

Hexapod Control Upgrade at Synchrotron Soleil

Method and Results



Presentation

Christer Engblom, on behalf of:

Louis Amelineau (worked at SOLEIL: 2017-2021)
ECA (Electronique de Contrôle et Acquisition) Group in
Synchrotron SOLEIL

– Electronics & Motion Control

- Introduction
 - What is a Stewart Platform?
 - Objective
- Hexapod Project
 - Context
 - Kinematics & Control
 - Test-Bench
 - Beamline Application
- Results & Conclusion

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What is a Stewart Platform?



What is a Stewart Platform?

Mechanical Configuration:

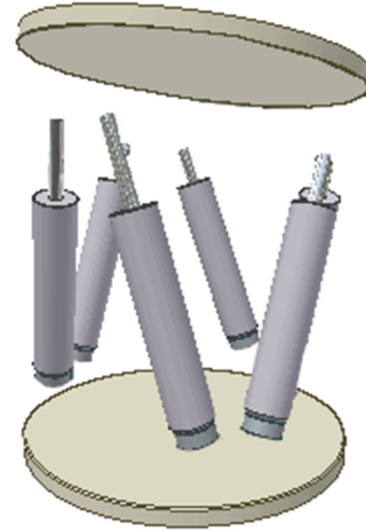
What is a Stewart Platform?

Mechanical Configuration:
Positional Plate + Base Plate



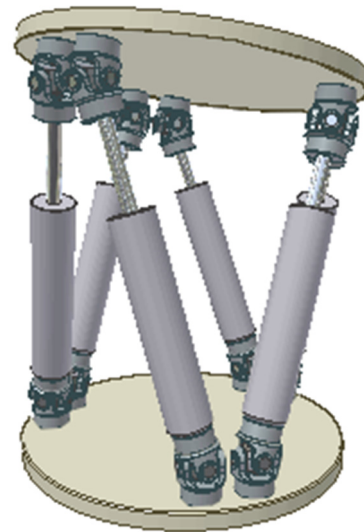
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6 x Linear Actuators



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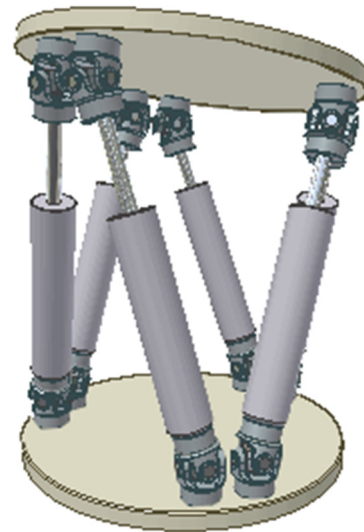
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Positional Plate + Base Plate
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12 x Universal Joints



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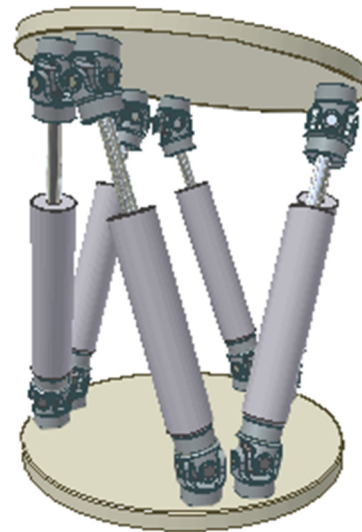
Controller Configuration:



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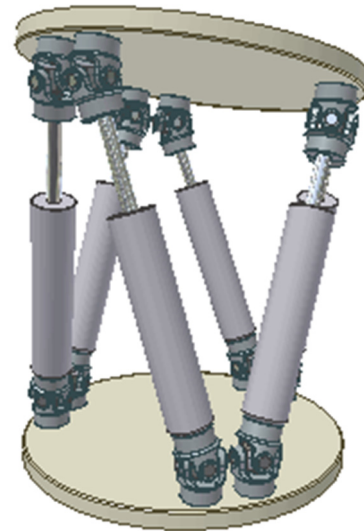
Controller Configuration:
Multi-axial control using
a kinematic model



What is a Stewart Platform?

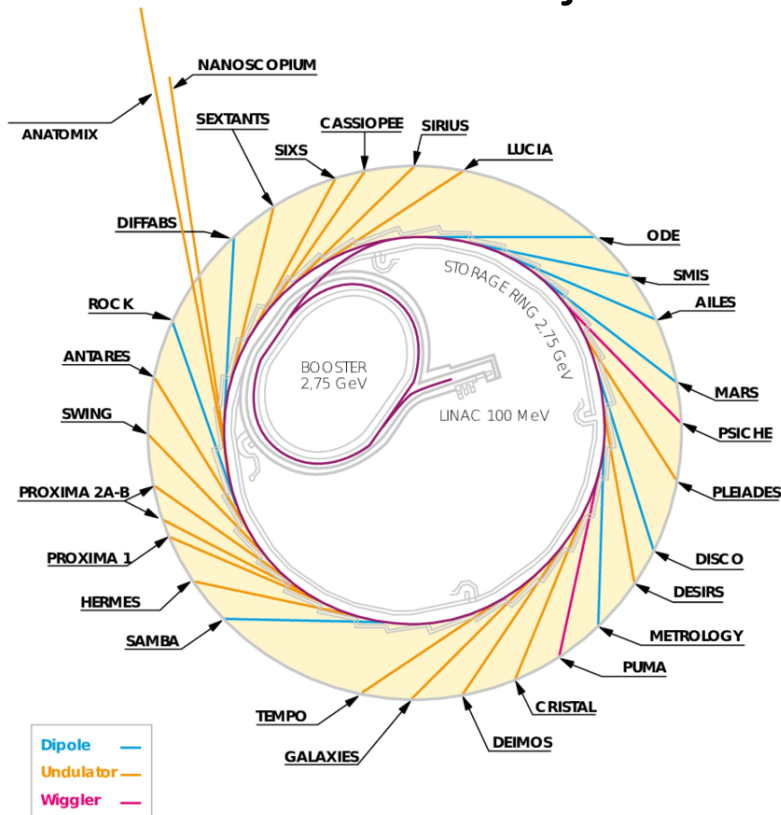
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Positional Plate in 6 DOF
(X, Y, Z, R_x , R_y , R_z)



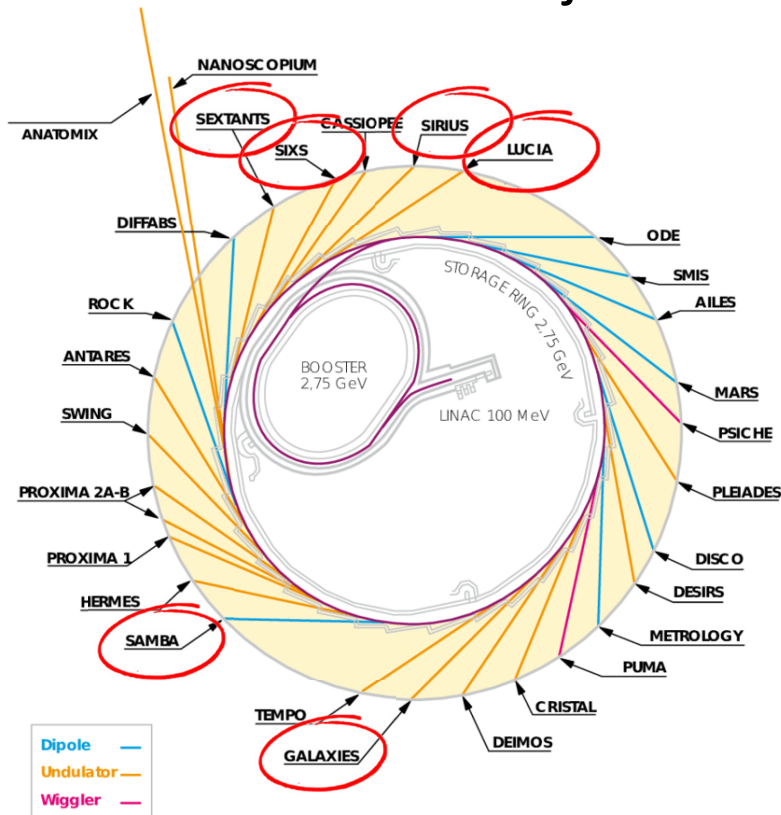
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Stewart Platform Systems at SOLEIL



Stewart Platform Systems at SOLEIL

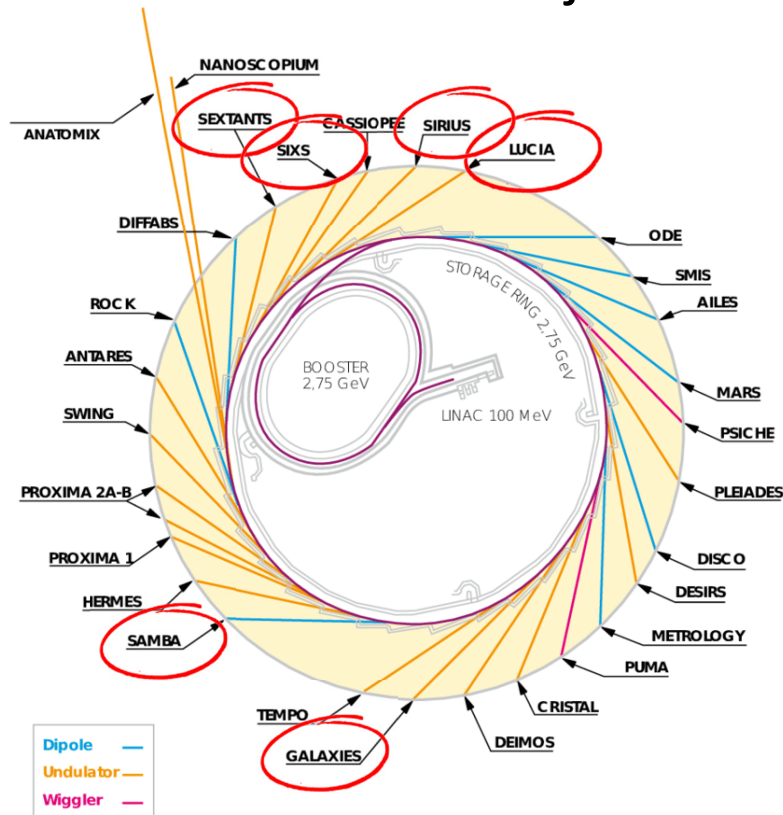
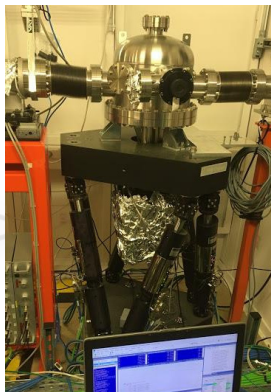
At least 12 systems covering
6 different beamlines



Stewart Platform Systems at SOLEIL
At least 12 systems covering
6 different beamlines

Most common use-case

Displace mirror systems
(often with micron-precision
& repeatability)

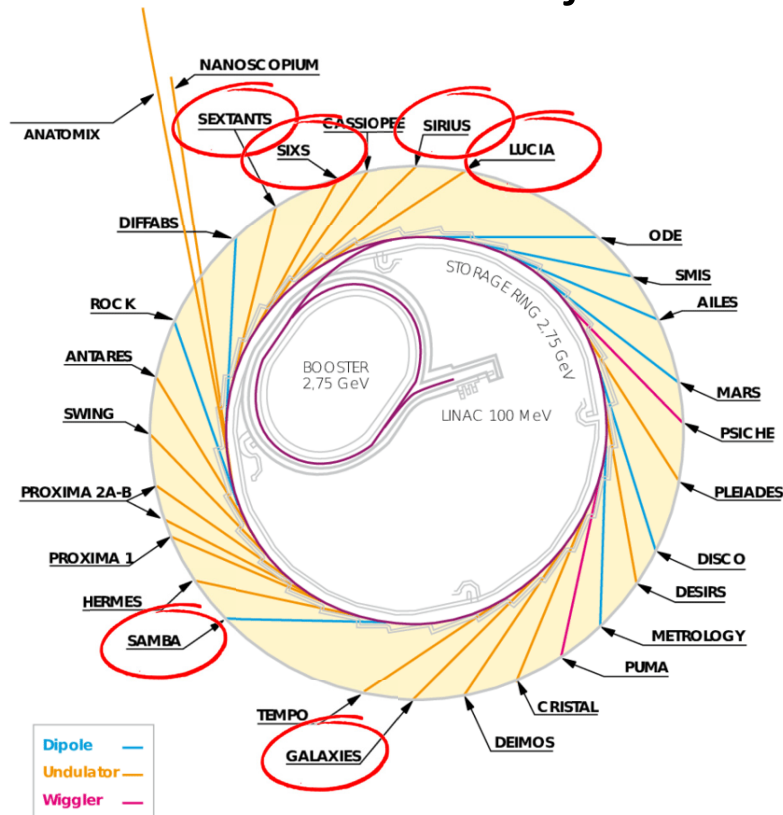


Stewart Platform Systems at SOLEIL

At least 12 systems covering
6 different beamlines

Most Control Systems:
Proprietary & Black-Box

Kinematic Models:
Proprietary & Black-Box



Stewart Platform Systems at SOLEIL

Most Control Systems:
Proprietary & Black-Box

Kinematic Models:
Proprietary & Black-Box

Key drawbacks:

- Risk of product discontinuity
- Limited maintenance & support
- Limited System evolution

Stewart Platform Systems at SOLEIL

Control Systems:
SOLEIL Standard (Delta Tau Powerbrick)

Kinematic Models:
In-house



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Stewart Platform Systems at SOLEIL

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Hexapod Project

Main Objective:

Apply SOLEIL-standard controller (Delta Tau Powerbrick LV*) solution to generic Stewart Platform beamline applications using in-house kinematic models



*Revolution Project (<https://accelconf.web.cern.ch/ICALEPCS2015/papers/mopgf047.pdf>)

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Hexapod Project

Context



**2017 – 2021: Louis Amelineau
(Apprenticeship, 1-year contract)**

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Hexapod Project:

Apply SOLEIL-standard controller solution to a Stewart Platform application in beamline

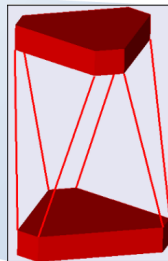
**2017 – 2021: Louis Amelineau
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$$L = L(x, y, z, \theta, \phi, \psi) = (l_1 \ l_2 \ l_3 \ l_4 \ l_5 \ l_6)^T =$$

$$= ([P_1] \ [P_2] \ [P_3] \ [P_4] \ [P_5] \ [P_6])^T$$

where: $P_i = T + R \cdot p_i - b_i = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z + h \end{pmatrix} + R \cdot \begin{pmatrix} x_{pi} \\ y_{pi} \\ z_{pi} \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} b_{xi} \\ b_{yi} \\ b_{zi} \end{pmatrix}$

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \psi \sin \theta & \cos \psi \sin \theta \sin \phi - \sin \psi \cos \phi & \cos \psi \sin \theta \cos \phi + \sin \psi \sin \phi \\ \sin \psi \sin \theta & \sin \psi \sin \theta \sin \phi + \cos \psi \cos \phi & \sin \psi \sin \theta \cos \phi - \cos \psi \sin \phi \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \sin \phi & \cos \theta \cos \phi \end{pmatrix}$$



Hexapod Project:

Stewart Platform kinematics validation (simulations)

Apply SOLEIL-standard controller solution to a
Stewart Platform application in beamline

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Stewart Platform kinematics implementation into
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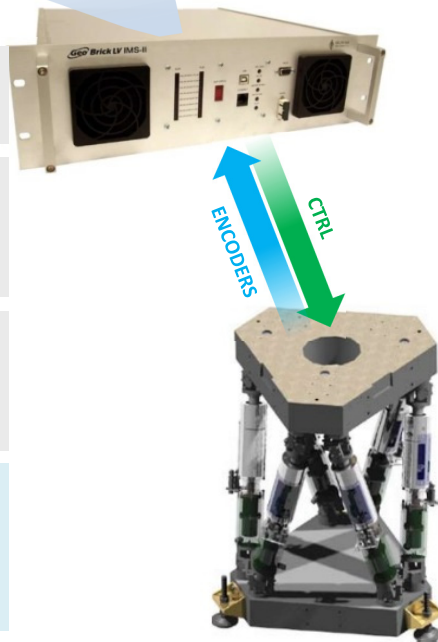
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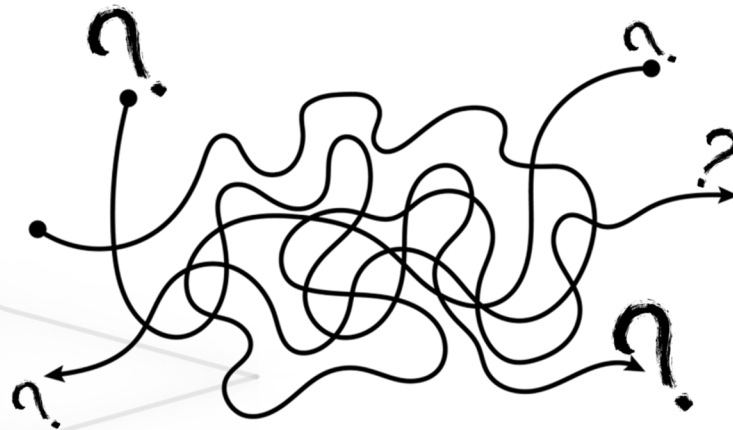
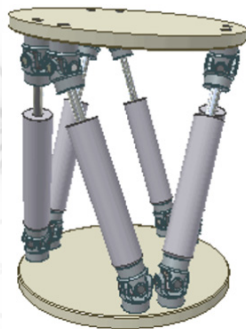
Stewart Platform kinematics implementation into
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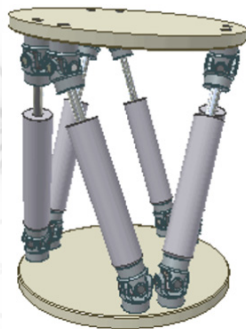
Virtual Axes:
(X, Y, Z, R_x, R_y, R_z)



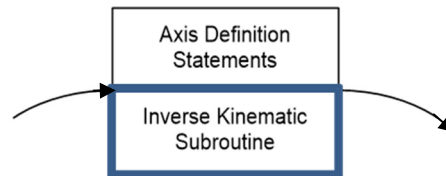
Leg Lengths:
($L_1, L_2, L_3, L_4, L_5, L_6$)



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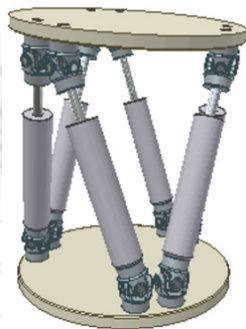
Calculate resulting motor positions
from each programmed move/segment



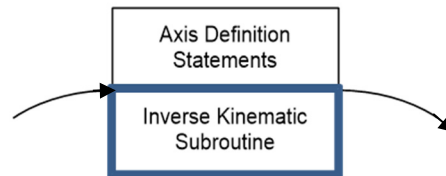
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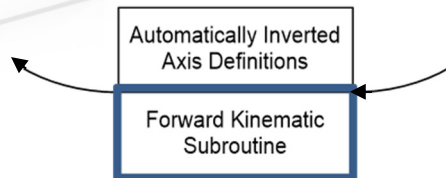
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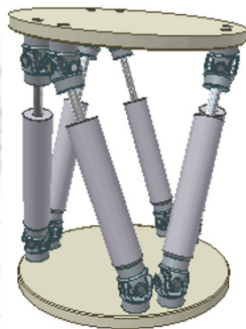


Leg Lengths:
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Calculate starting axis positions,
report axis position data

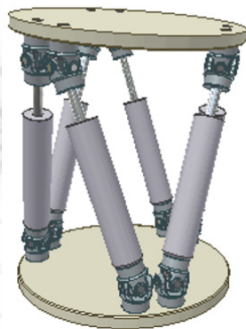
- Kinematics
 - Inverse
 - Forward



Hexapod Project

Kinematics & Control

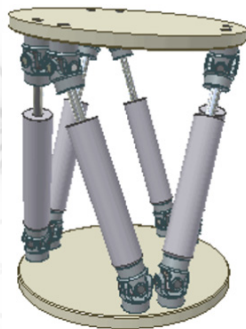
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- Workspace Definition



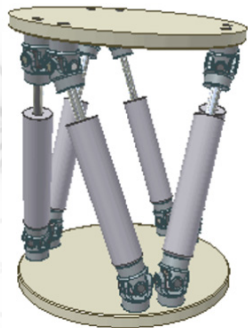
Hexapod Project

Kinematics & Control

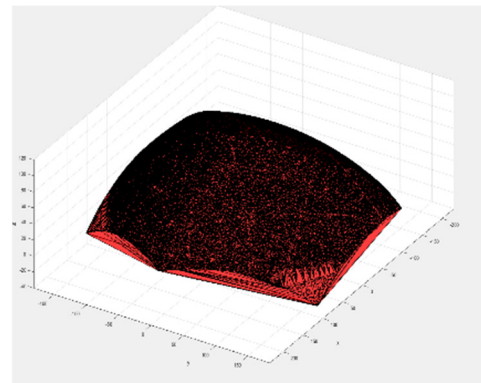
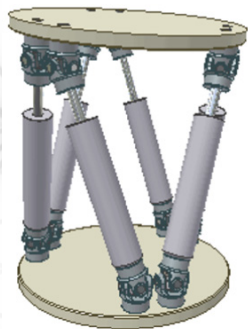
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 - Mechanical limits and security (in part limited by mechanical constraints, such as leg-lengths)



- Kinematics
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 - Mechanical limits and security (in part limited by mechanical constraints, such as leg-lengths)
 - Lack singularity points (kinematics)



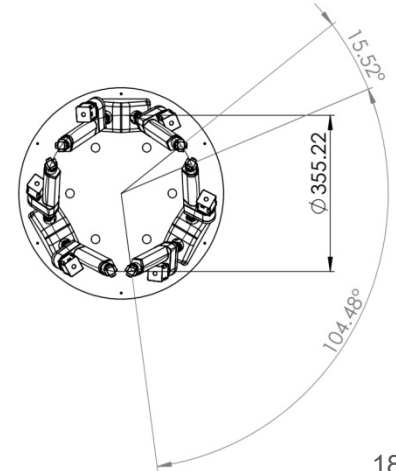
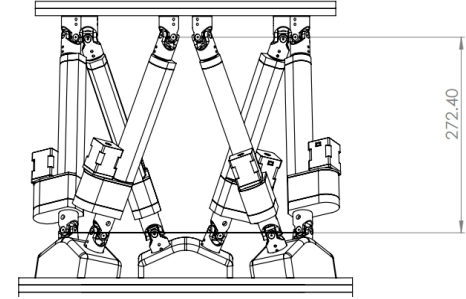
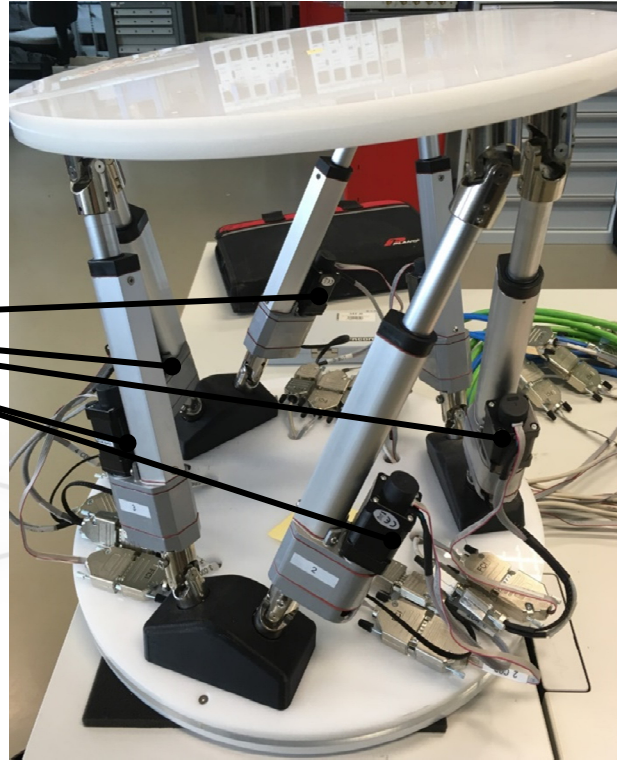
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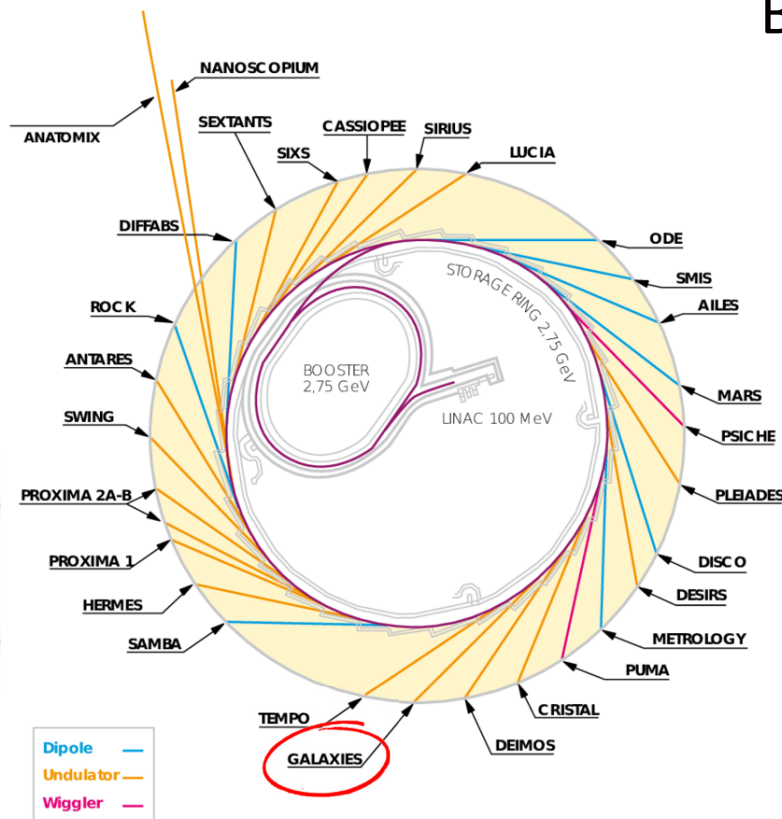
Test-Bench

Stepper Motors
(Low resolution encoders)

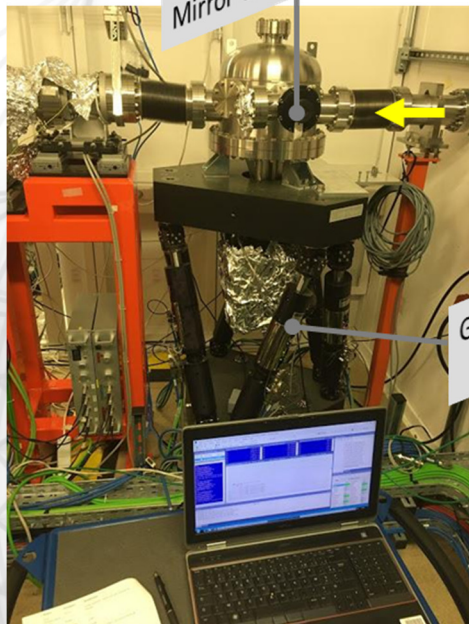


Hexapod Project

Beamline Application



GALAXIES Hexapod Mirror setup (M2B)



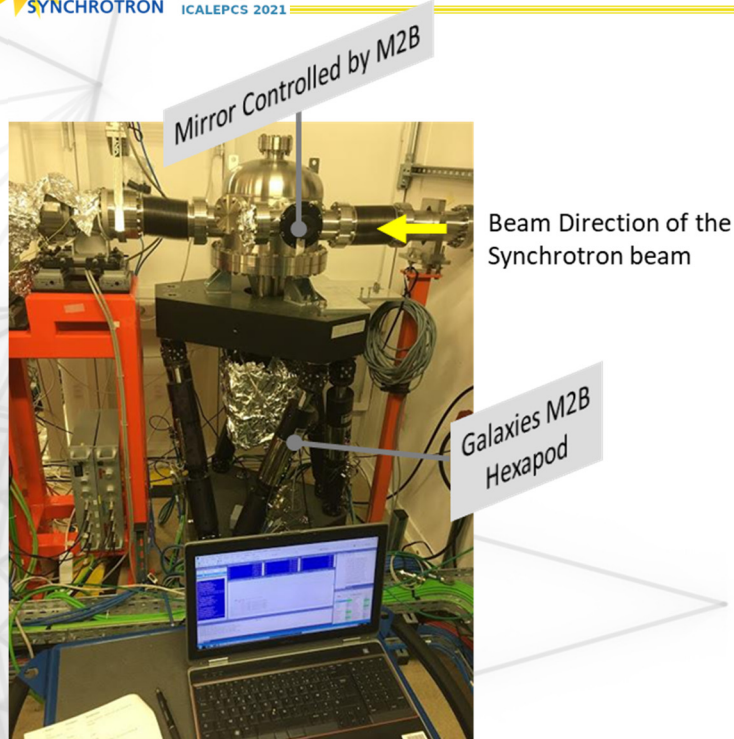
Mirror Controlled by M2B

Beam Direction of the
Synchrotron beam

Galaxies M2B
Hexapod

GALAXIES Hexapod Mirror setup (M2B)

- **Use:** Insertion/Extraction of mirrors to/from synchrotron beam



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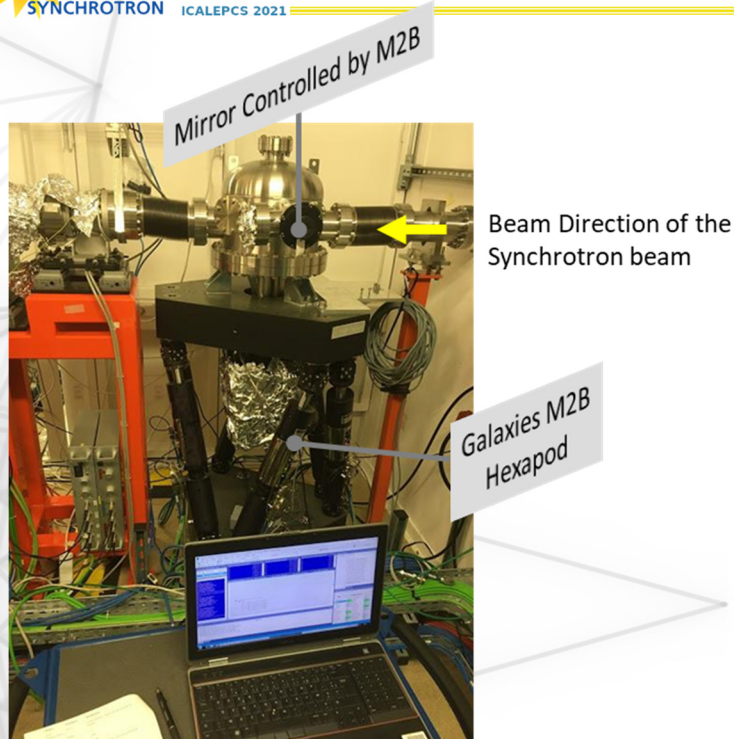
•**Use:** Insertion/Extraction of mirrors to/from synchrotron beam

- High precision (repeatability): a few μm

•Hexapod specifications

- Stepper motors
- Encoded (100nm resolution)

MOTION	RANGE SOFT LIMIT
PITCH	± 2.0 DEGREES
ROLL	± 2.0 DEGREES
YAW	± 2.0 DEGREES
VERTICAL	± 10.00 mm
LATERAL	± 30.00 mm
LONGITUDINAL	± 25.00 mm



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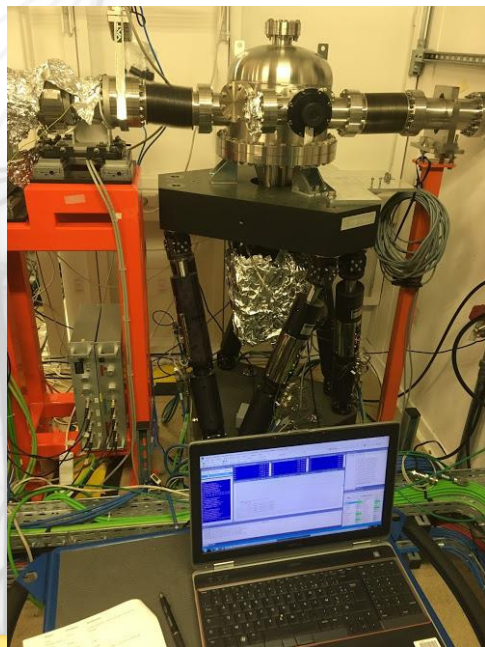
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Proof of Concept validated in 2019: Test-bench implementation successful



GALAXIES Hexapod Implementation

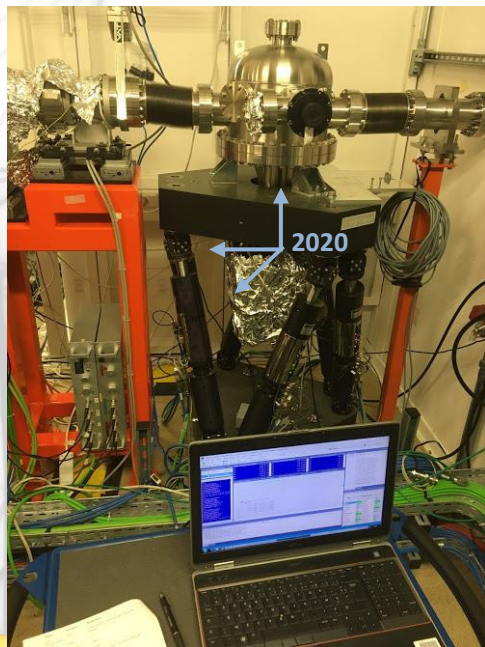
2020



GALAXIES Hexapod Implementation

2020

- New control solution successful & in production since 2020 (with coordinate system centered **below** mirror system).
- Controlled via SOLEIL standardised TANGO-devices



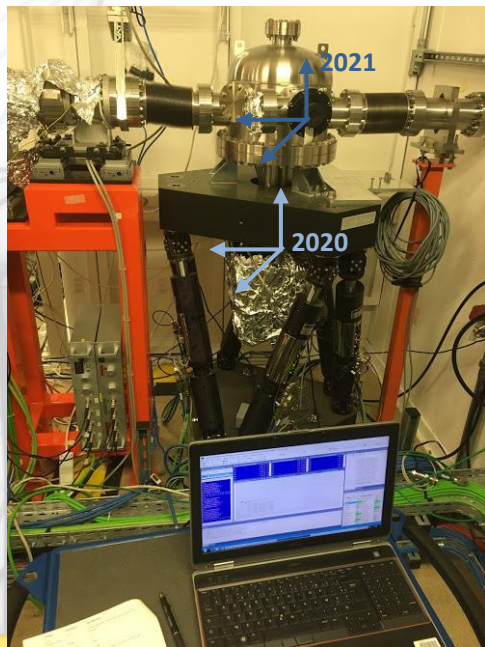
GALAXIES Hexapod Implementation

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2021

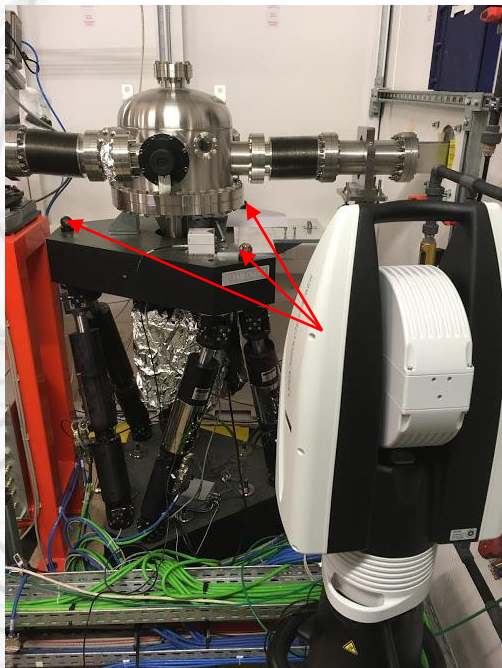
- Improved kinematics (with coordinate system centered **on** mirror system).
- Metrology measurements (old control system vs new)



GALAXIES Hexapod Implementation

Metrology measurements (using laser trackers + retroreflectors)

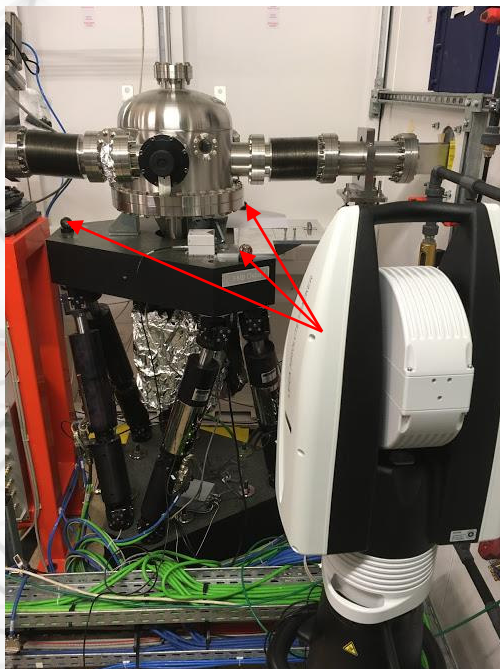
- Hexapod positioning precision performance:
original control-solution **vs** new control-solution



GALAXIES Hexapod Implementation

Metrology measurements (using laser trackers + retroreflectors)

- Hexapod positioning precision performance :
original control-solution **vs** new control-solution



	Old CTRL System	New CTRL system
Lateral errors during linear moves	< 10 μm (peak-to-peak)	< 10 μm (peak-to-peak)
Rotational errors during linear moves	< 20 μrad (peak-to-peak)	< 20 μrad (peak-to-peak)

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Stewart Platform kinematics validation (simulations)

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Hexapod Project:

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- Proven in-house solution (using SOLEIL standardised controller + kinematics)
- Solution is shown to be generic to Stewart Platform builds, and would therefore be applicable to other SOLEIL applications
- New open-controller access is already proving useful → system developments already done and new ones underway

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Future Outlook

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Future Outlook

- Kinematic improvements (using metrology data) already underway to improve system models
- Stewart Platform kinematics ready for additional system implementations in SOLEIL



We would also like to thank the GALAXIES beamline and the SOLEIL Metrology group.

