### (Low frequency) Waves as Defect Detection

### **The Italy Experience**

#### <u>Silvia Meniconi</u>, Bruno Brunone, Marco Ferrante, Caterina Capponi, Elisa Mazzetti



Dipartimento di Ingegneria Civile ed Ambientale

Università degli Studi di Perugia

# Outline

2

- Methodology: transients to diagnose a pressure pipe system
- Application of this methodology to
  - 1. a single damaged pipe in Scotland
  - a Y system in the Water Engineering Laboratory of University of Perugia
  - 3. the Milan water distribution-transmission system
  - 4. the Rieti transmission main



#### The Lintrathen East Trunk Main in Scotland



Leak detection in branched pipe systems coupling wavelet analysis and Lagrangian model



#### The Y system in the Water Engineering Laboratory of University of Perugia









Meniconi et al. (2014). Anomaly pre-localization in distribution-transmission mains by pump trip: preliminary field tests in the Milan pipe system

S. Meniconi et al.

# "Novara" pumping station





#### Propagation of the pressure wave generated by a pump trip in the pipe system supplied by Novara pumping station

















## **Rieti supply system**



S. Meniconi et al.

Planning and Management ASCE W== Meniconi et al. (2011). Potential pf transient test to diagnose real supply pipe systems: what can be done with a single extemporary test

L

(m)

16

80

265

200

500

190

DN

(mm)

400

400

200

40

200

90

200

90

200

a

(m/s)

901

901

1068

1268

1068

1129

1068

1129

1068

Water Resources

е

(mm)

5.1

5.1

4.9

2.9

4.9

2.9

4.9

2.9

4.9















## Conclusions

28

- Testing water pipe systems by generating a pump trip or closing a valve can detect singularities and anomalies (for example, junctions, leaks, blockages, in-line valves and wall deterioration).
- A simulated leak was clearly detected in the single damaged pipe in Scotland. The error in the localization of the leak is equal to 2%.
- A leak was detected in the system of Milan. However, because of the complexity of such a system, and the use of just one measurement section, the possible location of the leak is not unique.
- The topology of the supply system of Rieti was checked and its functioning conditions were determined. Moreover, the unwanted status of an in-line valve – certified by the manager as fully open but actually partially closed – was pointed out.
- A Water System is like a nervous system and a Transient Test is like an electromyography. You can use this tool like a doctor to analyse the health of the system. However to improve diagnosis reliability you have to preliminary well-define the system characteristics as well as have multiple measurement sections.

## Thanks for your kind attention



S. Meniconi et al.