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# MAC 2015: Autocollimator Calibration

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# Overview

- Desired Project Outcomes
- Research and Development
- Conclusions and Future Improvements
- Work and Play

# What Happened?

Civil Engineering  
Structures/Steel Design  
Angles, Customary Units

Mechanical Engineering  
Metrology in Length, Mass, and Force Lab  
Radians, Nanometers



# Let's start from the Beginning...



- Arrived at Sandia National Labs on 1 June
- Worked with Hy Tran and Rick Mertes in the Primary Standards Lab
  - Length, Mass, Force Lab



OFFICE PICTURE



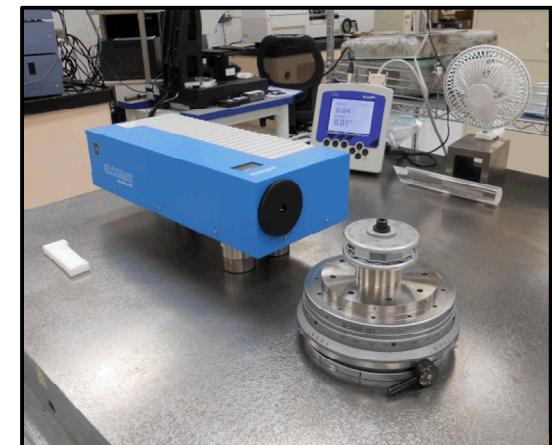
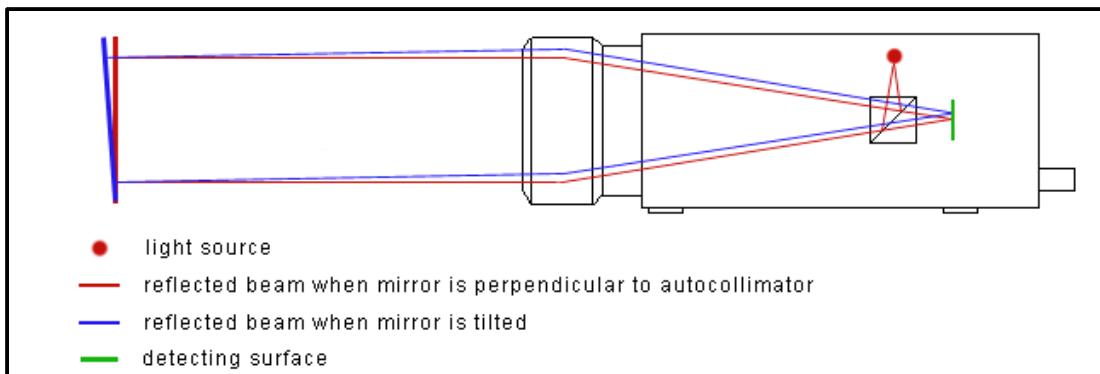
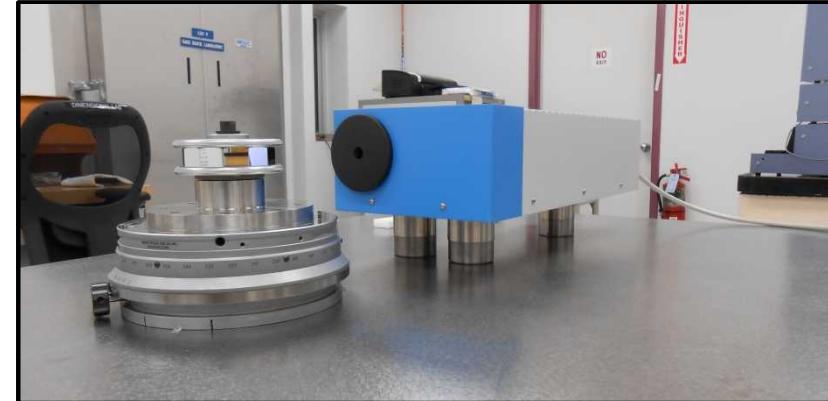
# Why is this important?

## Metrology: the science of measurements and weights

- In lab setting, sets measurement standards and ensure proper calibration of machines
- At the PSL
  - Set standards compatible with national standards
  - “Anticipates future measurement needs of the nuclear weapons complex”
  - Check abilities of new technology
- PSL has maintenance, calibration, and engineering, among others.

# Autocollimator 101

- Emits light, measures deviation of reflected angles
- Two types capable of measuring changes in X and Y direction
- Autocollimator at PSL capable of measuring deviations of 0.005 arc-sec (~25 nanoradians)

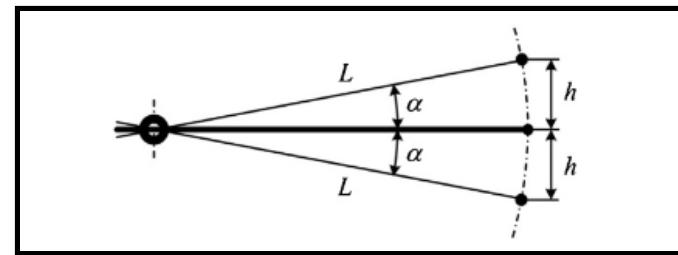


# The Project

*Designing a system capable of calibrating Sandia National Laboratories' Primary Physical Standards' autocollimator to 0.001 arc-second resolution*

- Relationship between length (L) and displacement (h)
- Putting it in perspective
  - 0.001 arc-second is about 5 nanoradians (angle made with 5 nanometers over a 1 m span)
  - Angle created by a hair at 20 km away

$$\alpha = \frac{h}{L}$$



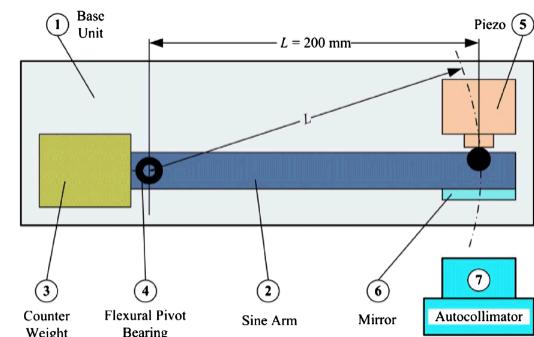
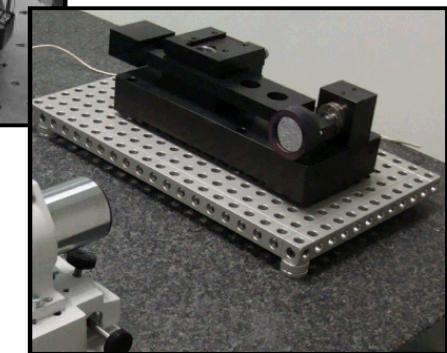
# Previous Developments and Ideas

- Sine Bar
  - High Precision Small Angle Generator (HPSAG) by Turkey's National Metrology Institute
- High-performance circle dividers
  - Computer controlled or manually adjusted
    - Advanced Automated Master Angle Calibration System at NIST
    - Moore 1400 Precision Index Tables

Circle Divider



Sine Bar

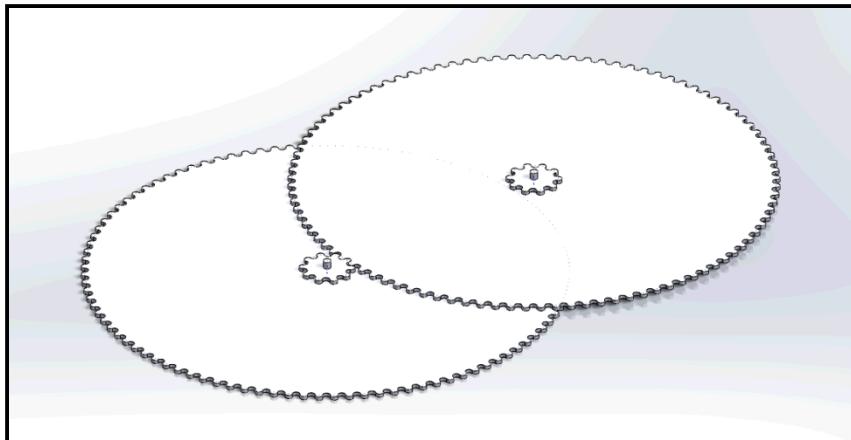


# Proposed Ideas

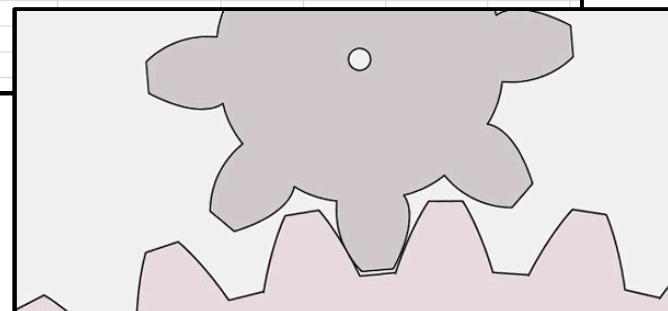
- Gear system
  - Gear reduction of 1:10
  - Space constraints huge flaw
- Lever system
  - Would need 5 arms to reduce angles to within 5 nanometer limits
  - Developed three ideas
    - Vertically Applied Weight system
    - Gauge Blocks
    - Actuators

# Gear System

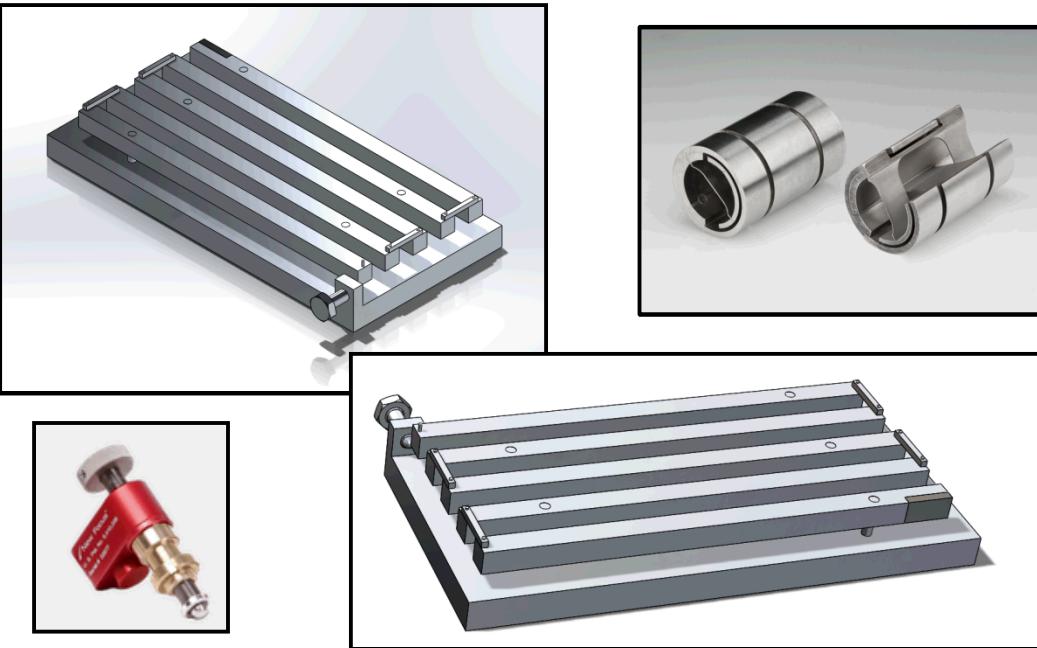
- Used gears with 6 teeth vs. 60 teeth
  - Reduction factor of 1:10
- Problem: too much variability in angle measurement due to the spacing between the gears.



10 Teeth: 20 Teeth		10 Teeth: 100 Teeth		1 Tooth: 100 Teeth	
Ratio: 1/2		Ratio: 1/10		Ratio: 1/100	
Gear Set	Reduction	Gear Set	Reduction	Gear Set	Reduction
1	0.5			1	0.10
2	0.25			2	0.01
3	0.125			3	0.001
4	0.0625			4	0.0001
5	0.03125			5	0.00001
6	0.015625			6	0.000001
7	0.0078125			7	1E-07
8	0.0039063			8	1E-08
9	0.0019531			9	1E-09
10	0.0009766			10	1E-10
11	0.0004883				
12	0.0002441				
13	0.0001221				
14	6.104E-05				
15	3.052E-05				
16	1.526E-05				
17	7.629E-06				
18	3.815E-06				
19	1.907E-06				
20	9.537E-07				
21	4.768E-07				
22	2.384E-07				
23	1.192E-07				
24	5.96E-08				
25	2.98E-08				
26	1.49E-08				
27	7.451E-09				
28	3.725E-09				
29	1.863E-09				
30	9.313E-10				



# Developed Concept



A	B	C	D
1 Lever Arm:	250 mm		
2 Initial Deflection from Gage Block	5 mm		
3 Beyond Flexure:	50 mm		
4	Beyond Flexure Displacement	Angle (rad)	Nanoradians
5 Arm 1	1	0.02	2000000
6 Arm 2	0.02	0.0004	400000
7 Arm 3	0.0004	0.000008	8000
8 Arm 4	0.000008	0.00000016	160
9 Arm 5	0.00000016	3.2E-09	3.2
10 Arm 6	3.2E-09	6.4E-11	0.064
15			
16	Calculation of displacement on the opposite side of the flexure (solve)		
17			
18			
19			
20	$\frac{5 \text{ mm}}{250 \text{ mm}} = \frac{x \text{ mm}}{50 \text{ mm}}$		
21			
22	$\alpha = \frac{h}{L}$ $\text{Displacement}$ $\text{Angle} = \frac{\text{Displacement}}{\text{Lever Length}}$		
23			
24			

## Final Design Specifications

### 5 Lever Arm Design

**Base:** 330 mm x 150 mm

**Lever Length:** 300 mm  
250 mm, 50 mm ratio

**Angle Accuracy:** 3.2 nanoradians

**Flexure:** 0.25 in outside diameter  
with 0.0143  $\frac{\text{in-lb}}{\text{Degree}}$

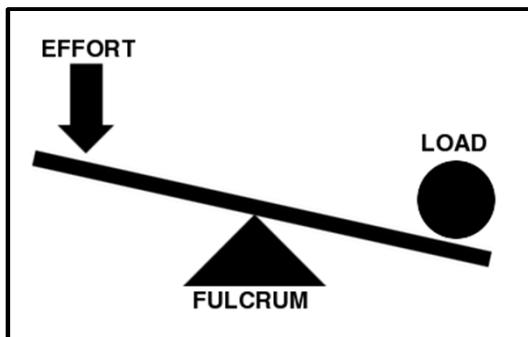
**Material:** 1060 Aluminum Alloy

**Actuator:** rounded top, similar to  
New Focus picomotor from  
Motus Mechanical

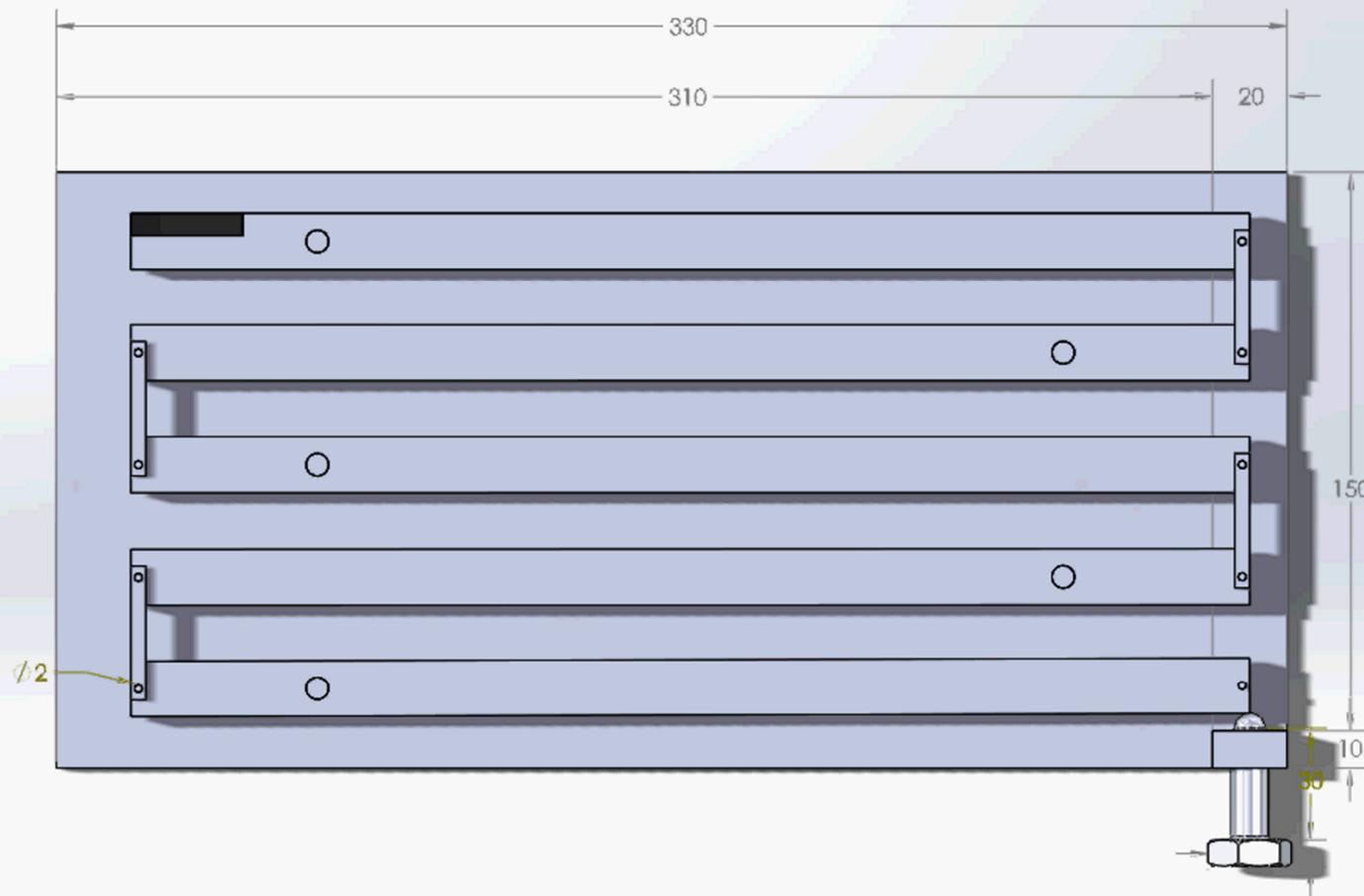
# Lever System

- Would have a “teeter totter” system, displacement reduction through 5 different lever arms
- Use flexure system at fulcrum, cross flex hinge

300 mm system with  
250 mm lever arm



	A	B	C	D
1	Lever Arm:	250 mm		
2	Initial Deflection from Gage Block	5 mm		
3	Beyond Flexure:	50 mm		
4		Beyond Flexure Displacement	Angle (rad)	Nanoradians
5	Arm 1	1	0.02	20000000
6	Arm 2	0.02	0.0004	400000
7	Arm 3	0.0004	0.000008	8000
8	Arm 4	0.000008	0.00000016	160
9	Arm 5	0.00000016	3.2E-09	3.2
10	Arm 6	3.2E-09	6.4E-11	0.064
15				
16	<i>Calculation of displacement on the opposite side of the flexure (solve)</i>		<i>Calculate angle on side beyond flexure</i>	<i>Convert radian to nanoradians</i>
17				
18				
19				
20	$\frac{5 \text{ mm}}{250 \text{ mm}} = \frac{x \text{ mm}}{50 \text{ mm}}$	$\alpha = \frac{h}{L}$ <i>Angle = <math>\frac{\text{Displacement}}{\text{Lever Length}}</math></i>	$\text{nano} = \text{rad} * 10^9$	
21				
22				
23				
24				



# Other Considerations

- Angle calculations assumed no deflection in arms
- Calculated deflections in each lever arm
  - Max deflection was 0.0187 mm in long arm of first lever
  - Deflections did not have major effect on angle output

Torsional Spring Rate	Calculation: $\frac{0.0145 \text{ lb-in}}{1 \text{ degree}} \times \frac{1 \text{ degree}}{0.0174 \text{ radians}} \times \frac{1 \text{ N-m}}{8.85076 \text{ lb-in}} = \frac{\text{N-m}}{\text{radians}}$ 0.0145 57.47126437 0.112984648 <b>0.094153873</b>		
Calculation of Torque Applied by Screw	Ratio, angles from APPDX B: $\frac{X \text{ N-m}}{\text{radians}} = \frac{0.094154 \text{ N-m}}{\text{radian}}$ <b>X= 0.0018831</b>		
Conversion to N-mm	Ratio: $\frac{N\text{-m}}{\text{radian}} * \frac{1000 \text{ N-mm}}{N\text{-m}}$ <b>τ (N-mm): 1.8830775</b>		
Calculation of Force Applied by Displacement	Equation: $\tau = F * r * \sin\theta$ $r = 250 \text{ mm}, \theta=90^\circ$ <b>F (N)= 0.0084254</b>		
Assuming that the lever arm works like a cantilever with point load applied at end			
Deflection of Long Portion of Lever	Moment of Intertia		**Assuming rotation around x axis, rectangular shape
	Mass of Entire Lever	Mass = Density * Volume	
	Density (d) (g/mm <sup>3</sup> )	0.0027	Mass (g)= <b>182.25</b>
Deflection of Connection Piece, Axial Loading and in Tension	Volume (mm <sup>3</sup> )	67500	
	Moment of Inertia		$I_x = \frac{1}{12} * m * (h^2 + w^2)$
	Height (mm)	15	
Deflection of Short Portion of Lever	Width (mm)	15	Mol (g-mm <sup>2</sup> )= <b>3417.1875</b>
	Deflection of a Cantilever		$\Delta_{max} = \frac{PL^3}{3EI}$ at the free end
	P (g)	0.8593943	Deflection (mm)= <b>0.018712179</b>
Assuming that the point load applied by the actuator is the same felt by the connection piece, causing axial loading and deflection			
Deflection of an Axial Member	Deflection of an Axial Member		$\delta = \frac{PL}{AE}$
	P (g)	0.8593943	
	L (mm)	36	Deflection (mm)= <b>2.76234E-05</b>
Assuming that the load applied by the connection piece is the same as applied by the actuator	E (N/mm <sup>2</sup> )	70000	
	A (mm <sup>2</sup> )	16	
	Deflection of a Cantilever		$\Delta_{max} = \frac{PL^3}{3EI}$ at the free end
Deflection (mm)= <b>0.000149697</b>	P (g)	0.8593943	
	L (mm)	50	
	E (N/mm <sup>2</sup> )	70000	

# Future Developments

- Calibrator will need a stand
  - Autocollimator laser is 3.5" above the table level, can use stands to raise calibrator
- Computer-driven belt attached to actuator
  - More accurate assessment of the output distance of the actuator
- Improved flexure design
  - Try different types rather than cross rotary

# Work and Play

- Grand Canyon
- Great Sand Dunes, CO
- Roswell, Carlsbad, White Sands NP
- Climbing La Luz, riding Sandia Tram
- Hot Air Ballooning
- Isotopes Baseball Game with MAC interns



# Lessons Learned And Take-Aways

## Academic

- Broadened my academic “lane” by adding mechanical engineering elements
  - Working with deflections and structural analysis, but had review of simple machines
- The Academy gives you a broad education, enables you to understand general ideas and not worry about technical details
  - Explosives tour, touring PSL with Delta and Y connected power
- People with a variety of degrees but all passionate about their jobs
  - Degree matters, but your passion matters more

## “Real Life”

- Have greater appreciation for airmen who work at PMEL (Precision Measurement Equipment Laboratory)
  - Saw first-hand what they do daily
- Officer experience— I won’t know everything
  - My airmen are the technical experts
  - Trust that they know their jobs, I need general understanding
- Work isn’t just about work
  - Working with the people in my office, tours around Sandia, using free time to expand knowledge and gain experiences

# Sources and Further Information

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# QUESTIONS?