Characterization and Calibration of Slope Measuring Instruments

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Transferring and manipulating Synchrotron light from the highly brilliant source to the experimental station without significantly loss of brilliance and coherence is a challenging task in X-ray optics and needs optical elements of utmost accuracy. Thus optical elements, either fix focus or adaptive, require the characterization and optimization of shape by use of ultra-precise metrology instruments. Without accurate calibration an absolute exactness allowing for the determination of slope deviations of significantly curved surfaces smaller than 0.25 µrad rms will be doomed. Results obtained with a suitable calibration tool for slope measuring profilers, the Vertical Angle Comparator (VAC) developed at the BESSY optical metrology laboratory will be presented.

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