

**Workshop on Smart Urban Water Systems** (Smart UWSS) – Defects Localization and Acoustic Communication in Water Pipes

# Frequency- and Time- Domain Methods of Defect Detection in Water Pipeline Systems

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 Wave propagation in an "intact" pipeline system (defect-free)



 Wave propagation in the pipeline with a leakage (e.g., crack/hole)



 Wave propagation in the pipeline with a discrete blockage (e.g., partially-closed inline valves)



 Wave propagation in the pipeline with an extended blockage (e.g., corrosion/sediment)



 Wave propagation in the pipeline with a dead-end side-branch (e.g., illegal/unknown sections)



# Information of Defects in Waves

- Reflections (oscillations)
  - Local inhomogeneities due to defects
  - Wave reflection / transmission / superposition
- Attenuation (damping)
  - Local head loss (turbulence/friction at defects)
  - Local mass loss (e.g., leaking/side-branch cases)

Wave Reflections & Damping – Essential Information for TBM

(Duan et al. 2010, etc.)

## How to Utilize Wave Information in TBM?

- Long-period wave methods ("whole" signal)
  - Direct calibration and analysis
    - Time-domain signal fitting
    - Frequency-domain signal fitting
    - Time consuming and data dependent
    - easily contaminated (turbulence, noises, low-flow stabilities)
- Short-period wave methods (partial signal):
  - Inverse analysis of analytical "pattern" (pre-derived)
    - Time-domain "pattern"
    - Frequency-domain "pattern"

# Transient-Based Methods (TBM)

- Procedure of TBM for Defect Detection:
  - (a) Sending waves (input signals)
  - (b) Measuring signals at accessible locations (response signals)
  - (c) Analyzing data (characterizing noise/defects/system)
  - (d) Predicting defects (locating/sizing defects)



15 mm diameter Ball

# Part – 1: TBM for Single/Simple Pipe Systems



# **Transient Signature: Leakage**



## **Transient Signature: Discrete Blockage**



### **Transient Signature: Extended Blockage**



#### Transient Signature: Dead-End Side-Branch



# Applications and Accuracy of TBM

- Numerical Applications ("Ideal" tests)
  - TDM:
    - Ferrante and Brunone (2003, 2004); Ferrante et al. (2007); Tuck et al. (2013, 2014);
    - Liggett and Chen (1994); Beck et al. (2005); AL-Khomairi (2008); etc.
  - FDM:
    - Lee et al. (2008, 2013, 2014); Duan et al. (2010, 2011, 2012a, 2012b, 2014, 2015);
    - Mpesha et al. (2001); Kim (2005); Mohapatra et al. (2006), Sattar et al. (2008); etc.
- Experimental Applications (Lab/Field tests)
  - TDM:
    - Brunone et al. (1999, 2001); Meniconi et al. (2009, 2011, 2012, 2013);
    - Stephens et al. (2004, 2008); Vitkovsky et al. (2007); etc.
  - FDM:
    - Lee et al. (2006, 2014); Duan et al. (2013, 2014); Meniconi et al. (2013);
    - Wang et al. (2002, 2005); Covas et al. (2005); etc.

#### Results: more accurate to locating defects than to sizing defects!

# Comparison of TDM & FDM (For simple pipe systems)

- Theoretically, both TDM & FDM are capable of detecting (locating and sizing) these four types of defects by the pre-derived "patterns";
- But in applications,
  - FDM is more comprehensive and accurate than TDM, because some common complex factors such as friction and local dissipation effects are excluded in TDM;
  - TDM is more efficient and more simple to use than FDM in practical case studies.

# Combination of TDM & FDM

- Meniconi et al. (2014) Lab experiment tests
  - Pipe test system in New Zealand



# Part – 2: TBM for More Complex Pipe Systems (Using FDM for Illustration)

# (2.1) Multiple-Pipe Systems

• Leakage in series pipes (Duan et al. 2011)



#### (2.2) Viscoelastic Pipe Systems

Plastic pipelines (Duan et al. 2012)



$$\omega_{rf-VE} = \frac{\omega_{rf-Elastic}}{\sqrt{W}}$$
*W*: visco-elastic parameter

The existing method can be extended to visco-elastic pipelines as long as the *W* is known!

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### (2.3) Pipeline with Ends / Elbows

Air-pocket detection (Duan & Lee &..., 2015)



# (2.4) Pipe Networks







# **Practical Influence Factors**

- Input Signals (Lee et al. 2015)
  - Bandwidth
  - Amplitude
- System Complexities (Duan et al. 2011, 2015, etc.)
  - Pipe configurations
  - Defect characteristics (types, inhomogeneities)
  - Noises & uncertainties

Future Development of TBM (on the basis of current achievements)

- TDM & FDM (& Combination)
  - For complex pipe systems (e.g., networks)
  - Characterization of different types of defects
- LFW & HFW (& Combination)
  - Range vs. Resolution
  - Efficiency vs. Accuracy

#### Key References (by the **Project Team Members**)

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\* etc.....

# Thank you !