



How Good is Laser Scanning?

Background

- California Licensed Land Surveyor since 2010 (PLS 8744)
- 19+ years of survey experience
- Expertise in construction Staking, laser scanning and all things 3D
- Laser scanning since 2010
- ACI 117 Tolerance Committee
- CLSA Central Valley President-Elect

BKF

- California engineering & surveying firm
- 14 offices, 500+ employees
- 101 years in business
- ENR California Design Firm of the Year



Topics we will cover:

- Is laser scanning accurate?
- What does accuracy actually mean?
- Results from 2018 ASCC laser scanning study
- The future of laser scanning and concrete tolerances
- Questions

ASCC 3-D Laser Scanning Study

Part 1: Eight participants used scanners to determine target coordinates

by William Paul, James Klinger, and Bruce A. Suprenant

Joint ACI-ASCC Committee 117, Tolerances, is preparing a new document, "Guide to the Use of 3-D Laser Scanning for Concrete Tolerances." In

Committee 117 guide, three main quantities were evaluated on a construction site:

- Accuracy of target coordinates:

Is Laser Scanning Accurate?

Where do we go for answers?

- Manufacturers?
- Industry Publications?
- Other Users?
- Testing?!?

The collage includes the following technical data:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Data acquisition rate | Max. 1,016 million p... |
| Linearity error ¹ | ≤ 1 mm |
| Range noise | black 14 % |
| Range noise, 10 m ^{1,2} | 0.4 mm |
| Range noise, 25 m ^{1,2} | |
| Range noise, 50 m ^{1,2} | |
| Range noise, 100 m ^{1,2,3} | 3.3 |

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|---------------|
| Range accuracy ⁴ | ±1mm | ±3mm |
| Angular accuracy ⁵ | 19 arcsec for vertical/horizontal angles | not specified |
| 3D position accuracy ⁶ | 10m: 2mm / 25m: 3.5mm | not specified |

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------|------|---------------------------------|------|---------------------------------|------|---------------------------------|
| Ranging noise ² | @10m | @10m noise reduced ² | @25m | @25m noise reduced ² | @10m | @10m noise reduced ² | @25m | @25m noise reduced ² |
| | in mm | | | | | | | |
| 90% reflectivity (white) | 0.30 | 0.15 | 0.30 | 0.15 | 0.70 | 0.40 | 0.70 | 0.40 |
| 10% reflectivity (dark-gray) | 0.40 | 0.20 | 0.50 | 0.25 | 0.80 | 0.40 | 0.80 | 0.40 |
| 2% reflectivity (black) | 1.30 | 0.65 | 2.00 | 1.00 | 1.50 | 0.80 | 2.10 | 1.10 |

System Features

- Distance 3.5mm (1-150m), 1sigma
- Angle 6"
- Resolution 1"
- Accuracy 4"
- Range +/- 6'
- Target Deflection Accuracy 3" at 50m

Range noise *

- 0.4 mm rms at 10m
- 0.5 mm rms at 50m

Field-of-View

- Beam divergence < 0.3 mrad
- Beam diameter approx. 3.5 mm @ 0,1 m
- Range 187.3 m (unambiguity interval)
- Minimum distance 0.3 m

Accuracy of site

- 1.2 mm + 10ppm over full range
- 8" horizontal; 8" vertical
- 3 mm at 50m; 6 mm at 100m
- 2 mm standard deviation at 50m

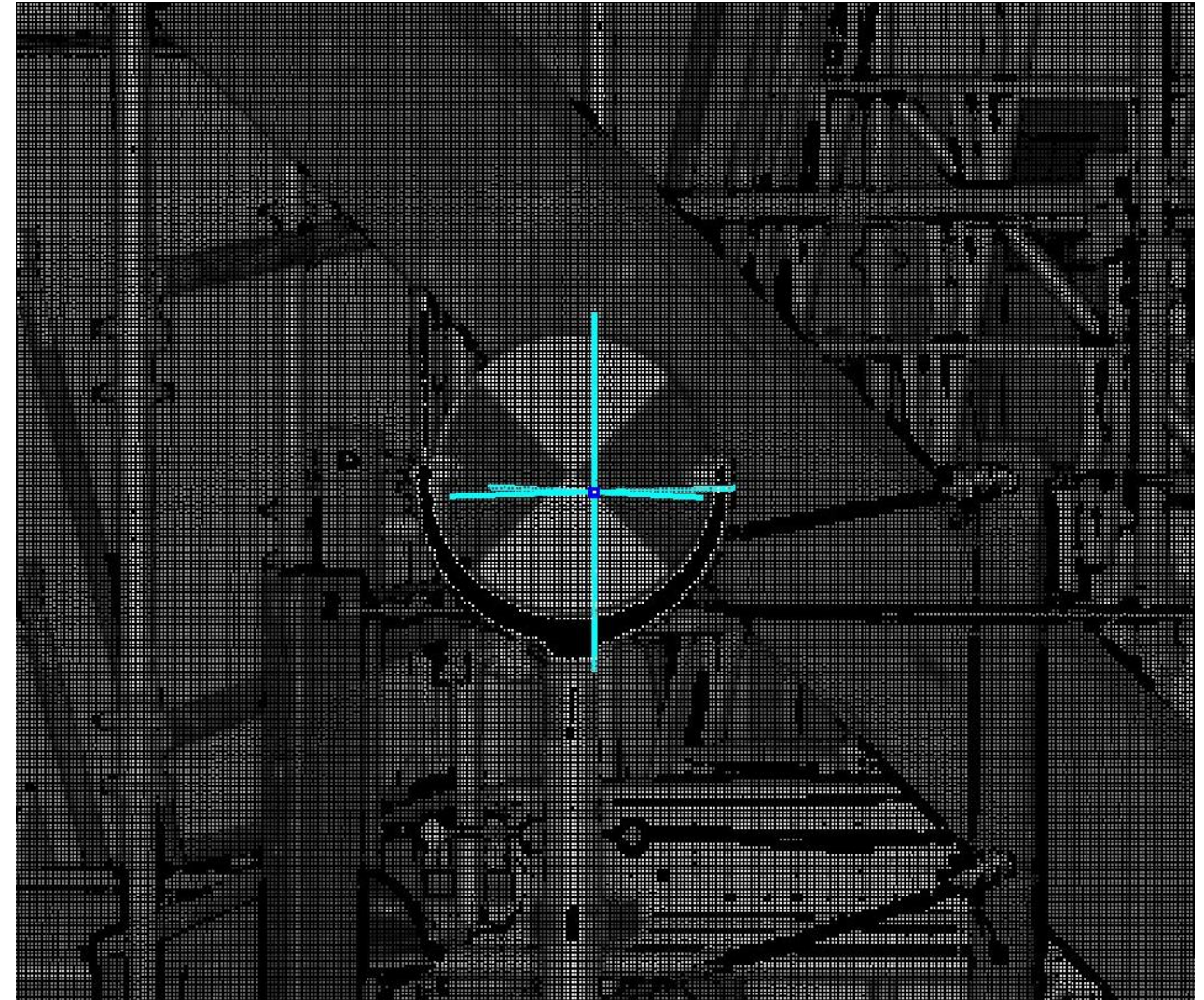
Dual-axis compensation

- liquid sensor with real-time onboard compensation,

What Does Accuracy Really Mean?

Definition

- Dictionary:
 - The degree to which the result of a measurement, calculation, or specification conforms to the correct value or a standard
- Real World:
 - Accurate means correct and reliable

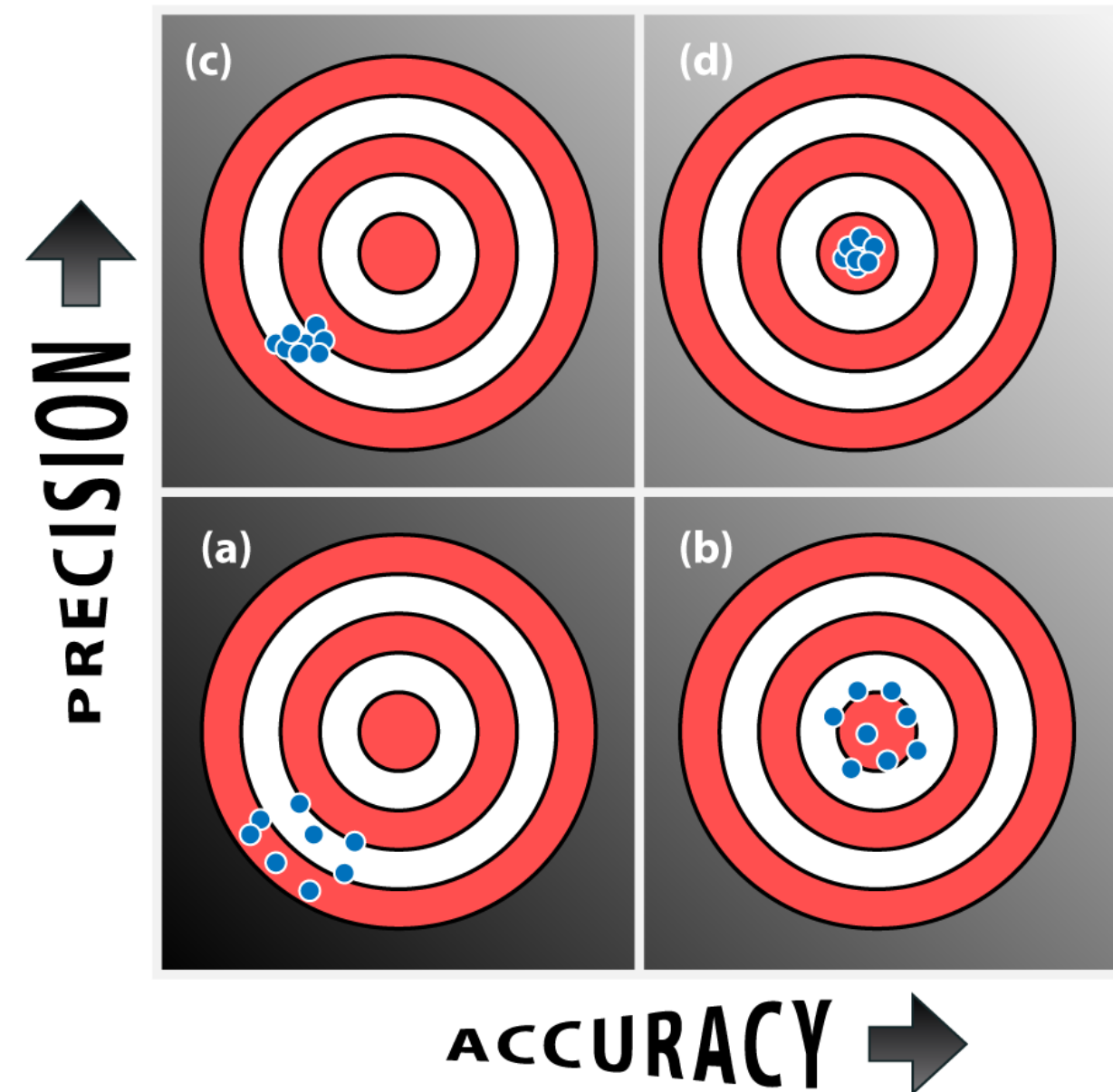


What Does Accuracy Really Mean?

Accuracy vs. Precision

- a) Neither precise nor accurate
- b) Accurate but not precise
- c) Precise but not accurate
- d) Precise and accurate!

- 95% Confidence Interval?



Repeatability vs. Reproducibility

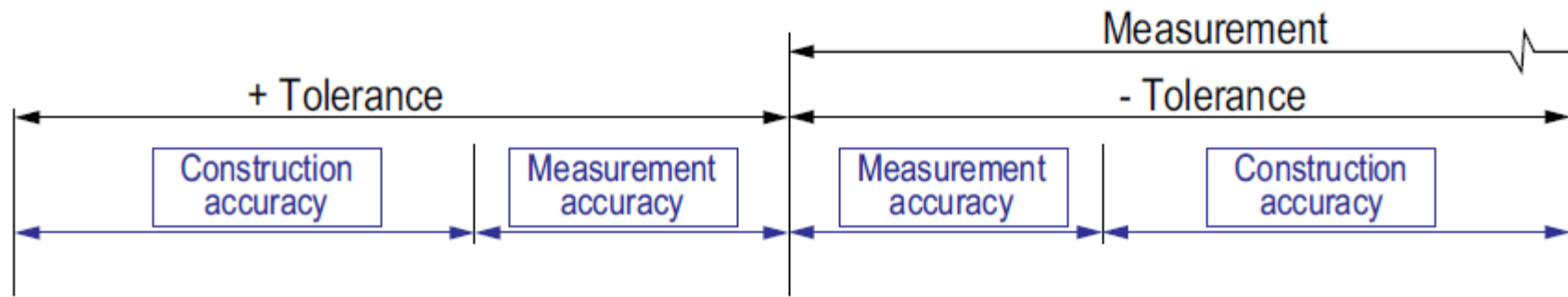
Are they the same thing?

- Repeatability:
 - Can the same operator use the same hardware and processing to re-create similar results.
- Reproducibility
 - Can a different operator using different hardware and processing recreate similar results?

How Accurate is Accurate Enough?

How much error is acceptable to measure for ACI 117 tolerance compliance?

- Test Uncertainty Ratio (TUR)?



A specified tolerance includes a measurement accuracy and a construction accuracy

- ANSI/NCSL Z540.3-2006 requires TUR to be 4:1, i.e. 1/8" accuracy is ok for 1/2" tolerance



What did we do?

- 2 Different Slabs
- 8 Participants
- Each participant scanned each slab twice
- Target coordinates were provided
- Participants reported measured coordinates on 10 targets and FF/FL numbers



ASCC Laser Scanning Study Results

Table 2:
Ground-level error analysis for target coordinates

| Participant | Day | Error in x and y (SRSS of [reference – measured] for x and y), in. | | | | Error in z (reference – measured), in. | | | |
|-------------|-----|---|---------|---------|--------------------|---|---------|---------|--------------------|
| | | Minimum | Average | Maximum | Standard deviation | Minimum | Average | Maximum | Standard deviation |
| A | 1 | 0.147 | 0.200 | 0.270 | 0.051 | -0.091 | 0.004 | 0.080 | 0.064 |
| | 2 | 0.147 | 0.194 | 0.270 | 0.045 | -0.091 | 0.004 | 0.080 | 0.064 |
| B | 1 | 0.020 | 0.056 | 0.137 | 0.037 | 0.020 | 0.056 | 0.137 | 0.037 |
| | 2 | 0.050 | 0.122 | 0.218 | 0.054 | -0.051 | 0.044 | 0.163 | 0.066 |
| C | 1 | 0.036 | 0.192 | 0.323 | 0.092 | -0.095 | -0.001 | 0.138 | 0.079 |
| | 2 | 0.028 | 0.163 | 0.242 | 0.069 | -0.094 | 0.002 | 0.126 | 0.069 |
| D | 1 | 0.010 | 0.231 | 1.097 | 0.348 | -0.084 | 0.063 | 0.340 | 0.112 |
| | 2 | 0.076 | 0.145 | 0.240 | 0.063 | -0.052 | 0.042 | 0.187 | 0.078 |
| E | 1 | 0.040 | 0.084 | 0.149 | 0.036 | -0.087 | 0.012 | 0.203 | 0.085 |
| | 2 | 0.037 | 0.083 | 0.168 | 0.042 | -0.097 | -0.010 | 0.131 | 0.077 |
| F | 1 | 0.020 | 0.052 | 0.078 | 0.020 | -0.097 | 0.021 | 0.164 | 0.087 |
| | 2 | 0.028 | 0.063 | 0.115 | 0.030 | -0.025 | 0.025 | 0.110 | 0.051 |
| G | 1 | 0.027 | 0.095 | 0.223 | 0.055 | -0.450 | -0.062 | 0.218 | 0.199 |
| | 2 | 0.035 | 0.111 | 0.172 | 0.043 | -0.330 | -0.062 | 0.278 | 0.180 |
| H | 1 | 0.007 | 0.084 | 0.233 | 0.069 | -0.090 | 0.010 | 0.107 | 0.067 |
| | 2 | 0.020 | 0.063 | 0.121 | 0.031 | -0.090 | -0.015 | 0.089 | 0.059 |

Note: All targets on vertical surfaces (concrete columns and walls); 1 in. = 25 mm

ASCC Laser Scanning Study Results

Table 7:

Comparison of errors for eight participants versus three participants with the lowest errors

| | Eight participants | | | Three participants with lowest errors | | |
|---------|--------------------|--------|--------|---------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| | X | Y | Z | X | Y | Z |
| Count | 310 | 310 | 310 | 114 | 114 | 114 |
| Minimum | -0.673 | -0.516 | -0.450 | -0.157 | -0.232 | -0.097 |
| Maximum | 1.083 | 0.360 | 0.340 | 0.121 | 0.212 | 0.164 |
| Average | 0.009 | -0.005 | 0.013 | -0.004 | -0.011 | 0.013 |
| SD | 0.125 | 0.106 | 0.082 | 0.056 | 0.074 | 0.057 |
| 8 × U | 1.002 | 0.852 | 0.653 | 0.445 | 0.590 | 0.456 |

Based on the data in this study, our analyses indicate that it would be appropriate to use a laser scanner for specification compliance when measuring a vertical tolerance of 5/8 in. (15.9 mm) or more and a horizontal tolerance of 1 in. or more.

Laser Scanners are NOT going away!

- ACI/ASCC Laser Scanning Best Practice Guide under development
- Specification compliance and quality control are not the same thing!
- How accurate is accurate enough?
- If they can't effectively be measured, are the tolerances to blame?
- Results of F number testing in follow-up article to be published soon

