

Ultra-Precise CNC Technologies for Superior Optics









Polaris CNC Library

Polaris CNC Library is a high performance CNC G-Code software library optimized for high precision machines, which has been developed over the last decade. By using Polaris CNC Library and our newly released Polaris motion control system, your machine will have the best form and finish on the market, at the fastest throughputs possible.



PRECITECH IS A LEADING MANUFACTURER OF NANOMETER PRECISION, SINGLE POINT, MULTI AXIS DIAMOND TURNING MACHINES FOR ROTATION-ALLY SYMMETRIC AND FREEFORM APPLICATIONS.

PHOTO – COURTESY PRECITECH

Polaris CNC Library provides a wealth of functions for parsing files, issuing immediate commands, merging short lines, path look ahead, cutter compensation, tool compensation, velocity override, pause and resume, line number retrieval, threading.

There are additional library functions for axes homing, setting PID filter gains, configuring sinusoidal commutation, detecting software and hardware limits, data acquisition, and more.

The high speed tasks such as sinusoidal commutation, PID, and fast tool servo run on PMDi's Polaris amplifiers at very high frequencies.

The G-code parser and path planner run on the Polaris controller. The path planner generates smooth limited jerk paths. Polaris controllers, amplifiers and auxiliary I/O modules provide real time data acquisition for systematic profiling.

CNC Features



MERGING SHORT LINES

Many CAD programs approximate curves with short line segments. PMDi's control process analyses these line segments and joins them with curves for smoother motion. If a series of short connected paths are issued at high speed, the velocity increases over as many segments as are necessary. The system looks ahead in the path segment buffer to stop the machine by the end of the path, maintaining a velocity that can be stopped in that distance. The search also detects lower velocity segments and decelerates to meet them.



CUTTING COMPENSATION

Cutter compensation adjusts the path described in the G-code file by the radius of the cutting tool. It is also used to make path adjustments due to tool change or tool wear. Both left and right cutter compensation is supported. Excellent performance is preserved over short lines and sharp corners.



POSITION VELOCITY TIME (PVT) SPLINES

For the smoothest lens finish possible, Polaris CNC Library provides functions for Position-Velocity-Time spline curve generation. All computations are performed using double precision math.



FILTERING DEGENERATE LINES

CAD programs may insert small degenerate lines in the output. PMDi's control process evaluates all line segments and eliminates unnecessary segments that may interfere with acceptable machine tool behavior.

PAUSE AND RESUME MOTION

Machine motion can be paused during a move. Motion stops as soon as possible at the commanded acceleration rate. If the acceleration is not sufficient to stop during the current path segment, the pause happens over the following segments, taking as many as required to stop. Then it is possible to resume the motion. If the machine is jogged away from the paused point, it will be moved back into place.

FAST TOOL SERVO

Fast tool servo functions that run as high as 100,000 set-points per second are tightly integrated both in software and hardware with the slow axes for total system integration.

PARAMACRO OPTICS SURFACE DESIGN

Operators are free to design any optics surface they can imagine using inline math paramacros. See the enclosed table for a list of all the math functions supported



G Code Function Calls

The following list of CNC functions are supported in the Polaris CNC Library.:

Initialize & Execute	Position Functions	Status	Tool Compensation	Offsets
Feed Rates	Feedrate Selection	Accelerations	Left Handed Coordinate	Callback
Unit Conversion	Parsing	Path Commands	Pause	Velocity Scaling: Ratiometric
Velocity Override: Absolute	Line Merging	Arc Merging	Line Filtering Motion	Offsets
Line Numbers	Kinematic Limits	Acceleration Override	Path Preview	Error Recovery
Blocking Mode	Velocity Look Ahead	Threading Axis		

G and M Codes

The following table is a list of G and M codes that are supported:

G00	Rapid Traverse Positioning		
G01	Linear Interpolation		
G02	Arc Clockwise (2D)		
G03	Arc Counter Clockwise (2D)		
G04	• Dwell		
G17	XY Plane Selection		
G18	ZX Plane Selection		
G19	YZ Plane Selection		
G33	Threading		
G40	Cutter Compensation Cancel		
G41	Cutter Compensation – Left		
G42	Cutter Compensation – Right		
G54	Select Coordinate System		
G70	Inch Programming		
G71	Metric Programming (mm)		
G72	Circular Interpolation Clockwise (3D)		
G73	Circular Interpolation Counter Clockwise (3D)		
G74	Cancel Multi quadrant Circular Interpolation		
G75	Multi quadrant Circular Interpolation		
G90	Absolute Dimension Input		
G91	Relative Dimension Input		
G92	Preset Position		
G94	Inches (mm) per Minute Feedrate		
M02	End of Program		
M30	End of Data		

Paramacro Math Support

Operators may write their part programs using paramacros. The following math functions are supported:

[]	 Grouping - () is supported via .ini file switch 		
*/	Multiply Divide		
+ -	Add Subtract		
& ^	Bitwise And, Or, Xor		
AND	Logical And		
OR	Logical Or		
XOR	Logical Xor		
SIN	Sine, in degrees		
COS	Cosine, in degrees		
TAN	Tangent, in degrees		
ASIN	Arc Sine, returns degrees		
ACOS	Arc Cosine, returns degrees		
ATAN	Arc Tangent, returns degrees		
LN	Natural Logarithm		
EXP	• e^x		
SQRT	Square Root		
ABS	Absolute Value		
INT	Integer Part, rounds to nearest integer		
ROUND	Integer Part, rounds to nearest integer		
FIX	• Rounds to next lower integer. 3.5 \leq 3, -2.5 \geq -3		
FUP	• Rounds to next higher integer. $3.5 \ge 4, -2.5 \ge -2$		



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