

A 3x3 grid of colored squares. The top row contains light blue, pink, and light blue squares. The middle row contains light green, light green, and light gray squares. The bottom row contains light orange, light beige, and light purple squares. A yellow path connects five circles. The path starts at a circle in the top-middle square, goes down to a circle in the middle-right square, then left to a circle in the bottom-right square, then left to a circle in the bottom-middle square, and finally up to a circle in the bottom-left square.

Lotta 101

Coordinate System



Coordinate system principles

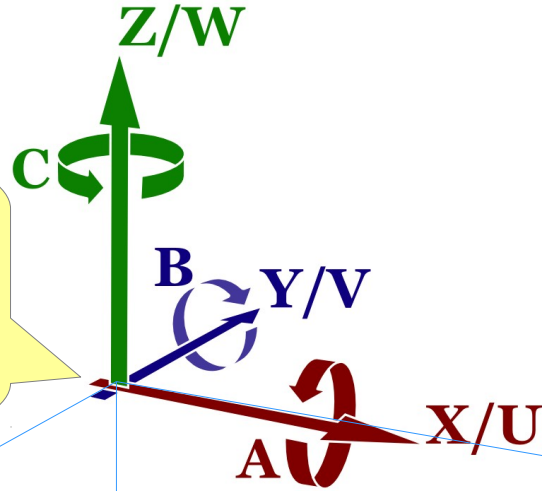
Machine Coordinates
Absolute Coordinates
Relative Coordinates



Coordinate System – Machine Coordinates

Coordinate Origin
"Machine Zero"

Top-left-rear corner
of the motion
envelope



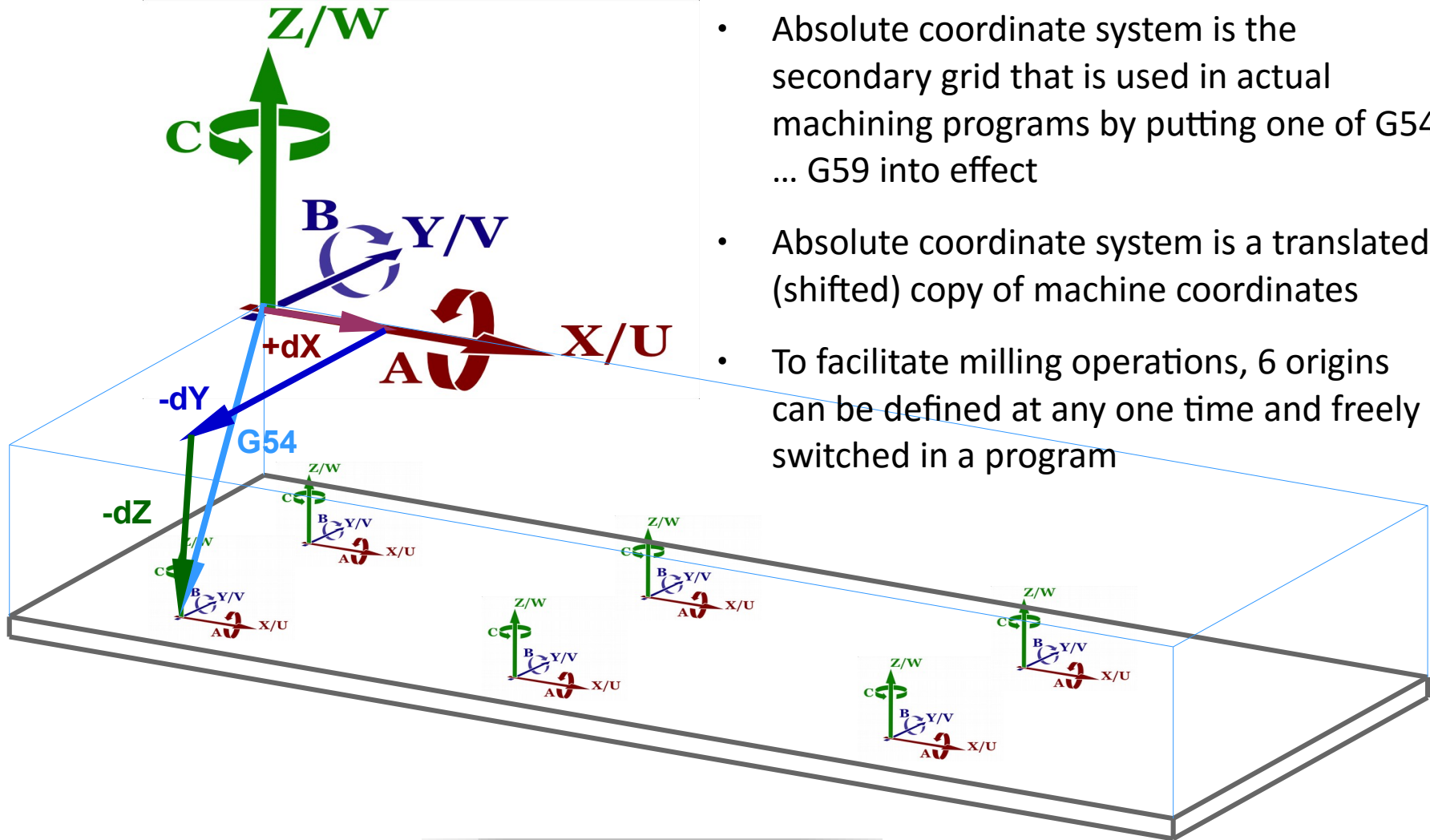
Machine motion
envelope

- Machine coordinate system is the fundamental grid on which all other measurements are based
- Machine coordinates are needed in setup and calibration but not in regular operation
- XYZ primary linear axes
- UVW secondary linear axes
- ABC rotation axes around primaries





Coordinate System – Absolute Coordinates (= Work Coordinates G54 ... G59)

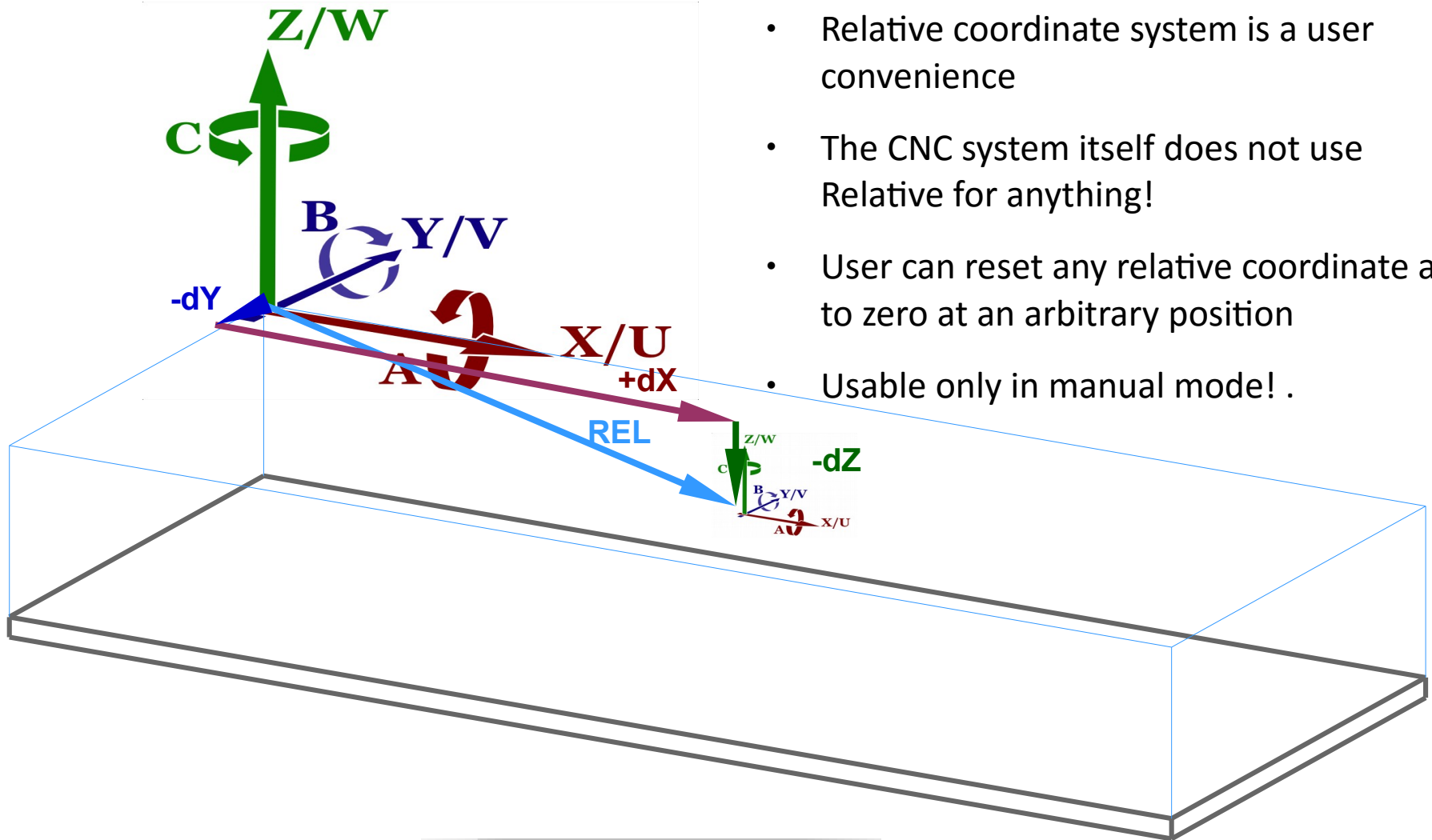


- Absolute coordinate system is the secondary grid that is used in actual machining programs by putting one of G54 ... G59 into effect
- Absolute coordinate system is a translated (shifted) copy of machine coordinates
- To facilitate milling operations, 6 origins can be defined at any one time and freely switched in a program





Coordinate System – Relative Coordinates



- Relative coordinate system is a user convenience
- The CNC system itself does not use Relative for anything!
- User can reset any relative coordinate axis to zero at an arbitrary position
- Usable only in manual mode! .





Principles of Calculating Motion

Or,

How Lotta calculates motion based on Coordinates

Controlled Point; Distance-to-Go

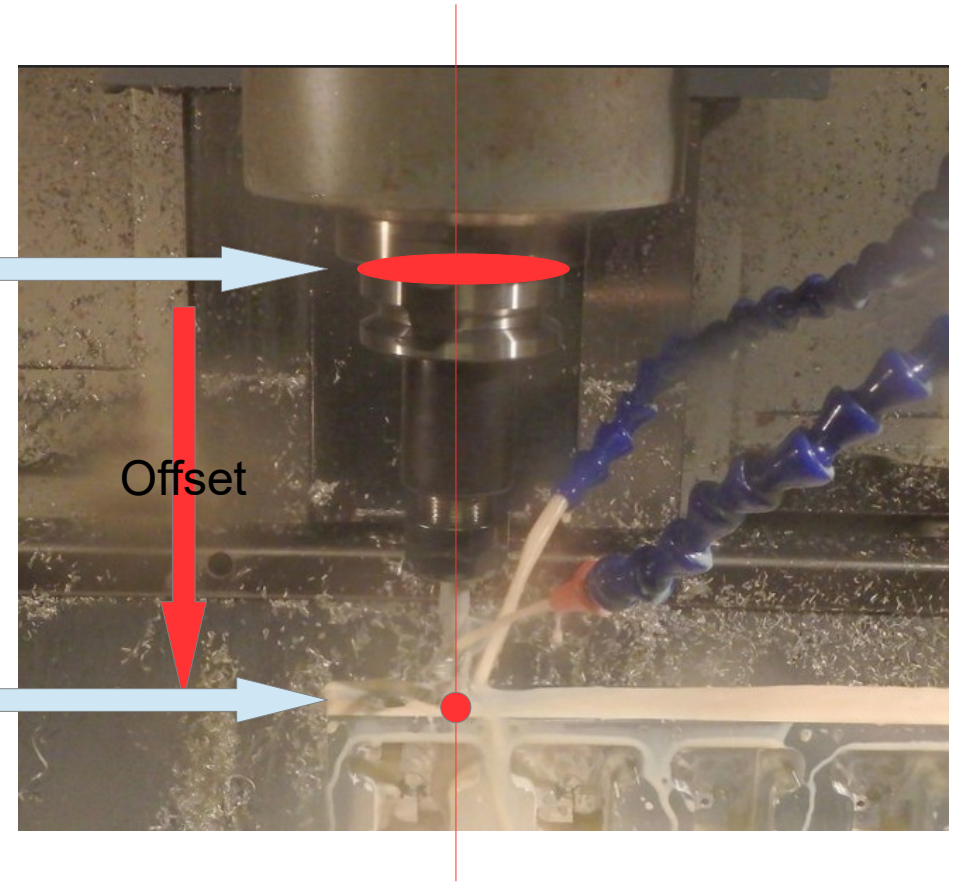
Measuring and Programming Work Coordinates

Measuring and Programming Tool Offsets



Principles of calculating motion – Controlled Point

- The thing that moves in the envelope of motion is a so called Controlled Point. *By default* the controlled point is the intersection of the central axis and the seating plane of the spindle tool holder cavity (i.e. the middle bottom of the spindle)
- For practical use, The Controlled Point is translated to the end of the tool in use by defining a set of *offsets*





Principles of calculating motion – Distance-to-Go

- For every commanded motion, the CNC computer calculates for each axis the ***distance-to-go*** from current to target position
- This calculation accounts for:
 - The current MACHINE XYZ coordinates of the CP
 - The target XYZ coordinate values
 - Any values in **EXT** offset
 - Any tool length compensation offset in effect (G43)
 - Any work coordinate offset in effect (G54...G59)
- Distance-to-go =
Work coordinate set XYZ -
CURRENT MACHINE XYZ +
TARGET XYZ +
EXT coordinate set XYZ +
tool length compensation (Z)

EXT offset register is a special
Work Coordinate Set (00)
that is
ALWAYS IN EFFECT





How to Set Up Work Coordinates:

1/2: Measuring X and Y Coordinates

- *XY work coordinates* are measured and programmed directly as the corresponding *machine coordinates*.
- Coordinate setup
 - Use the beeper to find the X and Y components of the coordinate.
 - Manually approach the reference surface until the beeper ball touches at which point there is an audible beep (works only for metallic workpieces).
 - Read the appropriate *machine coordinate*, allow for the ball diameter and enter the result in the correct work offset location in the offset tables

The beeper lives in a dedicated holder
Do not remove it under any circumstances!
Removal invalidates all tool length offsets!





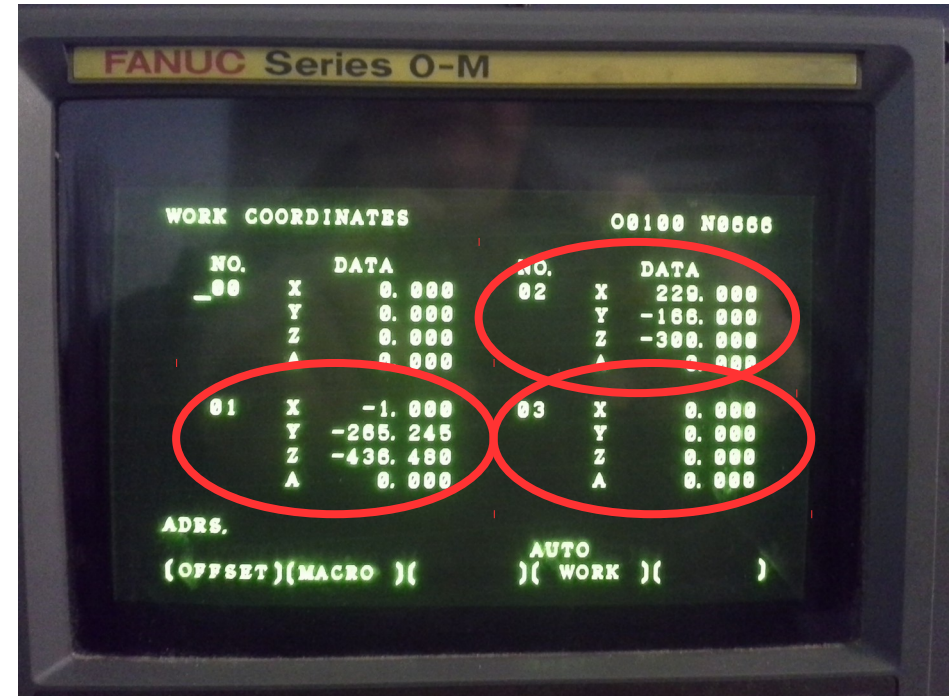
How to Set Up Work Coordinates: 2/2: Measuring Z Coordinate

- Due to the way Lotta calculates Distance-to-go and how tool lengths are compensated, the Z component of a work coordinate set is measured simply as *height above the table surface*.
- Method 1 is to use a caliper and a parallel bar to directly measure the distance above table, of a workpiece feature. This method is good to about 0.1 mm or so.
- A more precise method is to use the beeper and a precision ground pin to measure 2 numbers: machine Z coordinate of table surface (+pin) and workpiece feature Z coordinate (+pin). Subtract second from 1st and you have the work Z coordinate. Program accordingly.
NOTE: the beeper ball does NOT flex in Z direction, so you have to use the pin method.



Programming Work Coordinates

- Once the coordinates have been measured as above, program them to Lotta.
 - Select [PARM/OFFSET]
 - Navigate [Pg up][Pg Dn] to the Work Offset page 1 or 2
 - Navigate [Cursor Up][Cursor Dn] to the correct coordinate set (1 = G54, 2 = G55 etc)
 - Enter [X] nnn.nnn [INPUT], and Y,Z similarly. Done





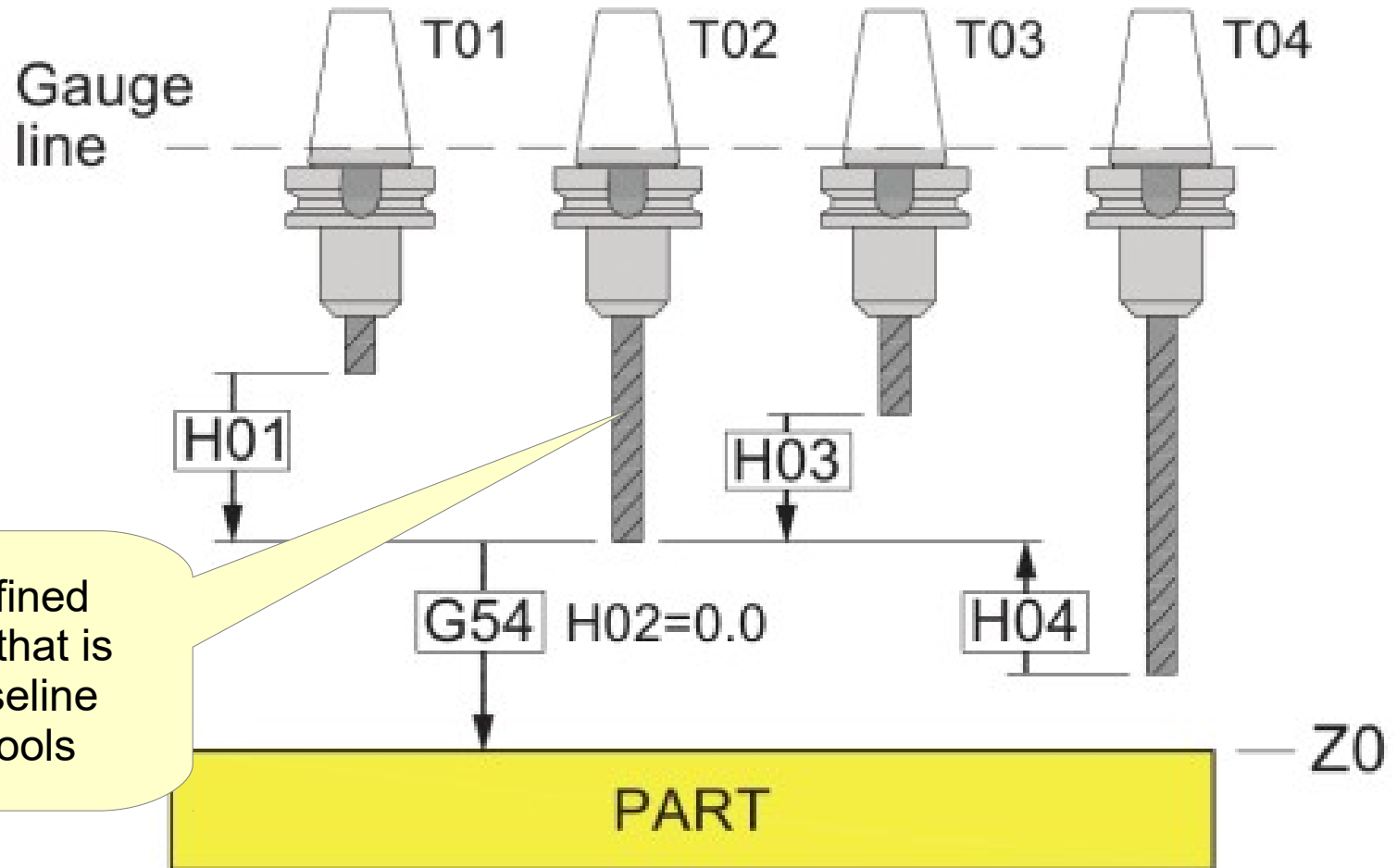
Measuring and Programming Tool Length Offsets

- Tool lengths differ and it is not practical to program them all individually for each separate G-code program.
- There are multiple methods how to define and program the length information. It is highly desirable to use a method that makes the length differences invisible to the programs.
- Lotta uses one such method – a reference tool method called the ***longest tool method*** (although the reference tool does not have to be actually longest)





Reference (longest) tool method





Reference tool method – 1: Setting the reference

This is not needed for every tool, only done once

1: select the reference tool

Machine coordinate Z = 0.000

2: HOME the Z axis so that the Machine coordinate resets to zero

3: Run the spindle Close to the table on manual (MPG)

Z < 0 and increases in the negative direction

4: Close to the table find the contact point calibrated pin just passes under the beeper

At contact the machine coordinate Z = -nnn.nnn - 5.000 mm

5: Subtract the pin diameter from the coordinate Result becomes more negative still

Pin diameter 5 mm

00:

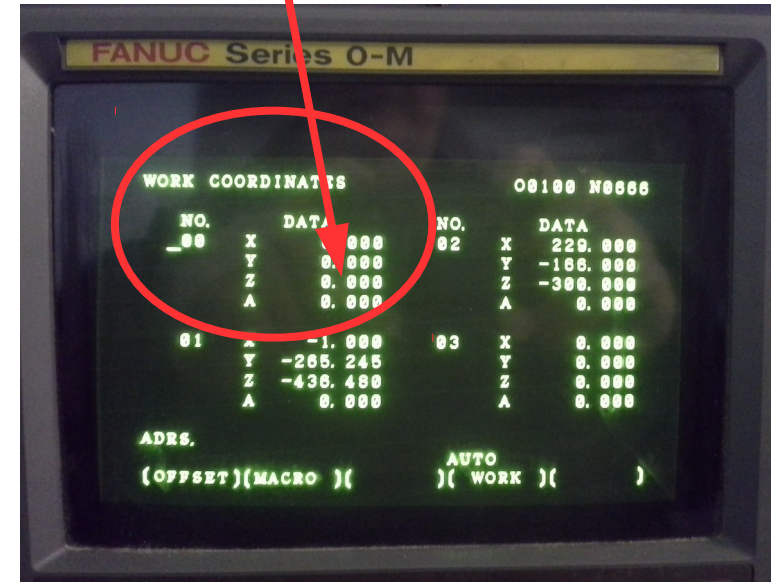
X	0.000
Y	0.000
Z	-nnn.nnn
A	0.000

6: Enter the contact coordinate as **work coordinate 00** Z value

Result = Z_{ref}

01:

X	
Y	
Z	???
A	





Reference tool method – 2: tool offset measurement

1: Change the tool to the spindle

Machine coordinate $Z = 0.000$

2: approach the table on manual (MPG)

$Z < 0$ and increases in the negative direction

3: Near the table find contact: the pin just passes under the tool making contact

At contact the machine coordinate $Z = -nnn.nnn - 5.000 \text{ mm}$

Table surface

5: Subtract the pin diameter from the coordinate
Result becomes more negative still

Pin diameter 5 mm

Result = Z_{tool}





Programming the Tool Length Offset

6: calculate the offset to program:

$$F_{\text{tool}} = Z_{\text{tool}} - Z_{\text{ref}}$$

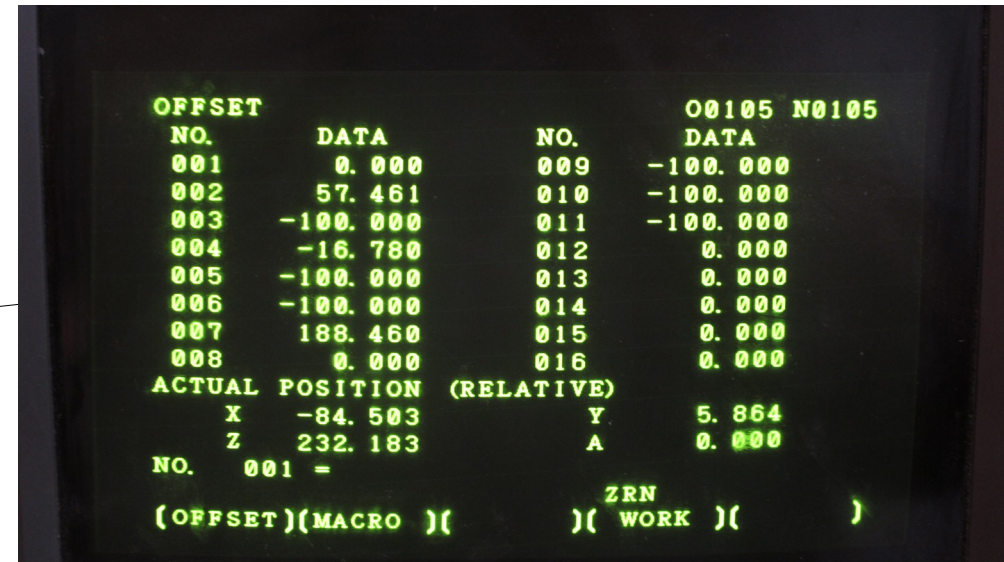
NOTE!: The calculation *must* preserve signs, i.e.:

$$F_{\text{tool}} = (-\text{mmm.mmm}) - (-\text{nnn.nnn})$$

NOTE!: If the tool is shorter than the reference, the result *must be negative!*

7: enter calculation result in the tool offset table at the row corresponding to the tool magazine position

Tool offset table



OFFSET		00105 N0105	
NO.	DATA	NO.	DATA
001	0.000	009	-100.000
002	57.461	010	-100.000
003	-100.000	011	-100.000
004	-16.780	012	0.000
005	-100.000	013	0.000
006	-100.000	014	0.000
007	188.460	015	0.000
008	0.000	016	0.000
ACTUAL POSITION (RELATIVE)			
X	-84.503	Y	5.864
Z	232.183	A	0.000
NO. 001 =			
{ OFFSET)(MACRO)(ZRN)(WORK)(}			



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