SI Traceable Diffraction Measurements on the NIST Parallel Beam Diffractometer

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Making XRD Traceable



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Parallel Beam Diffractometer Overview

- Interchangeable optics and sample stages
- Vertical axes, concentrically mounted Huber 430 rotation stages
- Heidenhain RON 905 optical encoders on primary axes
- Short and long range encoder calibration
- SI-traceable reference crystals







PBD Schematic



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Angular Measurements

- Divide angular domain into two problems:
 - Short-range errors (coherent with encoder features at 100 deg⁻¹) caused by nonlinearities in the digitizing electronics
 - Long-range errors caused by scale errors in the encoder wheel, eccentricity, etc.
- Avoid use of undocumented internal angular corrections from manufacturer





Short-Period Compensation

- Scan a diffractometer axis at (roughly) uniform speed
- monitor encoder results as a function of time
- transform to deviations from linear as a function of angle
- these deviations include screw errors, motor speed variations, all kinds of noise







Deviations have Periodic Structure









Example Fourier Spectrum

- Strong peaks at multiples of 100/deg
- Also at motor and gearing frequencies!
- Inset shows how a near collision of gearing and real peak is very well resolved









Extracted Short-period Correction

- Analyze as harmonic series of encoder
 feature period at 100
 features/deg
- Demodulated from 100/deg signal to show coefficients as a function of angle, not correction as a function of angle







Circle Closure Calibration

• Concept

- compare sums of angles, subject to constraints that full circle is 360°
- Two general methods
 - use polygonal mirror on single stage to provide set of very stable angle offsets
 - use 'virtual polygon' and stacked stages and solve for offsets







The Virtual Polygon









Details of Virtual Polygon

- For a given ring setting θ_{r,n} measure a set of angle errors {Δ2θ_{n,m} (2θ_m) + Δω_{n,m}(-2θ_m θ_{r,n})} for (typically) 36 approximately equally spaced 2θ values and corresponding ω values which null the autocollimator (n indexes ring, m indexes 2θ)
- repeat for at least 3 ring settings, to give enough degrees of freedom to solve for $\Delta 2\theta$, $\Delta \omega$, and the θ r associated with each group.
- Do least squares fit for parameters





Circle Closure Results



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Visualization of Error Sum



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Spectrum Measurement (the future...)

- Next Step: measure spectrum through our optics, with fully traceable steps
- use 'beam walking' technique in combination with Dectris detector array to map out properties
- requires traceable lattice constants on diffractive optics. These optics are already fabricated.







Beam Walking Experiment

- Measure angular geometry of beam in non-dispersive configuration (top)
- Measure spectrum of beam in dispersive configuration (bottom)
- Depends on fully qualified angle metrology from compensation and circle closure
- Fast, using Dectris Pilatus
 2-D detector array







