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A rotary mount for submicrometric positioning of a stretched wire axis within a coordinate measuring machine

As part of its role as world-wide leader in high energy particle physics, CERN studies the feasibility of a Compact Linear Collider (CLIC). One of the biggest challenges of this electron-positron collider is the alignment required for all the components acting on the beam: thousands of components will have to be assembled and aligned at the micrometre level. PACMAN, a study on Particle Accelerator Components Metrology and Alignment to the Nanometre scale, is a Marie-Skłodowska Curie Program supported by the European Commission (FP7 Program) whose aim is to develop and build a pre-alignment bench on which components are assembled and aligned to the required accuracy using a stretched wire.

During the process of this measurement, the centre of a stretched wire is aligned with respect to the reference axis of the components. The Cu-Be wire with a diameter of 0.1 mm considered for this task has been evaluated and its quality led to the conclusion that a form measuring sensor should be used to increase the precision of the measurement. The Shape Evaluating Sensor: High Accuracy & Touchless SESHAT is being designed for this task: its challenge is to measure the form error of this stretched wire with $0.1~\mu m$ accuracy and its axis position with $0.5~\mu m$ precision on the coordinate measuring machine. The singularity of the SESHAT's design is an opening in the radial direction. Indeed, this paper introduces the requirements: no magnetic fields created, high accuracy on the positioning, low error motion, and open on the side; and it describes and discusses the technical solutions: from the material to use to the bearings, including the kind of sensor.

Summary

A rotatory mount is being designed in CERN to determine the position of the axis of a 0.1 mm in diameter stretched wire with a sub-micron repeatability.

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