

INSTALLATION AND OPERATION MANUAL
SLR3.200



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IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

The high voltage drivers can produce hazardous voltages and currents. Use caution when operating the drivers and when handling the linear actuators. Piezoactuators have large capacitance and are capable of storing hazardous amounts of electrical energy over long periods of time. Various conditions such as load and temperature changes can also cause piezoactuators to accumulate charge.

Before disconnecting the DB-9 connector from the PIEZOCONCEPT controller, first set the command voltage to 0.0V, then turn the AC power to the PIEZOCONCEPT controller off, and finally wait one minute before disconnecting.

The SLR3.200 has no user serviceable parts. Only trained service personnel should perform service

IMPORTANT

All Technical Information, recommendations, and examples related to PIEZOCONCEPT Products made in this manual are based on information believed to be correct. The purchaser or user should determine the suitability of each product before using. The purchaser or user assumes all risks and liability whatsoever in connection with the use of any and all PIEZOCONCEPT products or services.

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1 INTRODUCTION

The SLR3.200 is a PZT actuated linear nanopositioning stage of exceptional resolution and stability. With its high stability, the SLR3.200 is ideal for the most challenging microscopy and positioning applications. The SLR3.200 comes complete with position sensitive detectors for closed loop operation.

TRANSLATION (μm) (XYZ)	200 μm
VOLTAGE RANGE (V)	-15V to +150V
RESONANT FREQUENCIES SLR3.200 UNLOADED X/Y/Z Axis (Hz)	600/400/300
MAXIMUM LOAD (hor/vert) (kg)	0.5/0.1
MASS (g)	350
CABLE LENGTH (m)	>1.5m
CABLE CONNECTION	DB-9

1.1 Unpacking the SLR3.200

Before unpacking the SLR3.200 read this entire operation manual, paying special attention to the following section on “**Handling the SLR3.200**”. Remove the SLR3.200 from its box and place on flat surface. Check the contents of the package against the shipping list and notify PIEZOCONCEPT immediately if any items are missing.

1.2 Handling the SLR3.200

The SLR3.200 is a high precision scientific instrument and therefore requires special handling in order to ensure proper operation. Mishandling can cause permanent damage to the SLR3.200. To ensure a long and useful life the following guidelines should be strictly followed.

- Always turn off the PIEZOCONCEPT controller before lifting the stage.
- Do not move the translation stage by pushing on it with your hands or any other object.
- Avoid applying a torque between the moving stage and the frame.
- Do not drop, treat roughly, or physically shock the SLR3.200.
- Do not lift by the cables.
- The surface to which the SLR3.200 is mounted to should be flat and clean. Likewise, the bottom of the SLR3.200 should be free of particles and dust before mounting.
- Do not immerse in any liquid. If the SLR3.200 requires cleaning slightly dampen a lint free cloth with iso-propanol or ethanol and lightly wipe the surface. Do not get any liquid or lint into the EDM grooves.
- Never disassemble the SLR3.200, there are no serviceable parts inside.

1.3 SLR3.200

The SLR3.200 is manufactured from a high performance Al alloy. PZT actuators are preloaded within the SLR3.200 and supply the driving force for stage movement. The flexure hinges, which form the guidance mechanism, are cut into the stage using electric discharge machining (EDM). EDM is also used to form integrated amplifiers that increase the range of motion of the PZT actuators for the X, Y and Z axis. The PZT actuators are oriented perpendicular to the stage motion direction and within these amplifiers. There are no serviceable parts in the SLR3.200 stage.

Two direction arrows are located on the side of this stage. These arrows indicate which direction the stage moves when a positive voltage is applied. The X-axis moves upwards when a positive voltage is applied. Three DB-9 connectors, one for each axis of motion, are supplied with the SLR3.200. These connectors are labeled CHANNEL 1 (X), CHANNEL 2 (Y), or CHANNEL 3 (Z) for identification. This identification describes which driver axis that particular stage should be connected to.

Never disassemble the SLR3.200, there are no serviceable parts inside.

2 INSTALLATION

The SLR3.200 should be installed horizontally. It is always advisable to minimize the load carried by the SLR3.200. Heavier loads reduce the stage response time, can cause oscillations, and may cause fatigue and /or reduced motion.

There are two different ways to install the SLR3.200 into your application. These choices are: simply placing the SLR3.200 in the desired spot or using the mounting holes (which is the most recommended solution). The choice of installation depends on your specific application and on how often you wish to remove the SLR3.200.

Regardless of how you choose to install the SLR3.200

- a) Make sure the surface to be mounted to is clean, flat, and free of burs.
- b) Using a lint free cloth, gently wipe off the bottom of the SLR3.200 to remove any particles or dust.
- c) Always lift the SLR3.200 by the bottom stage.
- d) Never lift, position, assemble, or disassemble the SLR3.200 with power applied.
- e) **IMPORTANT!** Check for ground loops (**Section 3**) between the SLR3.200 and the mounting surface.

2.1 No fixturing

The SLR3.200 can be mounted simply by placing it in the desired location. The mass of the SLR3.200 is enough to keep it in place during most scanning or positioning applications.

2.2 Installing using the M3 bored holes

If a customized adapter plate is provided, please refer to the drawing of the adapter plate.

The SLR3.200 is a stacked system, composed of :

- an Z axis (very bottom portion);
- an intermediate plate;
- the X and Y axis (top portion).

1°) First of all, fix the Z axis of the SLR3.200 by using the M3 screws (located on 40mm square). Use a maximum torque of 0.5 Nm when securing the Z axis,

2°) Fix the intermediate plate on the Z axis by using the M2.5 screw located on a 20mmX24mm rectangle

3°) Fix the X and Y axis of the stage on the intermediate plate by using the M3 screws located on a 40mm square. Use a maximum torque of 0.5 Nm when securing the X axis and Y axis.

When mounting the bracket of the objective (or any sample) on the stage with the four M2.5 screws, please do not exert too much force. Use a maximum torque of 0.1 Nm. The reason is that the number of threads is limited. You may destroy the threads if too much torque is applied.

3 GROUND LOOPS

The single greatest danger to your nanopositioning system is a ground loop between the stage and the mounting surface. Ground loops can be the source of noise in the SLR3.200, and in some cases the oscillations may be severe enough to permanently damage the piezoactuators.

3.1 Prevention and Identification of ground loops

Ground loops may sometimes be detected by a voltmeter and can usually be detected by using the differential mode of a dual channel oscilloscope.

Prevention of ground loops can be achieved in two ways. The most effective and simplest method is to insulate the stage from the mounting surface (e.g. mylar or paper between the stage and mounting surface). The second method is to connect the PIEZOCONCEPT controller ground to the mounting surface. The stage is connected directly to the ground of the PIEZOCONCEPT controller, which in turn is connected to the ground of the AC power cord. Hence, attaching a braid between the ground of the AC power cord and the mounting surface may short circuit the ground loop. In a few cases, this may not be an effective method. When this occurs, please identify high current sources returning to ground through your mounting surface. In all cases, the

mounting surface should never be used as the ground return for any instrumentation (such as vacuum pumps, computers etc.).

Should you observe unexpected oscillations in your nanopositioning stage after you have switched on the power, this likely indicates the continued presence of a ground loop. **SWITCH THE SYSTEM OFF IMMEDIATELY AND SEARCH FOR THE SOURCE OF THE GROUND LOOP. SHOULD THE PROBLEMS CONTINUE PLEASE CONTACT PIEZOCONCEPT FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**

4 OPERATING THE SLR3.200

The SLR3.200 comes complete with position sensitive detectors for closed loop operation. In closed loop operation, achieved using the PIEZOCONCEPT controller, the effects of creep and hysteresis are removed and the position is held constant at the command position.

4.1 Operating in closed loop mode

The SLR3.200 comes with 9 pin D-type connectors and uses the PIEZOCONCEPT controller for complete positioning control. To operate in closed loop mode use the following procedure.

- a) Install the SLR3.200 as discussed in **Section 2**.
- b) Turn the PIEZOCONCEPT controller power off.
- c) Set the command signal to 0.0 Volts either on the analog interface or the digital interface.

4.2 Care during operation

The SLR3.200 is a high precision scientific instrument and should be handled with care during operation. Failure to do so may result in permanent damage.

- a) During operation ensure that there are no physical constraints on the moving stage or anything fixtured to the moving stage.
- b) Never apply a voltage greater than 150V or less than -15V to the PZT.
- c) Maintain a clean working environment to reduce the chance of particles or other substances from gathering in the EDM grooves.