

**2015 NETL Crosscutting
Research Review Meeting**
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EMBEDDED ACTIVE FIBER OPTIC SENSING NETWORK FOR STRUCTURAL HEALTH MONITORING IN HARSH ENVIRONMENTS

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Chennan Hu, Zhihao Yu, Anbo Wang
Virginia Tech Center for Photonics Technology
Blacksburg, VA 24061
chennan@vt.edu, awang@vt.edu
<http://photonics.ece.vt.edu/>

MOTIVATION AND OBJECTIVES

Motivation

- Health condition monitoring of key materials and structures can ensure safety and minimize system shutdowns.
- Challenges from a new set of extreme physical and chemical conditions:
 - Ultrahigh temperature
 - High pressure
 - Severe chemical corrosion

Impacts

- Currently available methods:
 - X-ray defect detection
 - Ultrasonic tomography
 - Remote techniques using piezoelectric transducers
- Advantage of new fiber optics based technology:
 - Can be attached or embedded
 - Multi-parameters monitoring with single sensor
 - High temperature
 - Remote, no on-site power required
 - Potential of multiplexing

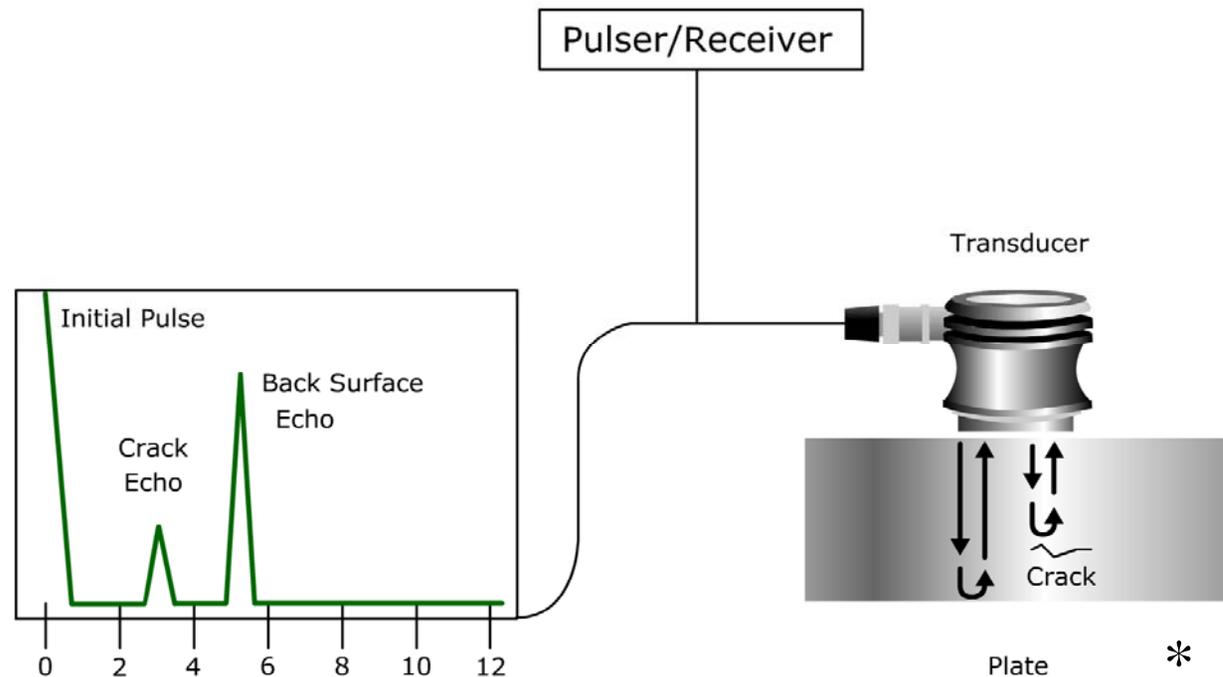
Project Overview & Objectives

- Three-year project beginning 4/1/2013.
- Objectives:
 - Develop a fiber-based multi-parameter (temperature, strain, corrosion, and defects) health monitoring sensor
 - Develop the attachment or embedment technology of the sensor to steel
 - Demonstrate the feasibility of FO-NDE sensor multiplexing

BACKGROUND AND FUNDAMENTAL TECHNOLOGY

Ultrasonic Non-Destructive Evaluation (NDE)

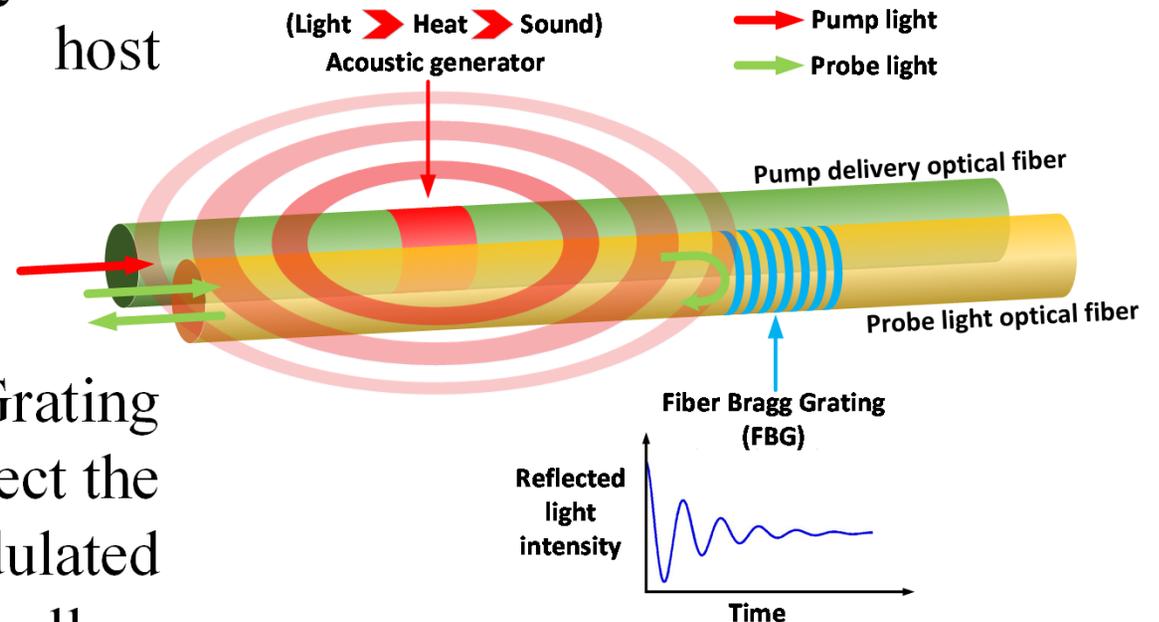
- Widely used and versatile technique of material defect detection.



* Figure from www.ndt-ed.org

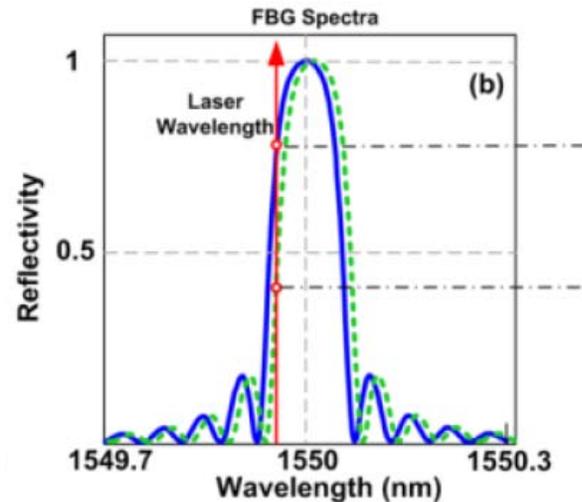
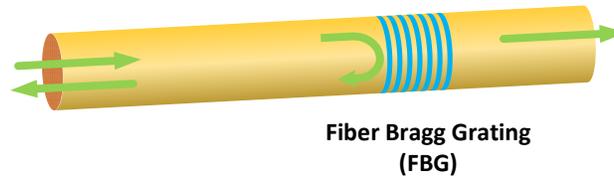
Active Fiber-Optic Non-Destructive Evaluation (FO-NDE)

- An acoustic wave is generated optically to propagate in the host material.



- A Fiber Bragg Grating (FBG) is used to detect the acoustic signal modulated by the material as well as other parameters.

FBG Working Principle

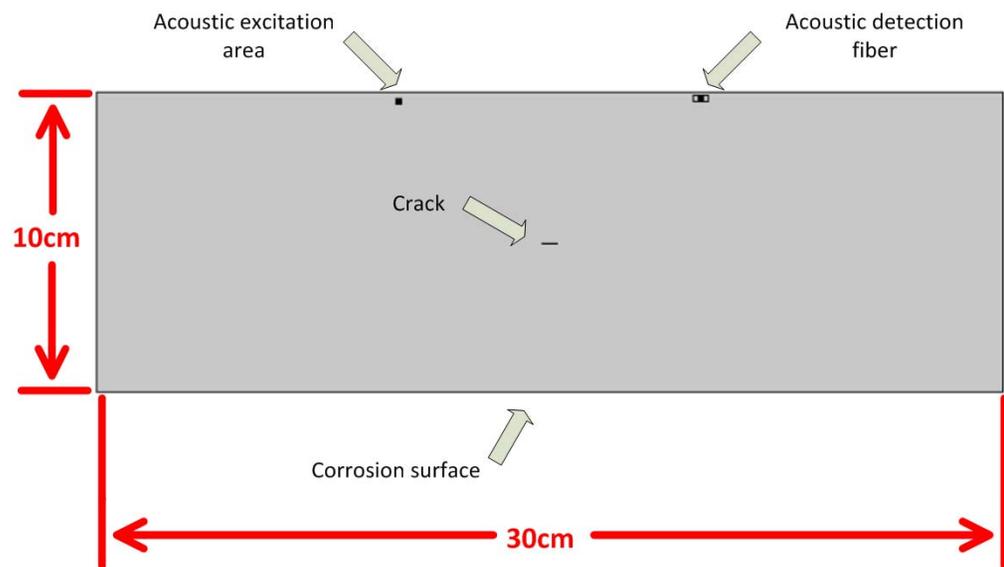


1. Detection of static strain & temperature
2. Detection of dynamic strain = acoustic vibration

PROJECT PROGRESS

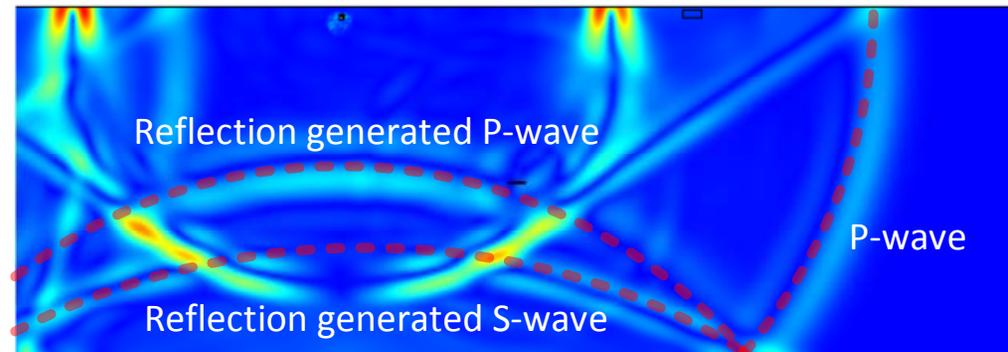
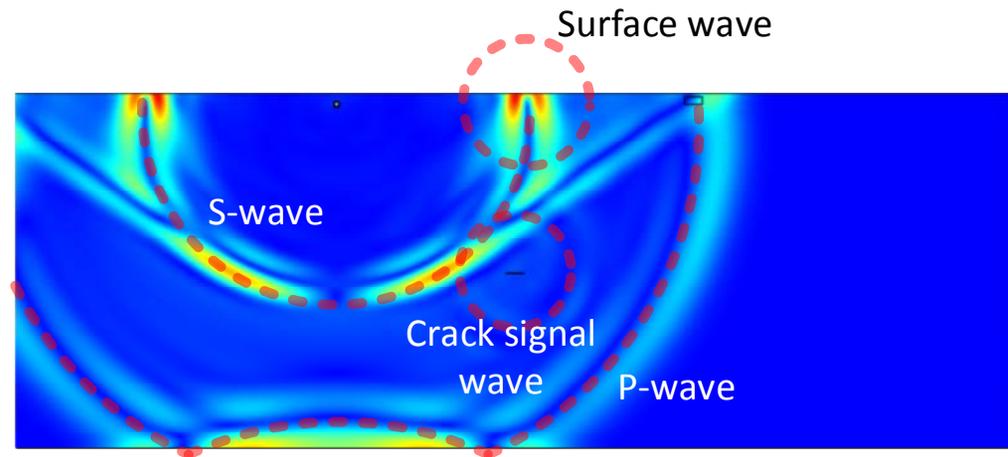
Computational Modeling

- A 2D computational model was built to simulate acoustic propagation in a bulk material.
- Cracks and corrosions were placed on the block to simulate acoustic responses of the system.

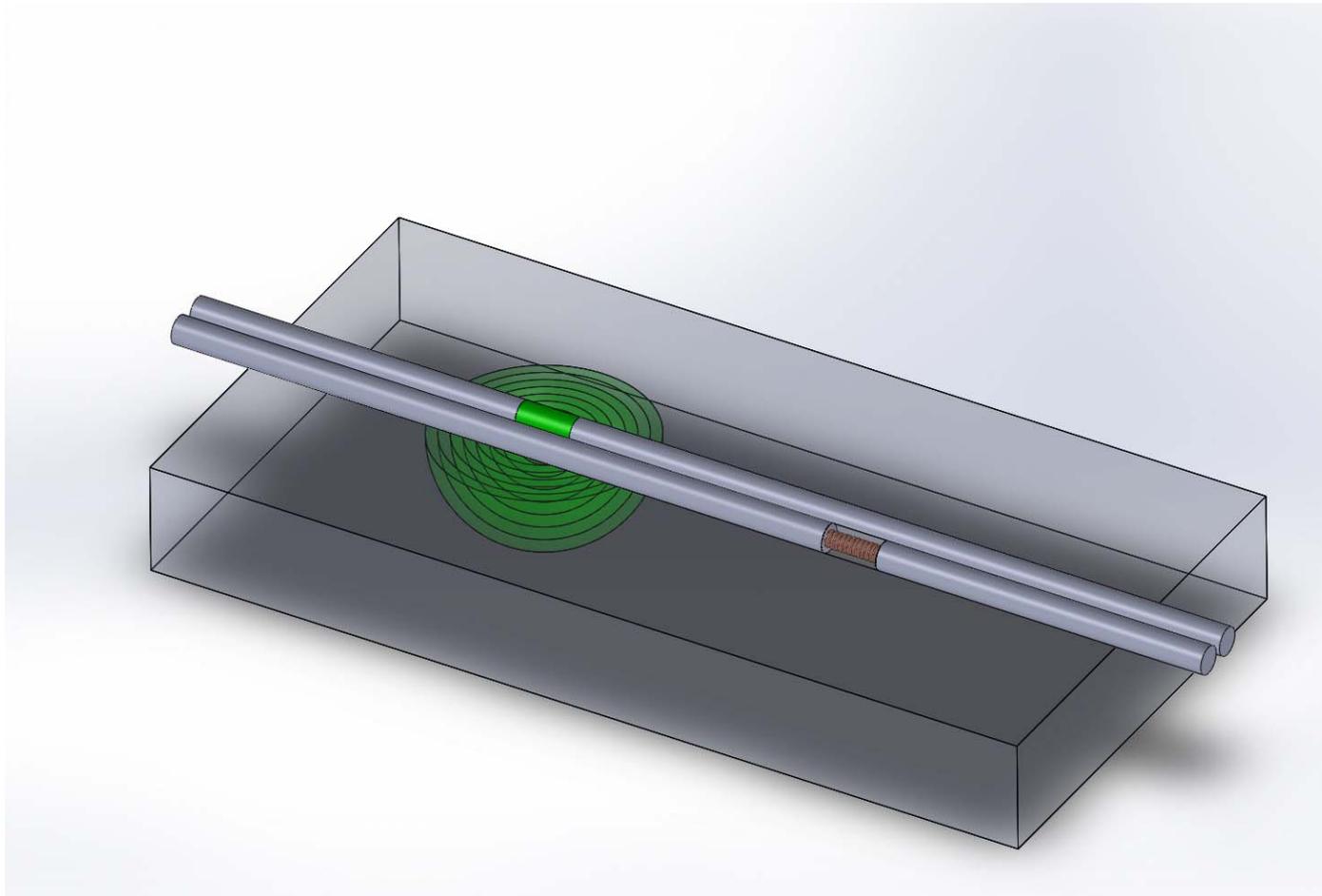


Acoustic Wave Simulation

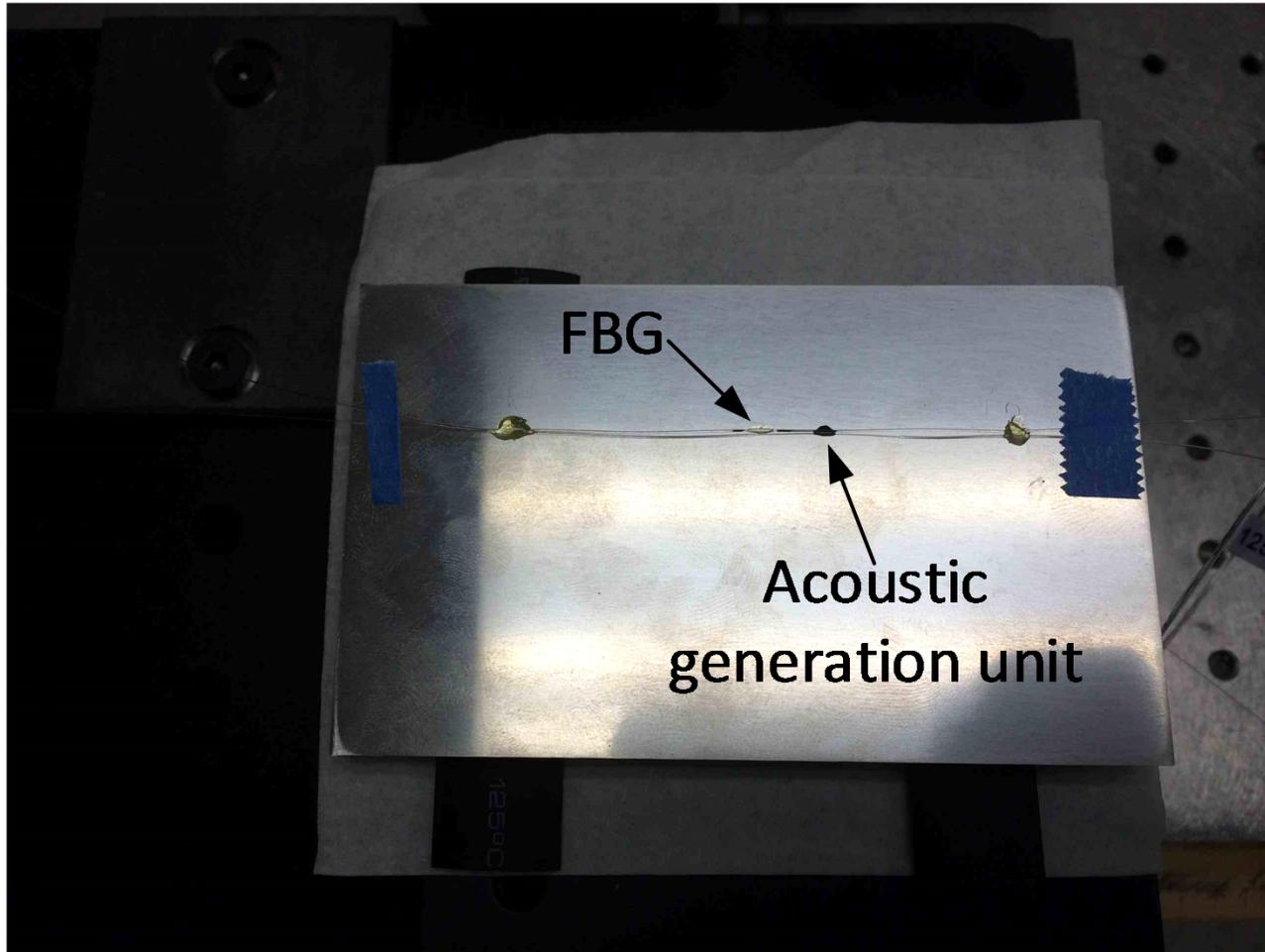
- Elastic wave propagation model
- Simulated
 - P-wave
 - S-wave
 - Surface wave
 - Reflection
- Demonstrated acoustic propagation in a specimen with crack and corrosion



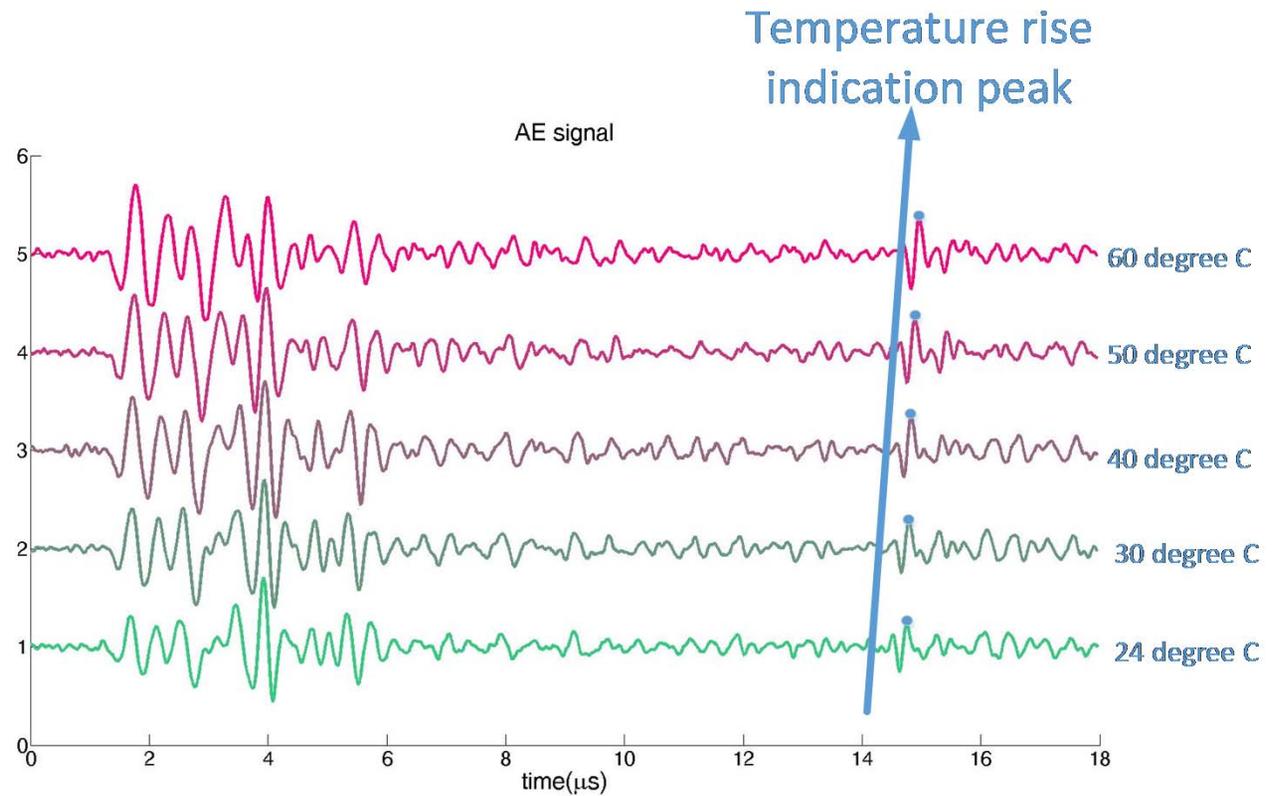
Sensor Element Design



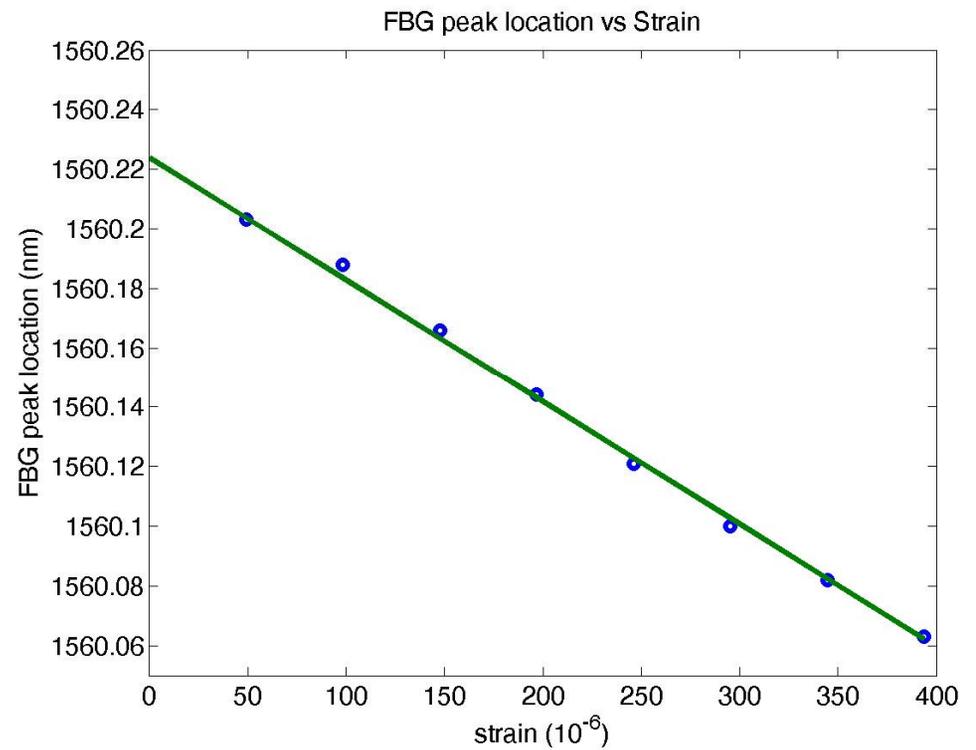
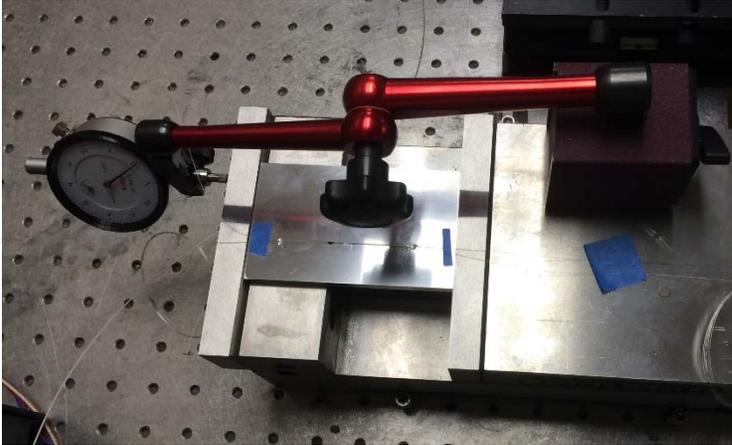
FO-NDE Element Testing Unit



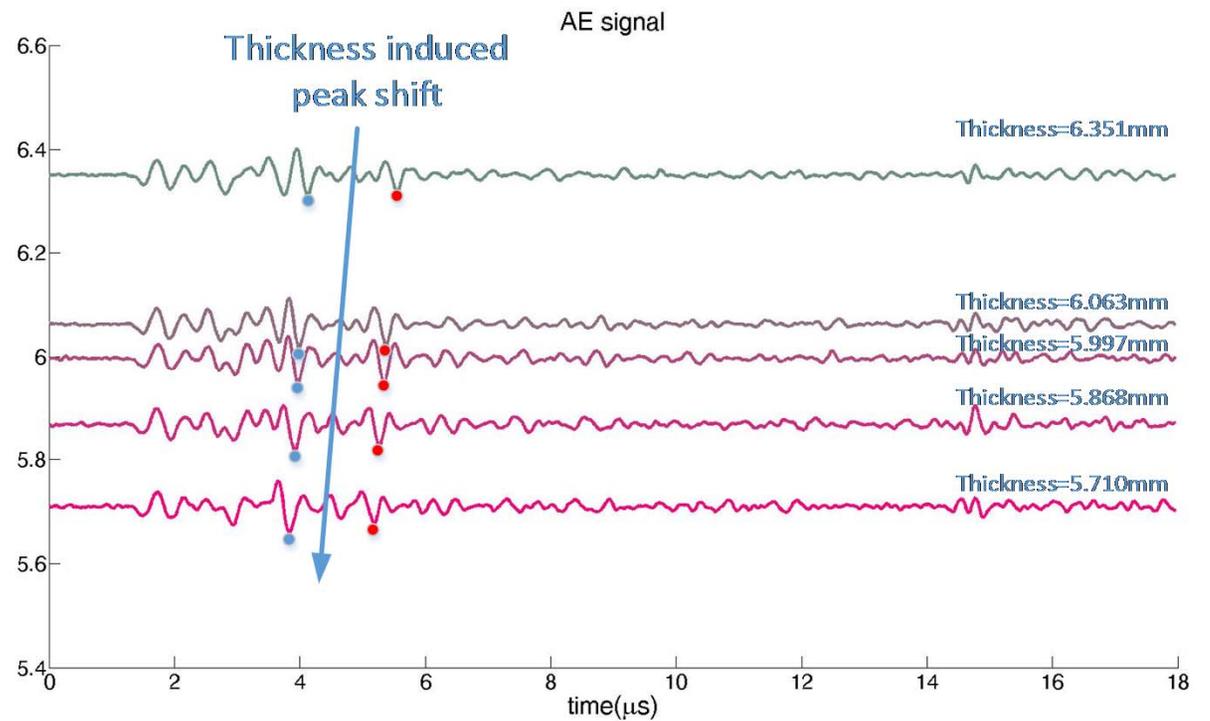
Temperature Monitoring



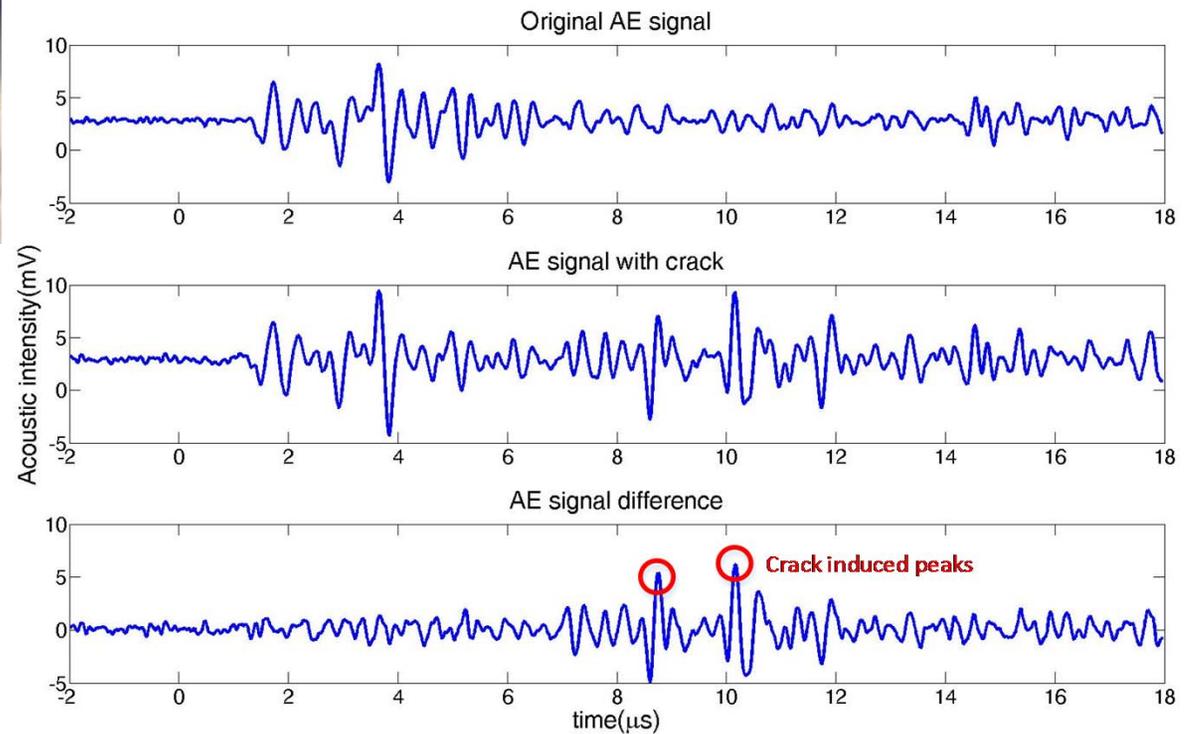
Strain Monitoring



Corrosion Test

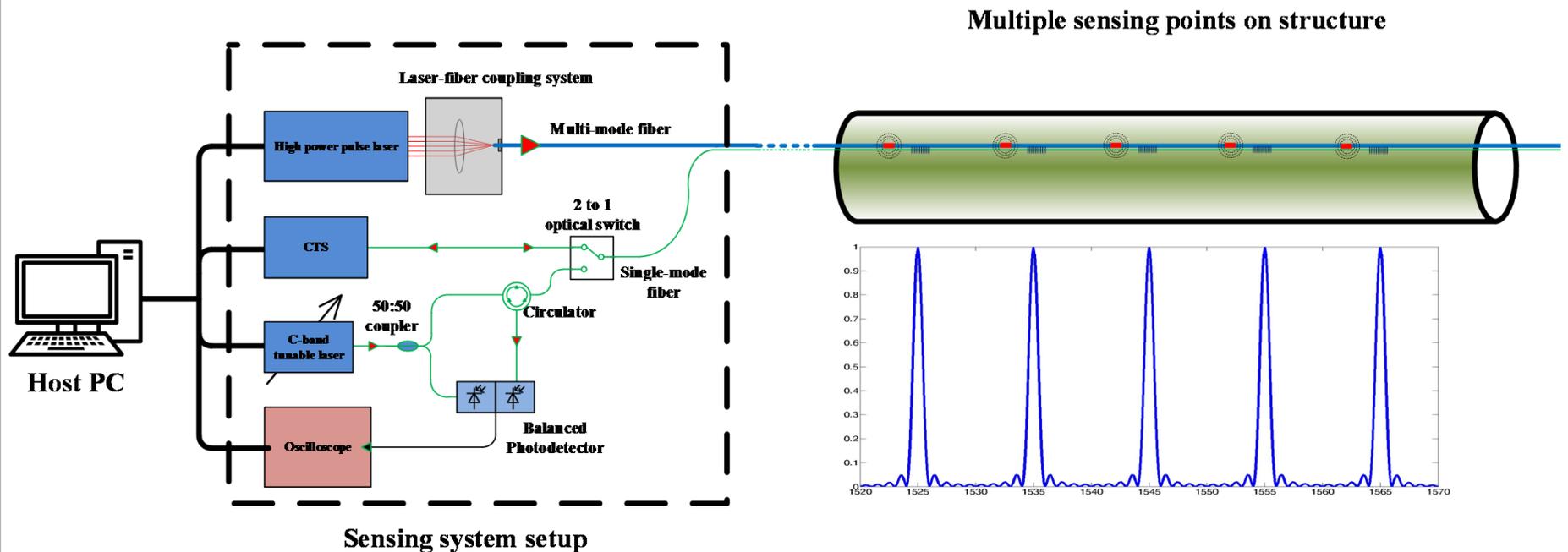


Crack Test



Multi-point Sensing System Design

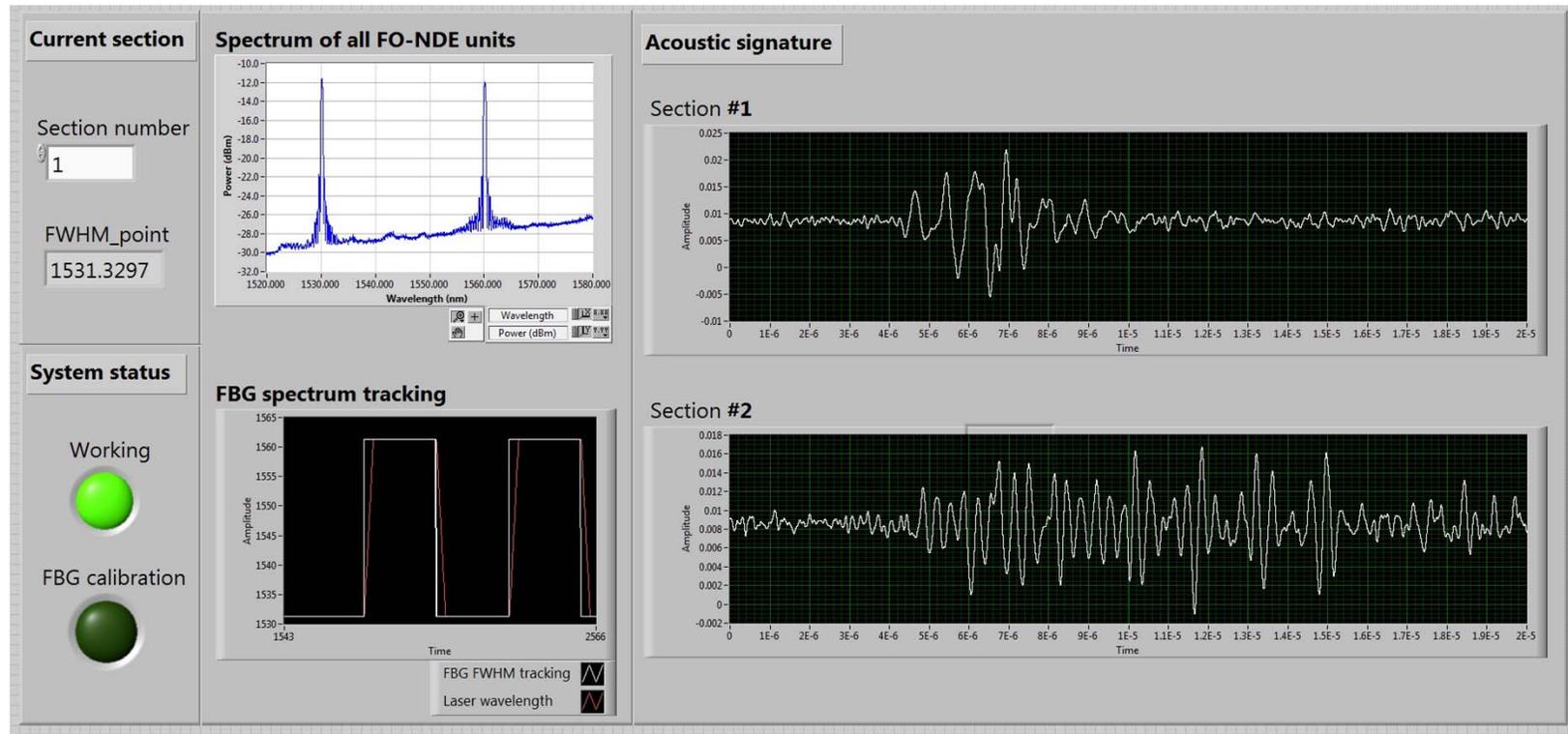
- Wavelength Division Multiplexing (WDM) technique for signal demodulation in a multiplexed system



FO-NDE Network Testing Sample



System Controlling Software



Next Steps

- Demonstrate multi-point and multi-parameter sensing.
- Test system stability in high temperature environment.
- Improve system performance.

SUMMARY

Task Status

1. Project Management & Planning
2. Acoustic Generation, Propagation and Detection Modeling
3. Sensor Element Design
4. Demonstrate FO-NDE Element
5. Design, Implement and Demonstrate FO-NDE Sensor Network
6. Test Sensor in the Simulated Environment
7. Prepare Final Report

Acknowledgement

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THE END