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Enhanced stereographic microfossil imaging in reflected light and using a motor driven stage

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An advanced digital imaging system for isolated microfossils under reflected light is presented. It combines sophisticated commercial software for generating images at improved focal depth with the construction of images under various angles of views using a new motorized two-axis tilting stage, which has been manufactured by ourselves. The system is useful for the generation of animated 3D (anaglyph) views of isolated microfossils like foraminifera, ostracods or radiolaria. The speed and precision of the system is good enough to allow the systematist to collect images for the generation of digital atlases with animated sequences of type- and important reference specimens of microfossils.