Appendix U

Development towards 3D thermography

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Abstract

The presentation reports on an activity aimed at solving the biggest issue of existing IR camera thermography, i.e. the temperature measurement of objects with significant 3D surface variability (wrinkles and folds). Such variations can alter the interpretation of images where the surfaces have significant directional emissivity variations and hot sources are brought in the field of view of the test surfaces. The latter is especially critical when measuring cold objects.

The activity covered the development of a method using IR cameras for 3D geometrical mapping of the test specimen and IR flux measurement. Correction of measured apparent temperature is based on a ray tracing approach. The method developed was validated by test.



Introduction	All space-craft need a validated thermal model – tested in a TVC	National Physical Laboratory
	 Contact sensor (limitations) single point; spatially limited slow response time (vs camera) thermally disruptive (adds to thermal leakage) requires all sensors to be perfectly matched (and calibrated) when used in multiples visualisation not automatic Non-contact sensor (advantages) visualisation available live - detect areas "missed" by contact sensors rapid response time (vs. contact sensors) non-contact i.e. no thermal disruption, no contamination, or potential for physical damage can read true surface temperatures (except if not corrected f ambient/material) 	(PhotoCore
	Objective: from captured <i>apparent</i> temperature thermal images recover <i>true</i> surface temperature	3
Background – I	nermal imaging challenges	National Physical Laboratory



- TVAC: wide temperature range (including sub ambient)
- Background radiation: external (environment & 'hotspots') AND local radiant sources can be reflected from the surface of interest
- Robust thermal imaging temperature measurement traceability (temperature calibration)
- Robust thermal / dimensional spatial registration (geometrical calibration)



PhotoCore

esa

ean Space Agency























- Improving the true temperature estimation
- Speed-up of the computation

NPL - Commercial

13

