# Ultrasonic Measurements of Temperature Profile and Heat Fluxes in Coal-Fired Power Plants

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# Outline

- Approach and its prior validation
- Project description
  - Goals
  - Tasks and Schedule
  - Progress
  - Plans
  - Team

# Overall goal

Advance technology-readiness level of ultrasound method for real-time measurement of temperature profiles in solids. Validate a prototype multipoint measurement system in a coal-fired utility boiler.

#### Original Motivation: Noninvasive measurements in extreme environments

Even hardened sensors cannot withstand harsh environment of energy conversion processes for long time



**Rosemount Sapphire TC** 



NETL, US DOE



Prof. Zhang Jiansheng, China: "Domestic TC survive ~1-2 weeks; Rosemount sapphire TC: ~4-6 weeks"

#### US Temperature Measurements in Solids

• Speed of sound (SOS) is temperature dependent in gases, liquids, and solids:

c = f(T)

• SOS can be obtained by measuring time of flight (TOF) of the test pulse:



 Key difficulty: When temperature changes, the TOF depend on the entire temperature distribution in a complex way:

$$TOF = \int_{r_{h}}^{r_{c}} \frac{2}{f(T(t,r))} dr$$

## Going from ultrasonic TOF to T(z) is difficult

• Deconvolution of TOF measurements from integral model

$$t_{of} = \int_0^{L(T)} \frac{2}{f(T(t,z))} dz$$

does not have a unique solution

- What can we do:
  - Use more data
  - Constrain allowable temperature distribution
    - Possible parameterizations:
      - Assume constant temperature :

$$\int_{0}^{L} \frac{2}{f(T(z))} dz = \frac{2L}{f(T_a)}$$

- Linear temperature distribution
- Heat transfer model

#### US Measurements of Segmental Temperature Distributions: US-MSTD Method

• Create multiple partial reflections that give information about temperature distribution in different segments of the propagation path



- Methods to create partial reflections:
  - Change in US impedance
  - Scatterers
  - Change in geometry

M. Skliar, K. Whitty, and A. Butterfield, Ultrasonic temperature measurement device, US Patent 8,801,277 B2, 2014; US Patent 9,212,956, 2015.

#### Design of Echogenic Features: A simple solution

• Design a waveguide with "geometric" features creating ultrasound reflections



 TOF between echoes encodes temperature information for the corresponding segment



• TOF between echoes encodes temperature information for the corresponding segment



• TOF between echoes encodes temperature information for the corresponding segment



• Segmental velocity of ultrasound propagation is correlated to the segmental temperature



# Algorithm and System Integration

- Our time of flight estimation algorithms
  - Perform cross-correlation / pulse compression



# Additive manufacturing gives new ways to introduce echogenic features

aser

(A)

Additive manufacturing can be used to create structures and components through which we can measure temperature distribution using US-MSTD method.







#### Demonstration of US-MSTD Method in Cementitious samples



#### 3D Reconstruction of Temperature Distribution

Temperature is reconstructed to satisfy measurements and heat transfer models:







Jia, Y. and M. Skliar, Noninvasive Ultrasound Measurements of Temperature Distribution and Heat Fluxes in Solids, Energy & Fuels, 30:4363–4371, 2016.

## Internal Heat Fluxes Vectors can be Estimated

Axial heat fluxes in the cementitious sample



When *T*=const, segmental elasticity, density, and other material properties can be measured

• In the simplest case of a "thin" waveguide

$$c_i = \sqrt{\frac{E_i}{\rho_i}}$$

 In more general case, the estimation of segmental elastic properties (Bulk, Young's, Shear moduli, Poisson's ratio) measurements with pand s-waves are needed



Surface temperature independently  $\bullet$ measured by TCs

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Jia, Y., V. Chernyshev, and M. Skliar, Ultrasound measurements of segmental temperature distribution in solids: Method and its hightemperature validation, Ultrasonics, 66, pp. 91-102, 2016.

#### Pilot Validation: Down-flow Oxy-fuel Combustor



#### US Measurement System: Installation





















## Coal Combustion with Changing Coal Feed Rate







Task	Tasks, Schedule, Milestones	Completion
PHASE I		
Task 2	The multipoint US-MSTD method is developed	Month 12
Task 3	Multipoint US-MSTD prototype is tested in laboratory	Month 12
PHASE II		
Task 2	Software integration of the TRL 6 prototype is completed	Month 24
Task 3	<ol> <li>Pilot scale testing of the capability to simultaneous measure the temperature profile and heat fluxes at multiple locations.</li> <li>Test on the pilot scale the sensitivity of the US-MSTD method to simulated soot deposits.</li> </ol>	Month 24
PHASE III		
Task 2	Continues iterative refinement of the prototype	Month 36
Task 3	<ol> <li>Test on the pilot scale the US-MSTD capability to measure the temperature distribution across the entire combustion zone.</li> <li>Test single-point US-MSTD system at the power plant.</li> <li>Power plant testing of the capability to simultaneous measure the temperature profile and heat fluxes at multiple locations.</li> <li>Repeat utility boiler testing after soot blowing.</li> </ol>	Month 36

## Technology status

- Method can provide accurate continuous noninvasive real-time measurements of temperature distributions in solids
- Demonstrated in laboratory and a small-scale process
- Heat fluxes deep inside structures can be measured
- Measurements in multiple locations are possible
- Can be used with existing and integrated into new energy conversion units
- Multipoint capability implemented
- System integration in Python
- Plant testing planned for this summer



# Rocky Mountain Power Hunter plant testing

#### Year 3 Year 2

 Test single-point US-MSTD system. Temperature at the selected location may be as high as 1,500° C.



#### Year 3

- Measurements of temperature and heat fluxes at multiple locations.
- Repeat testing after soot blowing, if scheduling allows it.





# Transition to Metal Waveguides

#### Things to consider

- Range of admissible temperatures
- Impact of high-temps (e.g., phases of materials)
- Ultrasonic attenuation
- Toughness/resistance to fracture
- Thermal conductivity and expansion

- Design and size of Echogenic Features
- Number, spacing, and orientation of Echogenic Features





# Limitation of the original design

- Ultrasonic response is too complex
- Need to redesign waveguide to obtain simpler ultrasound response



# Inconel 625 cannot be used at very high temperatures

Inconel WG before and after testing at 1,200° C



- We are considering refractory metals
- Perhaps, back to ceramics
- Locations with lower temperature



## Overall goal of the current project

Advance technology-readiness level of ultrasound method for real-time measurement of temperature profiles in solids. Validate a prototype multipoint measurement system in a coal-fired utility boiler.

# Call for collaborations

#### **Technology Highlights**

- Measure temperature distributions on lines/ surfaces/volumes. Heat fluxes inside structures measured.
- Use in extreme environments or when insertion sensors cannot be used. Works at macro-, micro- and nanoscales.
- Integration with structures by additive manufacturing.
- Measures changes in material properties.

#### **Examples of Transformative Applications**

- Structure-integrated measurements in hypersonic vehicles:
  - Internals and externals of propulsion system
  - Control of heat rejection
  - Operate at the edge of envelope
  - Zero/low/predictive maintenance
- Sensing in integrated and monolith systems produced by additive manufacturing



## References

- 1. M. Skliar, K. Whitty, and A. Butterfield, "Ultrasonic temperature measurement device," US Patent 8,801,277, 2014; and US Patent 9,212,956, 2015.
- Y. Jia, Melissa Puga, A. Butterfield, D. Christensen, K. Whitty, and M. Skliar "Ultrasound Measurements of Temperature Profile Across Gasifier Refractories: Method and Initial Validation," *Energy & Fuels* 27.8 (2013): 4270-4277.
- 3. Y. Jia and M. Skliar, "Anisotropic diffusion filter for robust timing of ultrasound echoes," 2014 IEEE International Ultrasonics Symposium (IUS), Chicago, II, pp. 560--563, 3-6 Sept. 2014.
- 4. Y. Jia and M. Skliar, "Noninvasive Ultrasound Measurements of Temperature Distribution and Heat Fluxes in Solids," *Energy & Fuels*, 30:4363–4371, 2016.
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- 6. M. Roy, K. Walton, J. B. Harley and M. Skliar, "Ultrasonic Evaluation of Segmental variability in Additively Manufactured Metal Components," *2018 IEEE International Ultrasonics Symposium* (IUS), Kobe, Japan, 2018.

### Special Thanks









### Questions