COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE RESULTS OF MEASURING ROUNDNESS

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Abstract

Coordinate measuring machines are devised for most complex measurements. Besides their dimension measuring abilities, the CNC operated machines can measure geometrical characteristics of form, such as straightness, roundness, cylindricity, etc. These are vital features currently, when inspection needs to submit very thorough reports not only on the form, but also on the geometrical features of the given workpiece. Yet the question arises: are these measuring data regarding roundness received from the CMM accurate and reliable enough to be exploited? In order to confirm this statement, the geometrical roundness characteristics were measured on three types of coordinate measuring machines, the results of which were analyzed from several aspects. The results showed a special importance of specific measuring parameters and proved to be independent of the type of measuring machines.

Key words

Coordinate measuring machines, measuring roundness, circularity

INTRODUCTION

All workpieces have certain micro and macro geometrical surface characteristics as for deviation from dimension and macro geometrical characteristics regarding form, location, and direction (1,2,3,4) that pose functional limitations which, if overstepped, this may endanger the functionality of the workpiece. The tolerances on the drawings (PLANS, DESIGNS) have to completely ensure the dimensions and geometrical form, so that nothing is left to subjective evaluation of the factory staff or the inspection service (3).

The forms of the real surfaces regularly have a certain degree of deviation in comparison to the geometrically ideal surfaces. The causes of deviation basically match with the causes of inaccuracy of measuring workpieces. Functional dimensions are always done with a certain degree of tolerance that simultaneously limits the form deviation of that workpiece.

If one needs a greater degree of precision than the one provided by the tolerance level formed by the tolerance of longitudinal dimensions, then the form must be separately tolerated. All this is true for location between two or more surfaces. The exceptions for this are: symmetry, coaxiality and precision of rotation, as they are independent of real dimensions, and they are determined in relation to the central plain and the axis (2, 5, 6 and 7).

Geometrical tolerances are determined only when necessary from the aspect of functional requirements, exchangeability or production. However, this does not mean automatically that a special way of manufacture, measuring or inspection has to be used. One specific version of form tolerance, namely **roundness**, is analysed in this paper (2, 5 and 8).

For the purposes of this analysis, the following measuring machines were used:

- PRISMO MPS CARL ZEISS Industrial Metrology, (9)
- ➢ DEA − Hexagon Metrology and
- ➢ Crysta − Apex C776 − Mitutoyo.

DEFINITION OF TOLERANCE OF ROUNDNESS

The field of roundness tolerance in the regarded plain is restricted by two concentric circles at the distance t. (Fig. 1)

If the section lines are tolerated, then all section points must lie between two concentric circles on the section plain, at a radial distance of t. This parameter t is the value of tolerance of roundness (2, 4).



Fig. 1 Definition of tolerance of roundness (2, 4)

METHODS OF ROUNDNESS MEASUREMENT

The above listed deviations from the ideal round forms are only of an orientational character. In reality, naturally, we will not receive finely defined forms, but the forms, where an entire procedure must be carried out in order to define which case this is. This is achieved by introducing various methods of filtration of the gained results. Based on the applied measuring instruments, the measurements and inspection can be grouped as follows:

- Inspection using single measuring instruments,
- Inspection using multiple measuring instruments (micrometers for external and internal measurements with measurements in two or three points),
- Inspection using special measuring instruments and fixtures, such as prisms for measurement and comparators; and
- Inspection using diagrams which were gained by measurement on measuring machines (2).

The last group includes the measurement using CMM and special measuring machines. CMM, such as flexible metrological systems have the ability to record all necessary information about the workpiece for further analysis, as well as to measure various sizes of the piece. Current measuring machines have the capabilities to process all recorded data owing to the sophisticated software solutions, and so they can provide the final image of the analysed section in the form of a measurement report, in which all relevant measurement data are portrayed, as well as a graphical display of the received form of the workpiece (2).

MEASUREMENTS

Measurements were carried out in five different locations on the table, with the aim to exclude eventual errors which may have occurred due to an inaccurate motion mechanism of the carrier construction of the measuring machine. The locations are presented in Fig. 2.



Fig. 2 Setup of the measurement locations on the machine table (2)

Measurement workpieces

Measurement workpieces used for the implementation of the experimental measurements are versatile from the aspect of dimensions and locations of measurement plains. We chose master rings (measurement of interior surfaces), a tolerance measurement for the master plug, and a pivot, produced by the ATB SEVER Company as part of the centrifugal pump construction – high quality accuracy considering dimensions, roundness, and cylindricity.

The tolerance master plug and pivot are representations for measurements of exterior surfaces. The dimensions chosen for measurement workpieces were as follows:

- Master rings of the diameter $D=\emptyset49.991$ mm and $D=\emptyset30$ mm,
- > Master plug of the diameter of $d = \emptyset 80$,
- > Finally, the pivot of the diameter Ø12 mm.

All measurement workpieces are made of high quality steel, thermally processed and ground.

Presentation of the used measurement machines

This section presents the used coordinate measuring machines and special measuring machines for measuring roundness.

- a) Coordinate measuring machine PRISMO MPS CARL ZEISS Industrial Metrology → Measuring uncertainty (MPE_E): (2.7 + L/300) µm, where L is the length in mm.
- b) Coordinate measuring machine DEA Hexagon Metrology
 ➤ Measuring uncertainty (MPE_E): (0.9 + L/350) µm, where L is the length in mm.
- c) Coordinate measuring machine Crysta Apex C776 Mitutoyo → Measuring uncertainty (MPE_E): (1.7 + 0.4 x L/350) µm, where L is the length in mm.
- d) Measuring roundness on the special machine for determining roundness Roundtest RA-2100 - Mitutoyo

The aim of this measurement was to gain accurate data regarding roundness, which will be used as reference in comparative analysis of measuring capabilities of the coordinate measuring machine.

The most important technical parameters of this measuring machine are:

- > rotational accuracy on radial direction: $(0.02 + 3.8 \text{ H}/10\ 000) \ \mu\text{m}$ (H the height of the workpiece given in mm),
- \blacktriangleright measuring force: 7 40 mN,

> stylus tip form: ϕ 1.6 mm.

GAINED RESULTS

Measurement of roundness was carried out on the three described types of CMM. When distributing the measurement workpieces to the various machines, it was vital that, on all machines, the interior and exterior surfaces were measured by the same measuring probes. The distribution of measurement workpieces on the measuring machines was as follows:

- 1) On the *DEA Hexagon Metrology* type machine we measured: pivot ϕ 12 mm and master ring ϕ 30 mm.
- 2) On the *PRISMO MPS CARL ZEISS Industrial Metrology* type machine we measured: master plug ϕ 80 mm and master ring ϕ 49.991 mm.
- 3) Finally, for comparative results to the coordinate measuring machines, all pieces were also pre-measured on the *Crysta Apex C776 Mitutoyo* type machine.

On the first two machines, the measurements were carried out in five measuring positions. The results will be displayed indexed by the numbers 1 - 5, depending on the measuring locations. Simultaneously, a comparison of those results was carried out depending on the measuring location. Finally, the comparison of the results from the first two machines and the third one – Mitutoyo, was carried out, comparing the results with the diagram from the *Roundtest RA-2100 – Mitutoyo* measuring machine. In all cases, a type B filter was used, according to the British standard *BS 3730 – 1964*.

Measuring the ϕ 30 mm master ring



Fig. 3 Results of measuring the ϕ 30 mm master ring

Measuring the ϕ 80 mm master plug



Fig. 4 Results of measuring the ϕ 80 mm master plug

Measuring the ϕ 12 mm pivot



Fig. 5 Comparison of results of measuring the ϕ 12 mm pivot

Measuring the ϕ 30 mm master ring



Fig. 6 Comparison of results of measuring the ϕ 30 mm master ring



Measuring the ϕ 80 mm master plug

Fig. 7 Comparison of results of measuring the ϕ 80 mm master plug



Fig. 8 Comparison of results of measuring the ϕ 49.991 mm master ring

Tabular presentation of results of the roundness measurements

Table 1: Results of the roundness measurements in μm				
Measurement of workpieces	DEA -	PRISMO	Crysta Apex	Roundtest
	Hexagon	MPS –	C776 –	RA-2100 –
	Metrology	CARL ZEISS	Mitutoyo	Mitutoyo
pivot ø 12 mm	3.,15	3.79	2.68	0.893
master ring \$ 30 mm	1.17	2.21	1.45	0.452
master plug ø 80 mm	2.82	3.26	2.25	0.759
master ring \$\$49.991 mm	2.43	3.04	2.17	0.654

The next table gives the results of the roundness measurements for each methods.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the described facts and comparisons of the measurement results, the following can be stated:

- The used machines for determining roundness globally give reliable results concerning the form of deviation of roundness.
- Recognizing the form of deviation depends to a great degree on the optimal magnification. This can be seen in the case of the CMM DEA Hexagon Metrology, where the magnification was about 4000 times, thus reading the deviation from the form of the diagram was more difficult. Magnification with the other two measuring machines was about 8000 times, thus the form was easily recognizable.
- In the cases where the extreme points are recognizable, all measuring machines ensure their location and calculate their location except with special machines for roundness, which is not meant for such tasks,
- It is important to note that all measured bandwidths of roundness with coordinate measuring machines for the same measurement workpieces were identical or extremely close. This means that the results of the measurement of roundness in these cases did not significantly depend on the size of the measuring uncertainty. Hence, this parameter moved in a rather wide range in the three coordinate measuring machines used. This aspect will need further research.
- ➤ As far as accuracy of determining bandwidth of roundness is concerned, the coordinate measuring machine which was not specifically aimed at this type of Inspection and measurement, providing about 3 5 time higher values than the results on the roundness machine. Taking into consideration that the sizes in question are only several micrometers, it can be stated that, in production where the tolerance level is usually about one hundredth of a millimeter, the coordinate measuring machines perfectly satisfy the present needs in determining the roundness of the workpieces.

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