



Magnetic Micro Manipulation Platform

The Magnetic Micro Manipulation Platform consists of a magnetic field generator and a control system. The magnetic field generator is composed by two orthogonal pairs of Helmholtz coils, which generate a uniform field, and two orthogonal pairs of Maxwell coils, which generate a uniform field gradient. The 2D workspace is 2 mm x 3.5 mm. The maximum magnetic field and gradient are 12 mT and 1.2 T/m, respectively, generated by currents in the range 0-2 A. The control system comprises a laptop, a joystick (SAITEK P580 Blue Rumble Pad), a camera (BASLER sca1390-17gc), a data acquisition board (NI DAQ USB-6259) and custom electronics. A custom electronics is available and it is based on a closed loop op-amp configuration with a Darlington stage. The driving signals for the electronics are generated through the DAQ board by means of a software program developed in LabVIEW (National Instruments, Inc., USA). The magnetic fields and gradients are controlled by the user through the joystick interface. The GUI (graphical user interface) can be adapted in order to full-fill specific testing needs. At the same time, the camera for the 2D visualization of the workspace can be adapted depending on the type of microrobot which is under testing.



Key Features

- Uniform magnetic field
- Low currents for high magnetic fields
- Independent control of magnetic fields and gradients
- Intuitive, customized and user-friendly control and interface
- Uniform magnetic field gradient
- Workspace: 2 mm x 3.5 mm

Possible Applications

- Generation of a uniform magnetic field gradient along 2 axis
- Generation of a uniform magnetic field along 2 axis
- Magnetic characterization of magnetic micro-objects
- 2D manipulation of magnetic micro-objects
- Magnetization of ferromagnetic microobjects

Access information

Corresponding infrastructure	School of Advanced Studies Sant'Anna The BioRobotics Institute
Location	Viale Rinaldo Piaggio, 34 56025 Pontedera PI, Italy
Unit of access	Working day



Technical specifications

Maximum magnetic field	12 mT
Workspace	2 mm x 3.5 mm
Control	2D
Maximum magnetic field gradient	1.2 T/m

Additional information

Gioia Lucarini: gioia.lucarini@santannapisa.it

Arianna Menciassi: arianna.menciassi@santannapisa.it