

Fusion of Distributed Fiber Optics, Acoustic NDE and Physics-Based AI for Spent Fuel Monitoring

Enrico Sarcinelli¹, Pengdi Zhang¹, Abhishek Venketeswaran², Ruishu F. Wright², Khurram Naeem¹, Nageswara Lalam², Paul Ohodnicki¹
¹Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science, University of Pittsburgh
²National Energy Technology Laboratory, 626 Cochran Mill Road, Pittsburgh, PA, USA 15236

Project Outline:

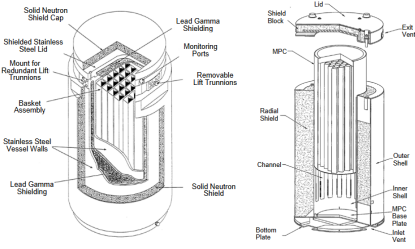
Motivation:

Current status: Dry Casks Storage Systems (DCSS) for nuclear waste storage poses challenges for traditional structural health monitoring methods due to hard and limited access, creating a demand for less intrusive techniques of easy installation.

Improvement: Combine Acoustic nondestructive evaluation (NDE) based on ultrasonic guided waves will be combined with distributed fiber optic sensing enhanced by artificial intelligence (AI) frameworks to quantitatively characterize the internal state of dry cask storage systems (DCSS). Physics-based simulations and reduced order modeling will be coupled with targeted experiments to train and apply AI-classification to distributed acoustic data acquired with fiber optics

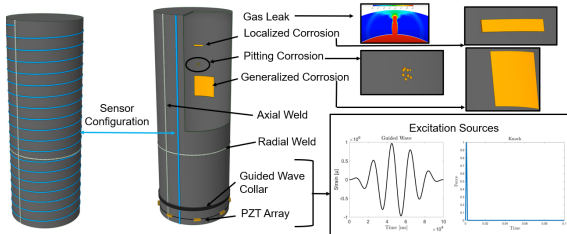


CASTOR® V/21 casks at Surry Powerstation, Virginia/USA

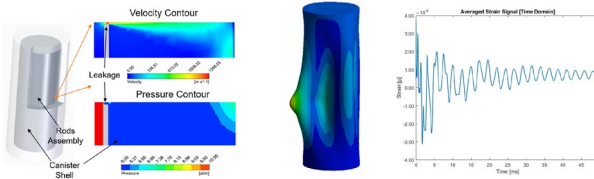


O.K., Chopra, Diercks D.R., Fabian R.R., Han Z.H., and Liu Y.Y. "Managing Aging Effects on Dry Cask Storage Systems for Extended Long-Term Storage and Transportation of Used Fuel." Technical. Argonne National Laboratory, September 30, 2014.

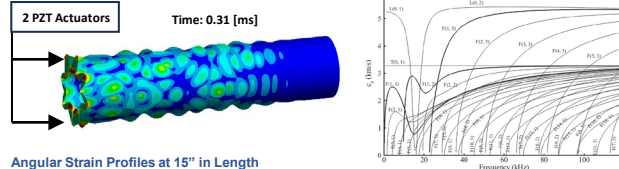
Structural Health Evaluation and Monitoring Enabled by Distributed and Quasi-Distributed Optical Fiber Sensor Configuration



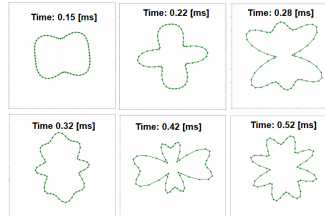
Canister Passively Excited by Internal Leaking Fuel Rod:



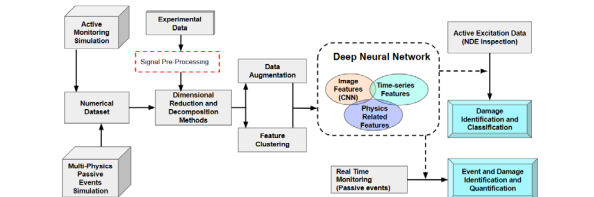
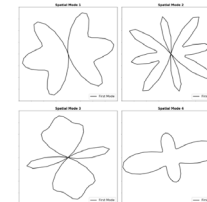
Non-Axisymmetric Guided Wave Excitation



Angular Strain Profiles at 15" in Length



Principal SVD Spatial Modes (Discrete Basis):



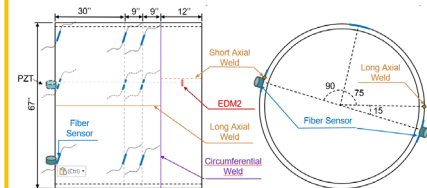
Future Field-Testing Plans



PNNL Facility

Hanford Waste Facility

Field Test Plan Schematic



Future Objectives: 1) Field testing of sensor system in more realistic canister structures at PNNL and Hanford Waste Facility. 2) Development of initial AI classifier for specific structural defects, based on signal from distributed or quasi-distributed optical fiber sensor upon excitation sources 3) Physics-based simulation of real size structure subjected to active excitation sources, and development of reduced order model to assist in data augmentation.

Publications: [1] Zhang, P., Venketeswaran, A., Wright, R. F., Lalam, N., Sarcinelli, E., and Ohodnicki, P. R., 2023, "Quasi-Distributed Fiber Sensor-Based Approach for Pipeline Health Monitoring: Generating and Analyzing Physics-Based Simulation Datasets for Classification," Sensors, **23**(12), p. 5410.

This work is funded by the NETL NGI project, The Natural Gas Infrastructure Program, and by the US DOE NEUP program under workpackage #NU-21-PA-PITT-040101-05

Sponsor and Collaborators

