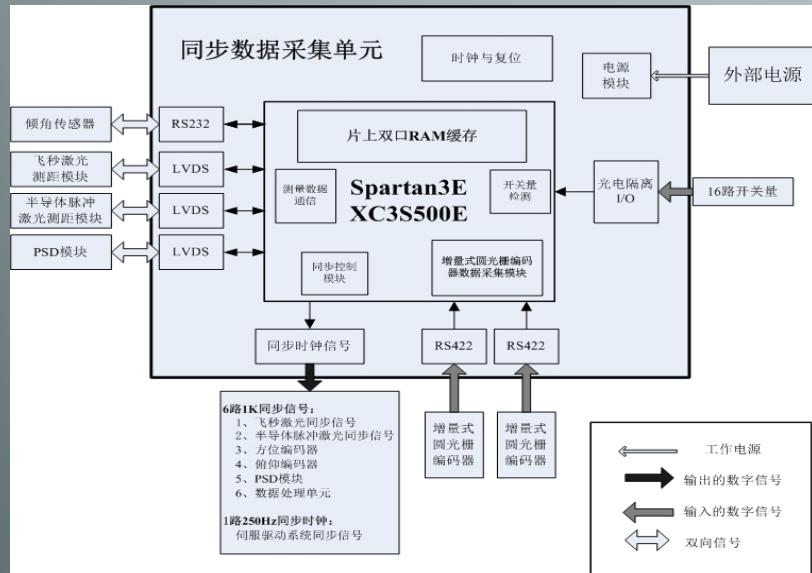
# Optical Design



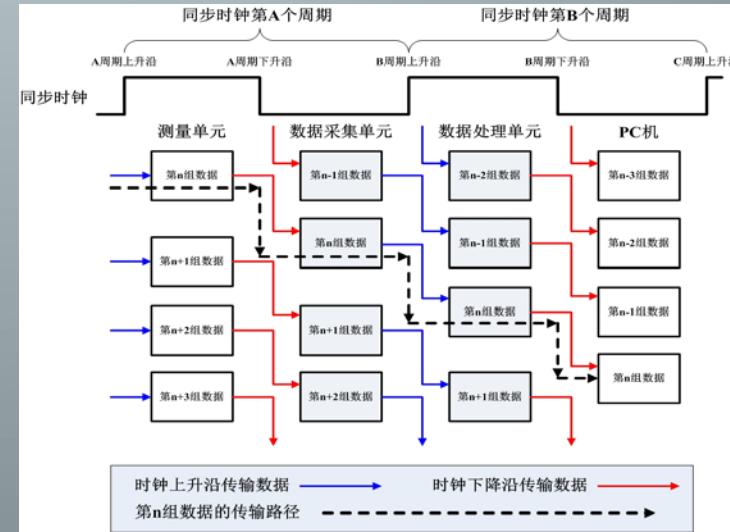
# Electronics Design



Power unit

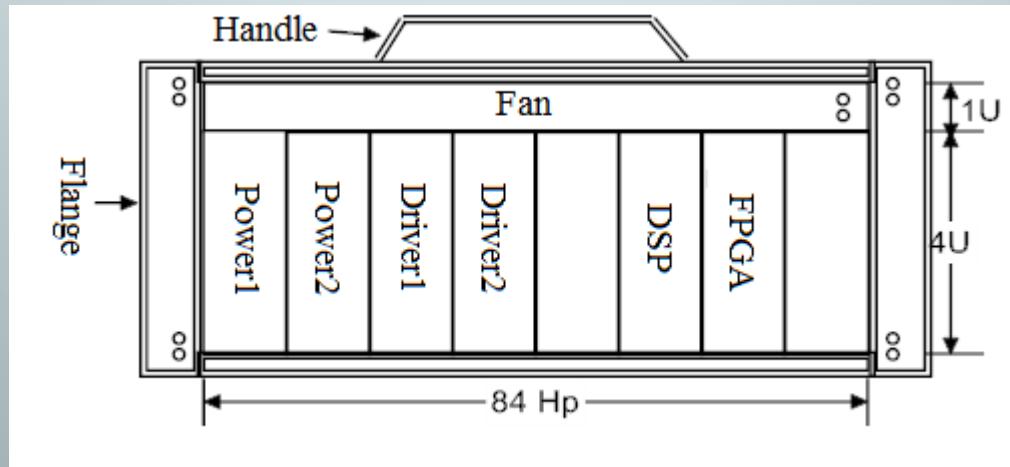


Data acquisition unit



Clock synchronization unit

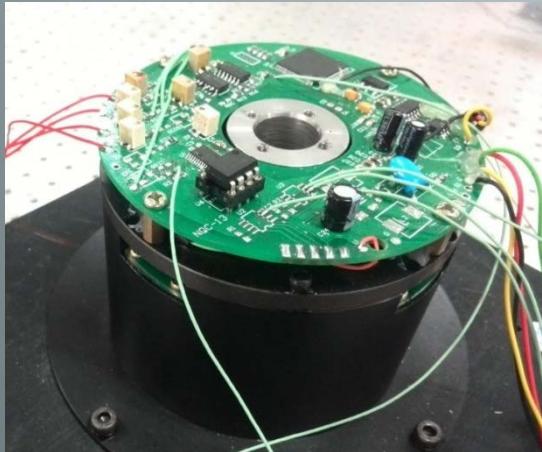
# Electronic Control Box



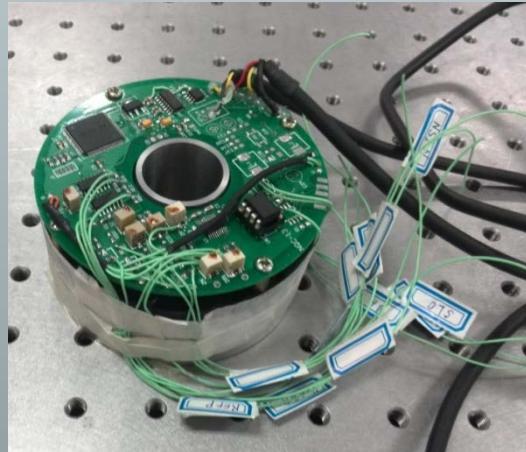
# Precision Angle Measurement

Multiple Reading Head → Self-Calibration

Metal circular grating with four reading head.  
Without comp.: 3.5" With comp.: 0.7"



Four Reading Head



Five Reading Head



Glass circular grating.  
Without comp.: 4 "  
With comp.: 1.5"

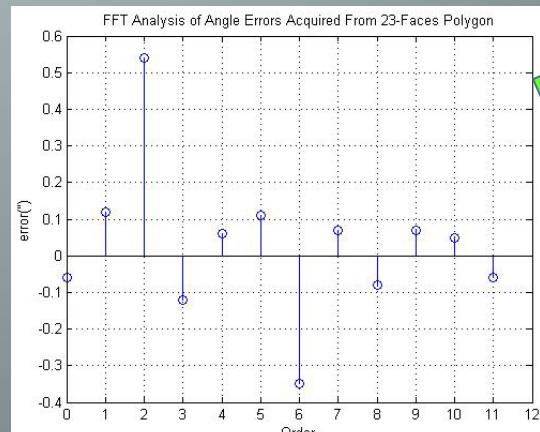
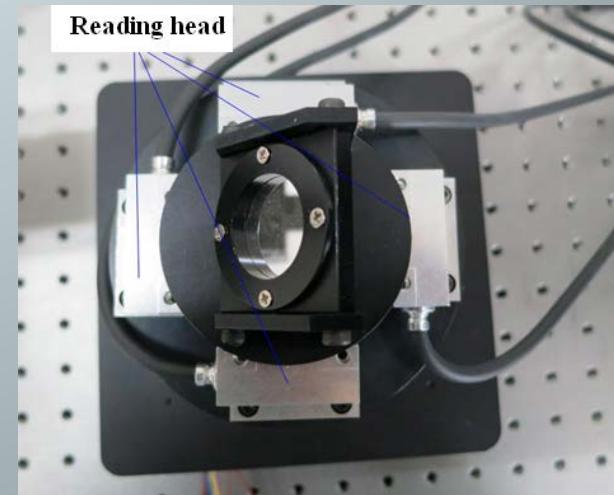
Circular  
Grating



Reading  
Head



Reading head

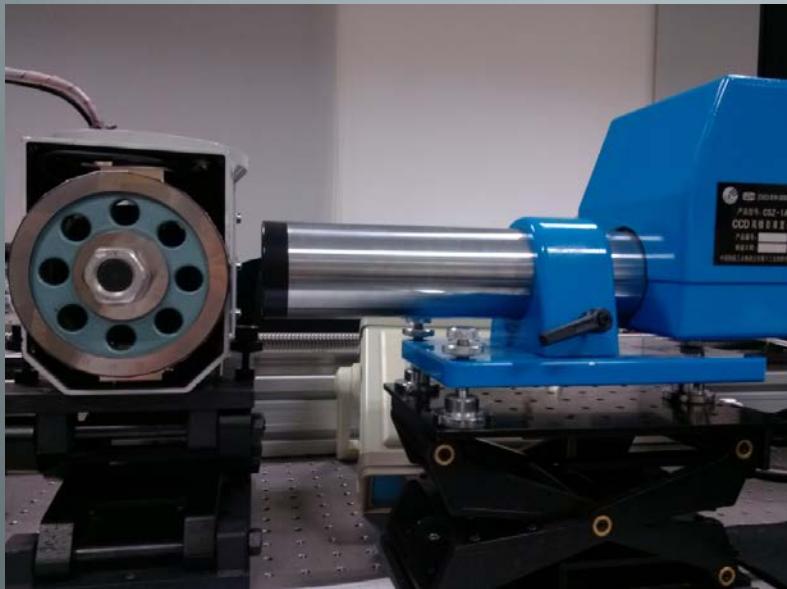


Error Mapping

# Error Calibration and Compensation

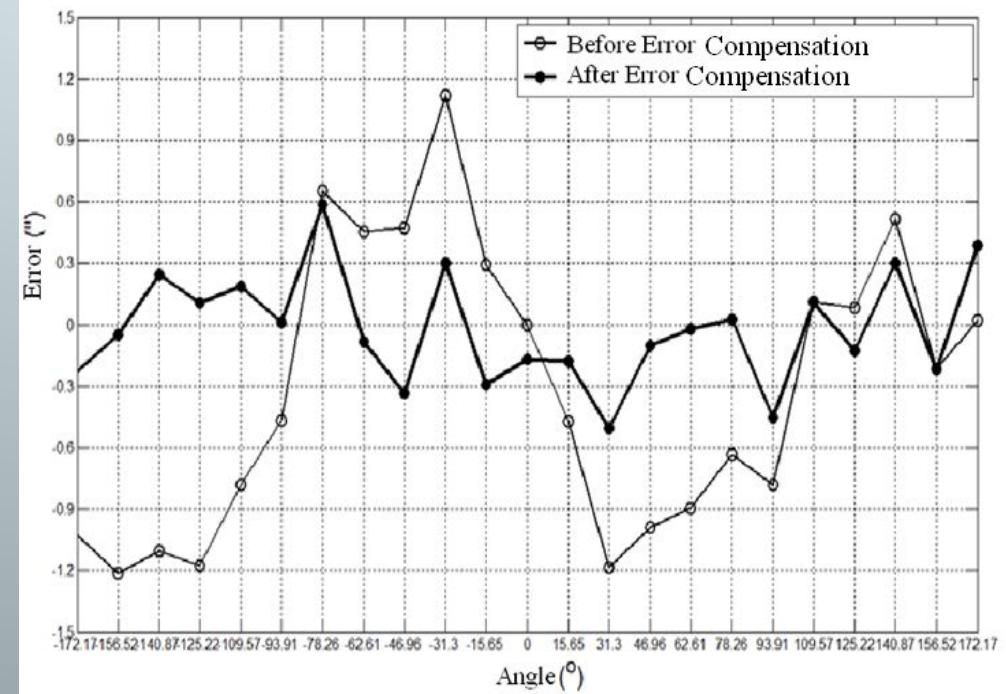


Horizontal Angle Calibration



Vertical Angle Calibration

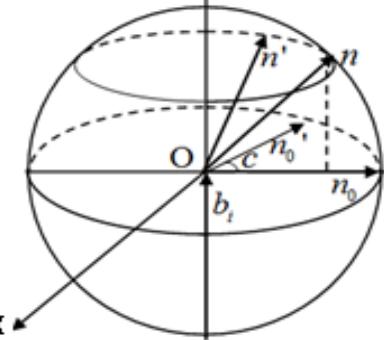
## Angle Precision



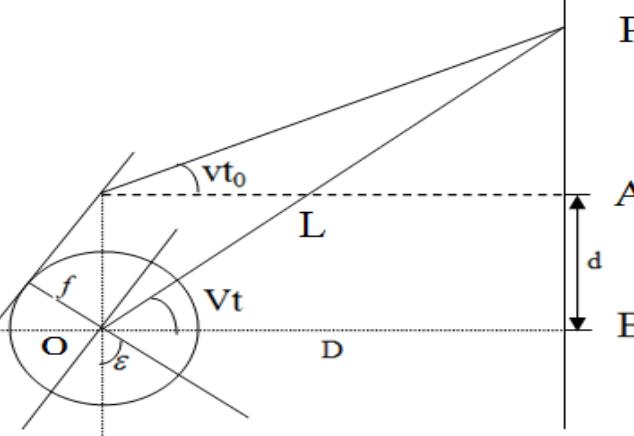
Before compensation:  $\pm 1.2''$   
After compensation:  $\pm 0.6''$

# Error Calibration and Compensation

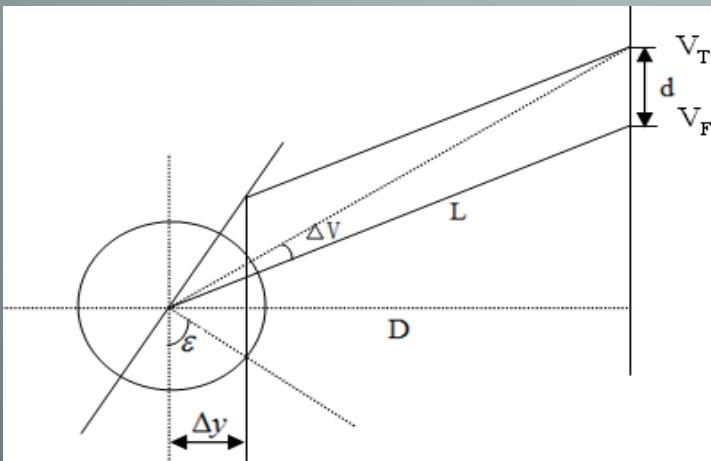
Primary axis  $\mathbf{z}$



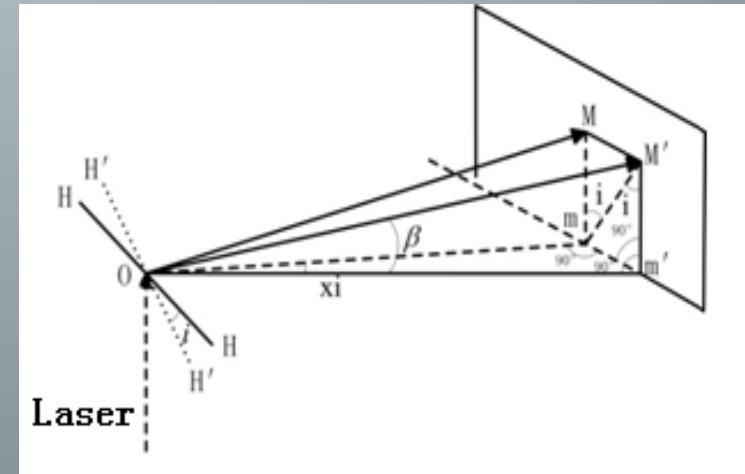
Tracking mirror tilt error



Tracking mirror offset error

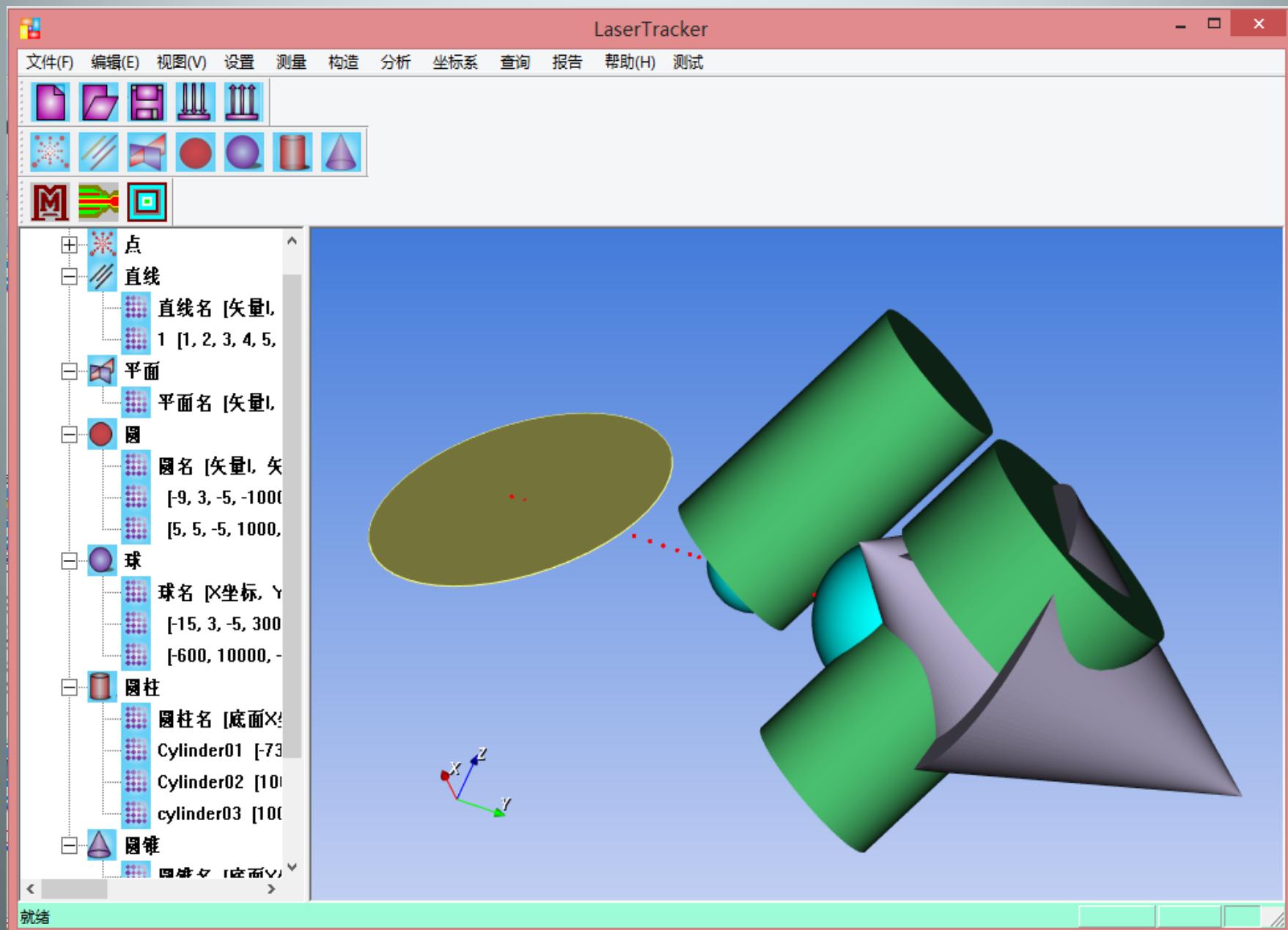


Laser beam offset error



Transit axis tilt error

# Software



# System integration

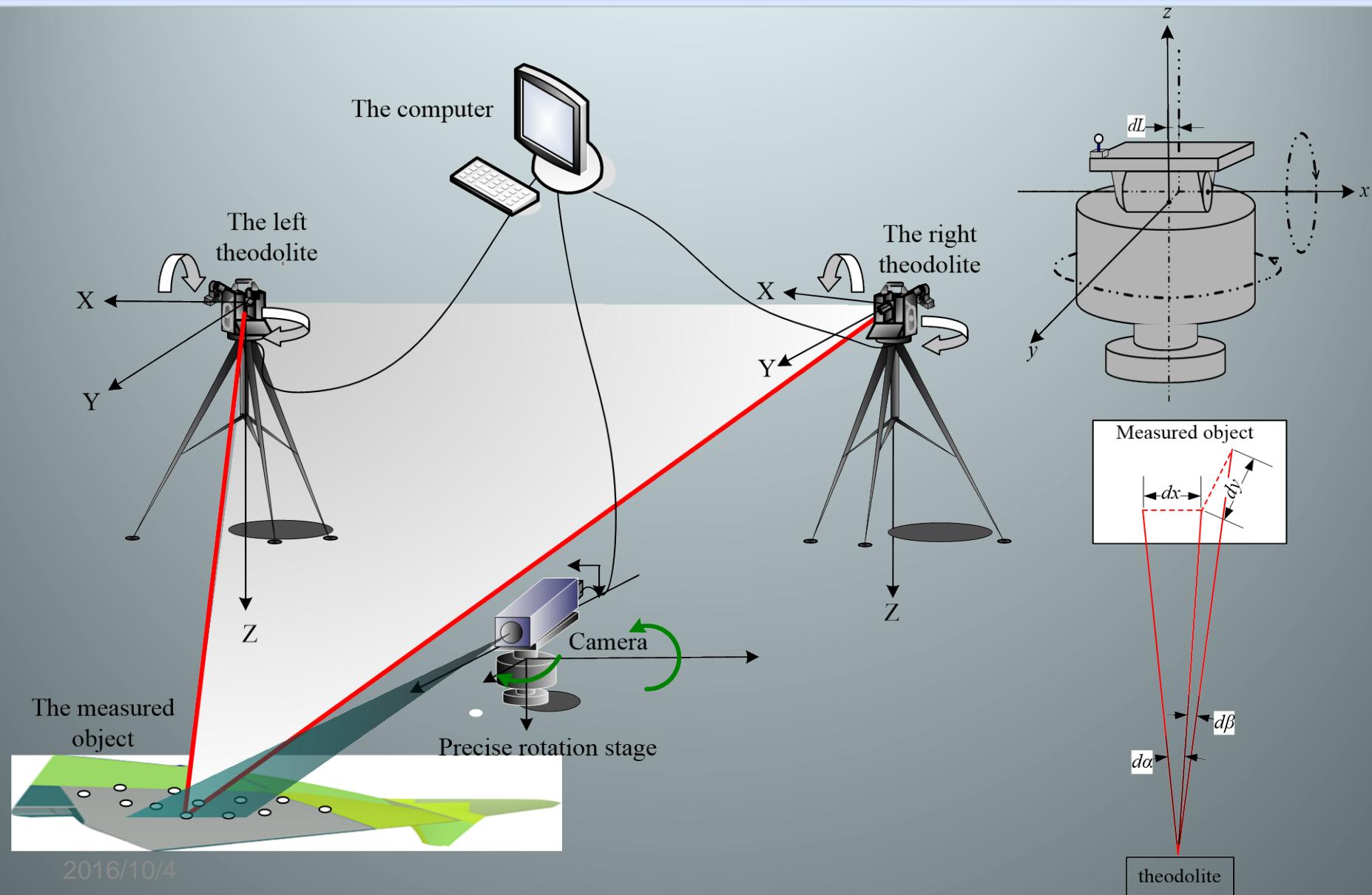


# My research work

---

- Theodolite measurement system based on vision guidance
- Error Calibration and Compensation for laser tracker
- Software for measurement system
- Vision guided total station
- Photogrammetry

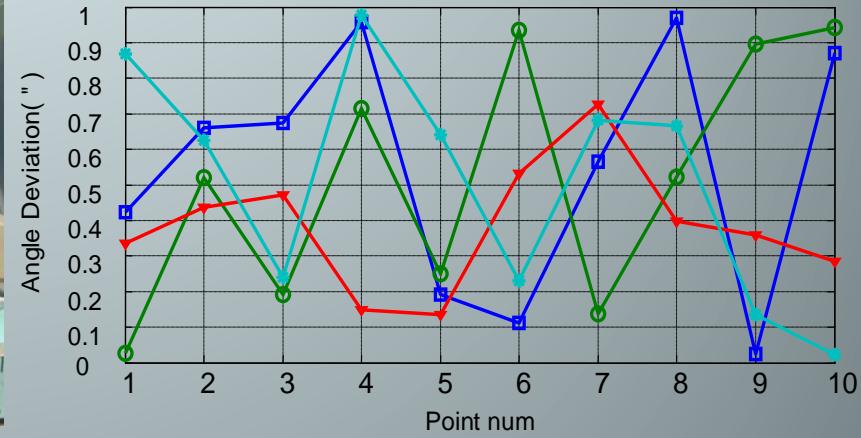
# Theodolite measurement system based on vision guidance



# Theodolite measurement system based on vision guidance

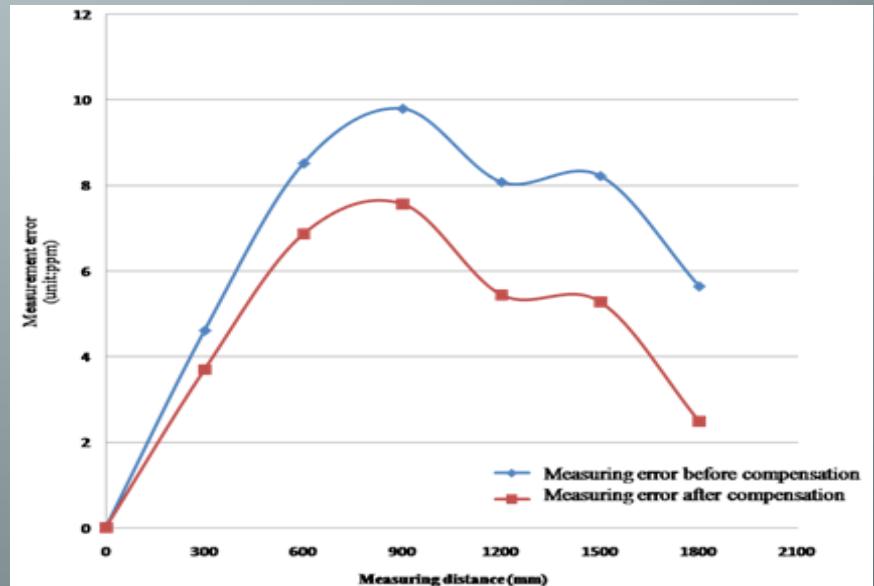
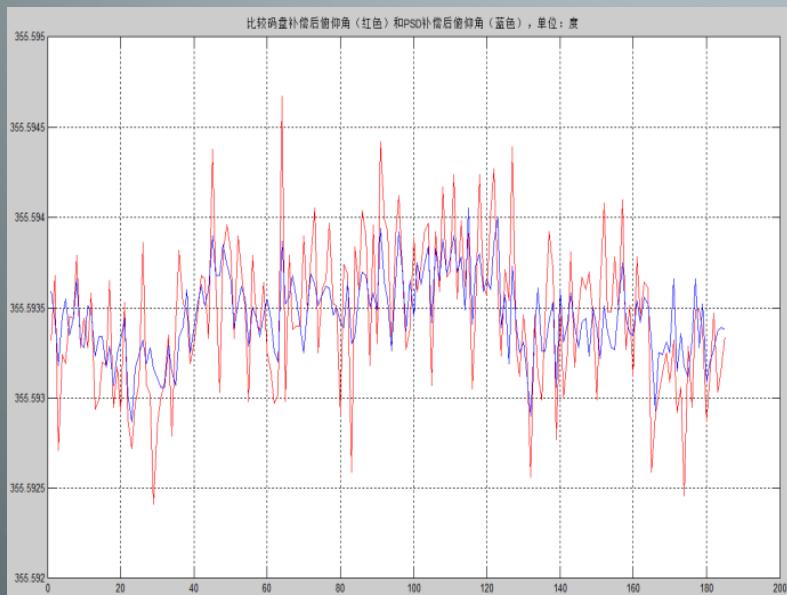
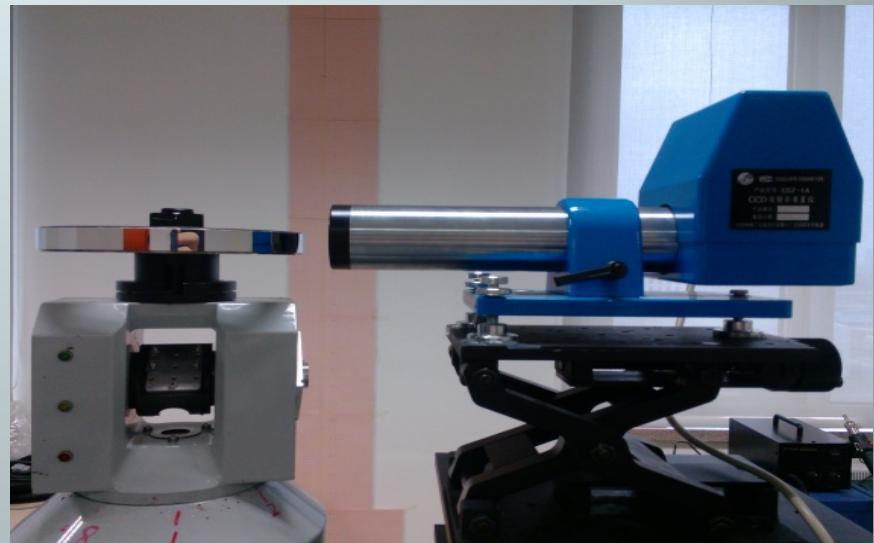


The horizontal angles of the left theodolite  
 The vertical angles of the left theodolite  
 The horizontal angles of the right theodolite  
 The vertical angles of the right theodolite



Point index	The measured results of the manual operation (mm)			The measured results of automatic theodolite (mm)			Deviation (mm)			
	x	y	z	x	y	z	$\Delta x$	$\Delta y$	$\Delta z$	$\Delta d$
1	760.083	370.834	5774.370	760.064	370.940	5774.319	-0.019	0.106	-0.051	0.119
2	951.053	374.758	5788.259	951.257	374.589	5788.401	0.204	-0.169	0.142	0.301
3	1148.296	359.947	5808.436	1148.210	360.245	5808.633	-0.086	0.298	0.197	0.367
4	652.664	389.054	5776.032	652.907	389.268	5775.839	0.243	0.214	-0.193	0.377
5	750.394	390.547	5792.920	750.662	390.420	5792.933	0.268	-0.127	0.013	0.297
6	1047.573	397.123	5813.998	1047.749	397.348	5814.071	0.176	0.225	0.073	0.295
7	698.130	394.013	5779.836	697.941	394.029	5779.921	-0.189	0.016	0.085	0.208
8	849.731	396.690	5797.828	849.919	396.796	5797.975	0.188	0.106	0.147	0.261
9	1046.761	404.634	5819.759	1046.879	404.918	5819.642	0.118	0.284	-0.117	0.329
10	751.594	409.217	5783.970	751.461	409.276	5784.127	-0.133	0.059	0.157	0.214

# Error Calibration and Compensation for laser tracker



# Software of measurement system

**Theodolite**

点名	测站1水...	测站1垂...	测站2水...	测站2垂...
Point1	171.20614	98.93234	44.65617	105.24076
Point2	160.38972	101.16618	18.81365	104.2901
Point3	156.57485	101.76653	13.34799	103.61155
Point4	137.76704	104.35072	355.96014	101.03082
Point5	134.25512	107.95005	354.06241	102.89411
Point6	108.56562	108.4226	343.5261	100.35467
Point7	128.80843	103.59786	1.78143	100.87188
Point8	109.35294	103.34993	351.26782	99.20814
Point9	148.78904	99.20835	22.65078	100.26345
Point10	133.62307	100.34772	7.64247	99.0226
Point11	160.23947	95.784	38.08814	97.84322
Point12	147.70877	96.69558	19.7224	97.17123
Point13	171.38766	98.94846	44.67116	105.33577
Point14	160.15996	101.12633	18.96956	104.19986
Point15	156.59759	101.75858	13.37198	103.60961
Point16	137.7711	104.33712	356.01488	101.03039
Point17	134.12246	107.46556	354.20679	102.85285
Point18	108.53921	108.41305	343.538	100.35227
Point19	109.71867	103.81954	351.70459	99.19164
Point20	129.18186	103.66483	1.77055	100.94199
Point21	148.58186	99.18116	22.61505	100.20732
Point22	133.58527	100.40396	7.42336	99.04879
Point23	160.43659	95.78648	38.14917	97.87434
Point24	148.04587	96.76635	19.54035	97.26595

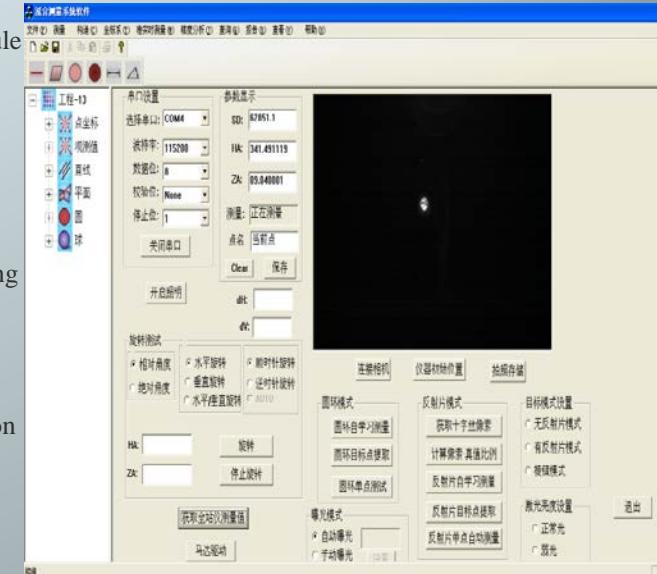
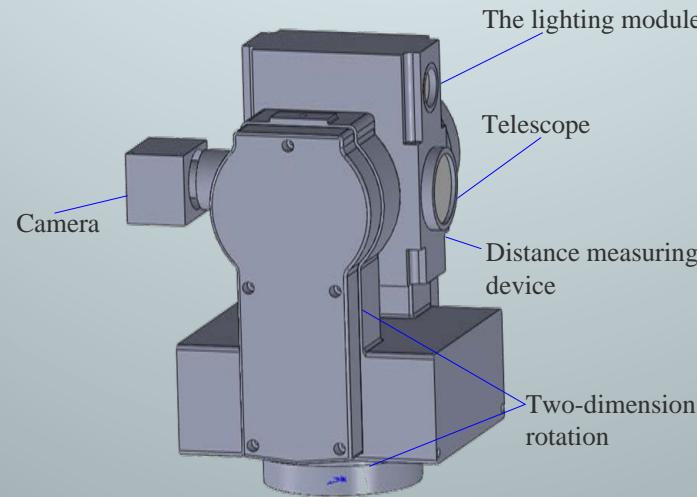
**Laser tracker**

**Antenna measurement system**

**Data analysis**

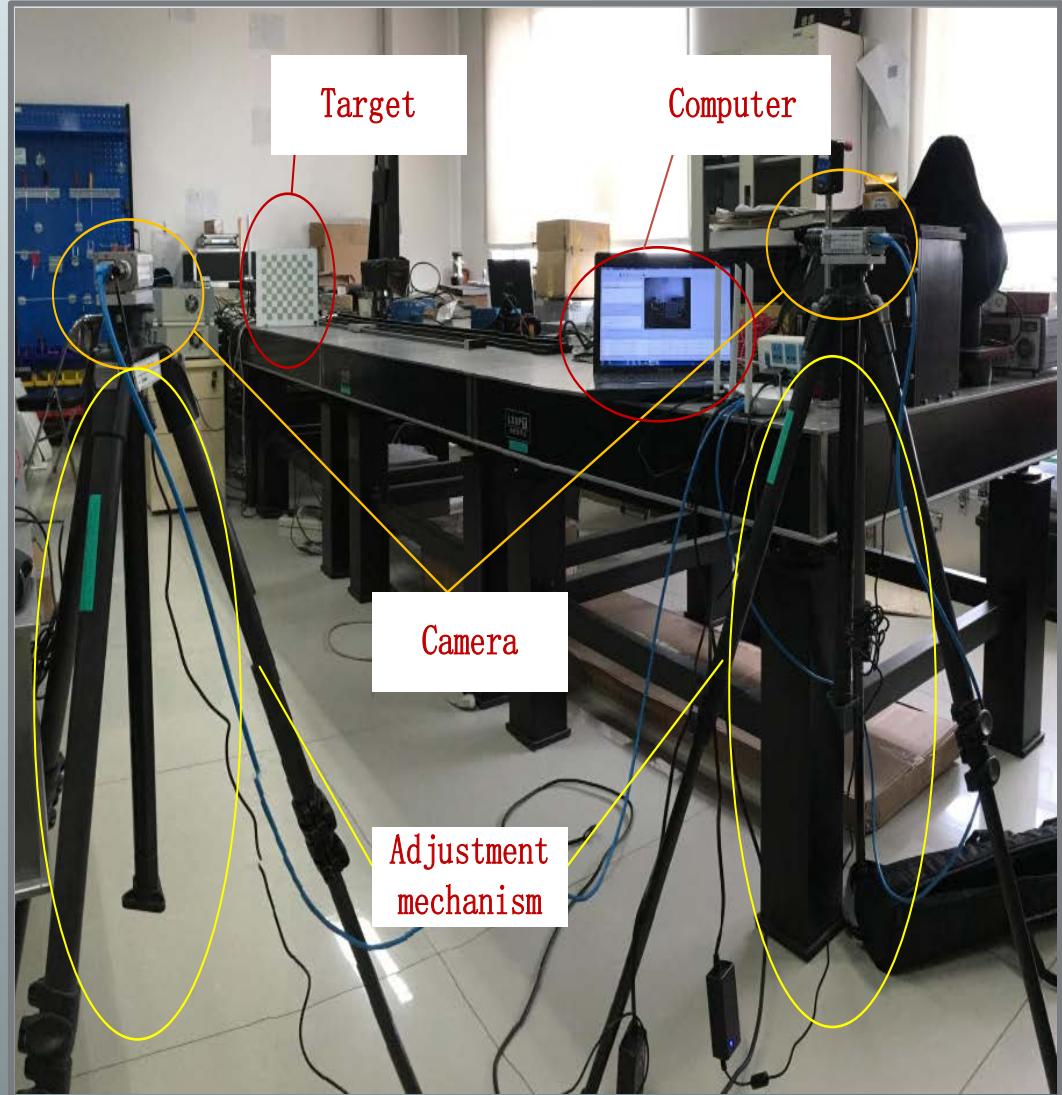
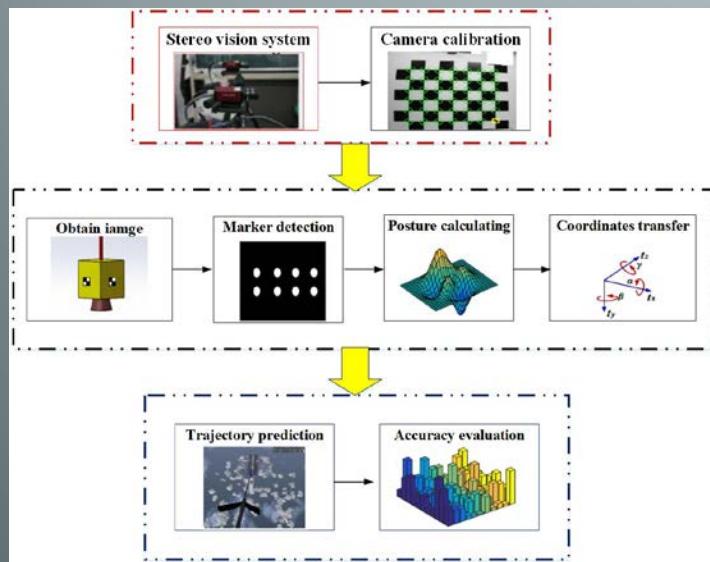
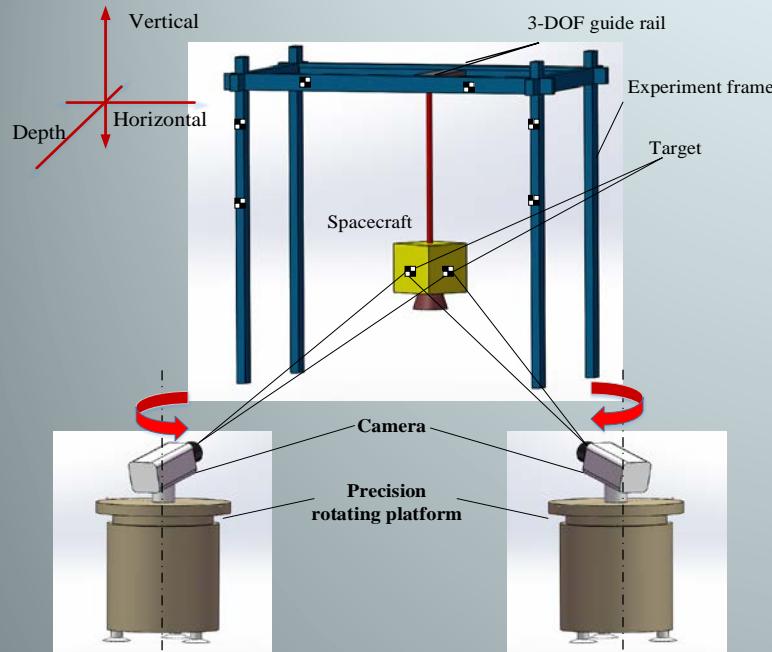
2016/10/4

# Vision guided total station



No.	X(mm)	Y(mm)	Z(mm)	Measured distance (mm)	Distance reference(mm)	Deviation (mm)
1	-58378.940	-13778.550	-327.386	\	\	\
2	-58387.970	-13742.860	-327.077	36.816	36.475	0.341
3	-58398.894	-13702.509	-326.446	41.808	41.627	0.181
4	-58405.762	-13675.406	-326.309	27.960	28.417	-0.457
5	-58413.977	-13644.681	-325.704	31.810	31.043	0.767
6	-58421.800	-13614.658	-326.434	31.034	31.053	-0.019
7	-58428.226	-13589.263	-326.330	26.195	26.546	-0.351
8	-58436.989	-13557.295	-325.914	33.150	33.184	-0.034
9	-58442.566	-13535.895	-325.710	22.116	22.671	-0.555
10	-58448.192	-13514.690	-325.620	21.939	20.986	0.953

# Photogrammetry



# Contact information

Name : Zili Zhang

Tel: 00-86-10-82178675, 82178679

mobile phone : 00-86-15101529774

Email: [zhangzili@aoe.ac.cn](mailto:zhangzili@aoe.ac.cn)

Add: No 9, Deng Zhuang South Road, HaiDian District,  
Beijing, 100094, China

**Thank you for your  
attention !**