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Detection Keynote: Development of an Inspection Technology For Mechanical Damage

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Summary of Research for Mechanical Damage That Included Battelle

| Start | End | Contractor(s) | Sponsor | Outcomes |
|-------------|-------------|-------------------------------|---------------|--|
| Oct 1994 | May 1996 | Battelle, SwRI | GRI | Feasibility of MFL to better characterize mechanical damage. |
| Sep 1996 | Dec 1999 | Battelle, SwRI, Iowa State | DOT | Magnetic properties of pipeline steels an Dual magnetization. Non linear harmonics and neural networks. |
| May 2000 | Jun 2003 | Battelle, SwRI | GTI / DOT | Validation of decoupling and evaluation of circumferential MFL. Nonlinear harmonics and mechanical assessment. |
| Sep 2001 | Sep 2003 | Tuboscope | GTI | Technology transfer |
| Sep 2003 | Mar 2005 | Battelle | DOT / PRCI | Design of a dual magnetization tool. Technology demonstration |
| May 2006 | May 2008 | PRCI | DOT / PRCI | Testing of a tool in an operating pipeline |

Non Linear Harmonics (NLH)

- Developed by Southwest Research Institute SwRI[®]
- An electronic method for detecting surface stress/strain patterns
- Uses an alternating magnetic field (10kHz), making it sensitive to only surface strain changes
- Examines only a small area, requiring multiple sensors for complete coverage of pipe surface
- A current SwRI project with DOT is evaluating the ability of NLH to monitor changes in gouged dents as they are cyclically loaded to failure.

NLH signals reveal defect stress patterns on pipe inner surface

NLH data from pressurized scan



Finite element stress analysis confirms NLH signals relate to stress

Defect stress pattern from FEA

intense stress

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Data Provided by SwRI

Technology demonstration at the Pipeline Simulation Facility

- DOT PHMSA and DOE NETL have conducted Technology Demonstrations in Sept 2004 and Jan 2006 examining:
 - Corrosion sensors
 - for crawlers (3)
 - -SCC(1)
 - Mechanical
 - Damage (2)
 - Plastic pipe
- Blind tests
- Industry observers



Ultrasonic strain measurements using EMATs

- Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) is developing an ultrasonic sensor system for detecting and characterizing pipeline stress and strain caused by denting and other deformation
- Ranks the severity of smooth dents based on ultrasonic measurements of the mechanical properties and the presence of plastic strain, rather than dent dimensions or wall thickness
- Strain is measurable for uniaxial deformation
- Developing predictions of effective strain when the damage is more complex than a simple uniaxial deformation on deformed pipe

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PNNL Ultrasonic strain measurements vs. effective strain from dimensional measurements of deformed pipe



Dual Magnetization MFL Inspection for Mechanical Damage

Inspection Goal:

- Increase the probability of obtaining a *measurable* signal from significant mechanical damage and properly differentiates these signals from other "anomalous" signals
- -Function reliably under pipeline conditions
- Dual magnetization MFL technology
 - Can detect magnetic property variations due to stress associated with dents and gouges
 - Is an extension of the most successfully used pipeline inspection technology

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Initial Result: Low magnetic fields are sensitive to stress and cold work



Dual Magnetization Approach

- Dual magnetization level signal processing (decoupling)
 - 1. MFL signals at high magnetization levels are almost entirely due to geometry changes (corrosion and removed metal)
 - 2. MFL signals at low levels are due to both geometry and magnetic changes
 - The difference is due to magnetic changes the most important components of mechanical damage

Extracting the Magnetic Component: Decoupling



Decoupling Example



Demonstration that decoupling works



Decoupling method was tested in a variety of pipe materials



The Most Recent Project: Design of a dual magnetization tool

- Prior projects established:
 - Theory
 - Signal processing
 - Functional in pipeline materials
- Built and tested a prototype tool at the pipeline simulation facility



Articulating magnet bar

 Magnet bar split at the null point with a ball joint coupling for passing pipeline bends.



Prototype tool built and tested at Battelle's Pipeline Simulation Facility



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Dual Magnetization Summary

- Deformation tools have been used to assess dents in pipelines for years.
- Some newer commercial MFL tools incorporate deformation sensors to identify dents with missing metal.
- The dual field approach has the potential to augment current MFL technology to identify and provide additional information on dents that are the result of third party excavation.
 - The dual field method exposes areas of stress, rerounding and cold work.
 - In particular, the decoupled signal can expose a region of cold work where the ductility of the steel has been exhausted and the re-rounding of the dent applies a tensile load to the anomaly.

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Future project

- A PRCI project has been recommended for a DOT PHMSA award to start gaining field experience
- Pigging vendor will build a dual magnetization tool for use on an operating pipeline
- Pipelines have been designated for evaluation of dual magnetization technology
- Single magnetization MFL technology will be evaluated