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# Field Demonstrations of MR-MWM-Array Solutions for Detection, Imaging and Sizing of Corrosion under Fireproofing (CUF) with Wire Mesh

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# **Problem Description**

# Internal and External Corrosion Imaging through Fireproofing

- Requirements:
  - Inspect large areas through fireproofing with and without wire mesh
  - Correct for variations in fireproofing thickness
  - Correct for variations in steel properties
  - Provide an image of the wall loss
  - Differentiate between external and internal corrosion
- Applications include vessel skirts, LPG legs, structures
- Related applications include:
  - Inspection through insulation with weather jacket for vessels and piping
  - In-line inspection for corrosion and longitudinal stress



# **Technology Summary / Overview**

#### 1. Sensors: MR-MWM<sup>®</sup>-Arrays

 Paradigm shift in sensor design (first priority is predictable response based on physics-based modeling)







#### 2. Next Generation 8200 $\alpha$ GridStation<sup>®</sup> **Electronics**

- 10x signal-to-noise improvement
- Very low frequencies (deep penetration)
- Crack detection through up to 0.5 inches of material
- Reduced drift



- 3. GridStation<sup>®</sup> Software using Hyperlattices™
- Rapid, autonomous data analysis Performs multivariate inverse method (MIM) using precomputed databases
  - Defect Images
  - Performance Diagnostics
  - Noise Suppression





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MIM

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Real (Re)

# **Consider Three Corrosion Imaging Problems**

#### 3-unknowns (CUF)



h = insulation thickness + external metal loss

 $\Delta_v$  = remaining vessel wall thickness

 $\mu_{v}$  = vessel magnetic permeability

#### h, $\Delta_v$ , $\mu_v$

4-unknowns (CUF)



h,  $\Delta_v$ ,  $\mu_v$ ,  $\mu_{mesh}$ 

 $h_0$  = distance between sensor & wire mesh = air gap + concrete thickness outside wire mesh

h<sub>i</sub> = distance between wire mesh and external surface of vessel = concrete thickness inside wire mesh + external metal loss

 $\Delta_{v}$ , = remaining vessel wall thickness

 $\mu_v$  = vessel magnetic permeability

 $\mu_{mesh}$  = effective magnetic permeability of the wire mesh for an assumed constant mesh thickness

NOTE: To simplify from 5 unknowns to 4 unknowns, h<sub>i</sub> is assumed to be constant



 $h_0$  = distance between sensor & external surface of weather jacket

 $\Delta_{wi}$ , = weather jacket thickness

 $\Delta_i$  = insulation thickness + external metal loss

 $\Delta_v$  = remaining vessel wall thickness

 $\mu_v$  = vessel magnetic permeability

### **Demonstrations at Two Saudi Aramco Facilities**

- Site teams included: Saudi Aramco, Al-Rushaid and JENTEK personnel
- Prototype scanner functioned well, but was too heavy.
  Modifications will be made to improve ease of use.
- Scanning of large areas was accomplished in multiple vertical passes, with automatic scanning in the vertical direction, and manual shifting of the scanner around the vessel.



#### How many Frequencies are Needed to Solve for 3-Unknowns?

2-unknowns (CUF) 1 Frequency h and  $\Delta_v$ Linear equations example  $h + \Delta_v = 3$  in.  $\Delta_v = 1$  in. Solve: h = 2 in. Nonlinear equations example: Function 1 (h and  $\Delta_V$ ) = S1=Re(V/I) Function 2 (h and  $\Delta_V$ ) = S2=Im(V/I) Must solve using an alternative method.



Function 1 (h,  $\Delta_v$ ,  $\mu_v$ ) = S1=Re(V/I) at f1

Function 2 (h,  $\Delta_v$ ,  $\mu_v$ ) = S2=Im(V/I) at f1

Function 3 (h,  $\Delta_v$ ,  $\mu_v$ ) = S3 need 2<sup>nd</sup> freq.

**For Low Frequency Eddy Current Sensing** Each frequency provides two equations. Thus, to solve a three unknown problem, two frequencies are needed. To solve a two unknown problem, only one frequency is needed. For 5 unknowns, three frequencies are needed.

#### A Quick Introduction to MWM-Array Eddy Current Sensing



- 1. A current is applied to a single large drive conductor
- 2. This time varying current is applied at a frequency, such as 5Hz (5 cycles/second)
- 3. This time varying current produces a magnetic field
- 4. The electronics measures a voltage at each sensing element at the same time for up to three frequencies at the same time
- 5. For each frequency a magnitude (V/I) is measured and a phase which is the time delay of the voltage relative to the current is measured
- The Real part of the impedance is the Magnitude x cos(phase); the Imaginary part of the impedance is the Magnitude x sin(phase)

# Flat Plate Demonstration of 3-Unknown Method

#### **For External and Internal Corrosion**

#### <u>Sensor</u>

- 18-channel sensor
- Motorized scanning vehicle
- External and internal wall loss imaging

<u>Flat Plate</u> Dimensions: 4 ft. x 4 ft. Thickness: 0.25 in.

#### Flaw

Diameter: 2.25 in. Depth: 0.150 in. MR-MWM-Array (Curved or Flat surfaces)





### **3-Unknown Lattices**

- GridStation Lattices for MR-MWM-Array wall loss imaging
- Used for external and internal wall loss imaging



### **Independent Plate Thickness and Lift-off Imaging**





Slide 10

MWM sensor

h (lift-off)

#### **Discrimination Between External and Internal Wall Loss**



#### Independent Wall Thickness and Permeability (Longitudinal Stress) Imaging



# **MWM-Array Sensor Selection**

- Decay rate determined by skin depth at high frequency and sensor dimensions at low frequency
- Large dimensions needed for thick coatings/insulation
- Low frequencies needed to penetrate through steel pipe wall





### **Corrosion Under Fireproofing (CUF) with Wire Mesh**



#### Wall Thickness and Concrete Thickness



**Concrete Thickness** 



#### **Wall Thickness and Concrete Thickness**



Note that typical steel plate varies by ±10-15% without corrosion

































































#### **Sensitivity to Mesh Permeability and Concrete Thickness**



# Note: This mesh effect is in the vessel wall thickness direction

# **Removing Mesh Contribution**



#### Mesh Models Still Under Development

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#### MWM-Array Imaging of External and Internal Corrosion through Insulation with Weather Jacket





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#### **Problem Definition**



- $\Delta_{\mathbf{p}}$  = Remaining pipe wall thickness
- $\mu_{\mathbf{p}}$  = Pipe wall magnetic permeability
- $\Delta_{ext}$  = External wall loss
- $\Delta_{int}$  = Internal wall loss
- $\Delta_n$  = Nominal pipe wall thickness

- h = Lift-off
- $\mu_{\textbf{c}} = \text{Permeability of internal} \\ \text{corrosion product layer}$
- $\Delta_{\mathbf{c}}$  = Thickness of internal corrosion product layer
- $\Delta_i$  = Coating/insulation thickness

# **MWM-Array Inspection for CUI**



#### Improved Resolution with Alpha System (Wall Thickness Image)







# Summary

#### Demonstrated capability to:

- Correct for wire mesh
- Image vessel skirt wall thickness
- Scan large areas
- Future work
  - Improve scanner
  - Improve sensor effective footprint
  - Improve mesh model
  - Additional field trials in approvals

