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Capillary Autoalignment for Powder Diffraction

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Samples for PD are often in the form of capillaries filled with randomly arranged powders. For best results these capillaries have to be arranged so that they spin in the centre of the X-Ray beam. Because of the detector being arranged in a vertical strip, the capillary is mounted on a horizontal axis. The capillaries are mounted in a not-particularly well aligned state to begin with and a solution involving a small spinning goniometer and image processing is used to re-align it. We are currently in the third implementation of this idea and this talk is to present some details on the evolution and lessons learned in the development process.

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