#### An introduction to

#### Fibre optic sensing

Christopher Wollin<sup>1</sup>, Leila Ehsaninezhad<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences, Potsdam, Germany



IMPROVE network school Potsdam, 30. May 2024 Fibre optic sensing









Fibre optic sensing



Fibre optic sensing

POTSDAM

L. Ehsaninezhad 4

HELMHULI SPITZENFORSCHUNG FÜR GROSSE HERAUSFORDERI



Fibre optic sensing

#### Distributed Acoustic Sensing Measurement Principle



- Change of intensity = strain-rate
- Integration in time = local strain





# Cable Design

#### Objective $\rightarrow$ fiber type $\rightarrow$ fiber design $\rightarrow$ cable design

Fiber In Metal Tube ("FIMT")



(Cunow, 2021)







Important measurement parameters

- Measureing one component of the strain tensor
  - Strain is a relative quantity
- The "gauge-length"
  - lies in the order of meters
  - · is inverse to the spatial resolution and
  - proportional to the Signal-to-Noise Ratio
- Order of magnitude of spatial dimensions
  - fiber 100m < L < 30km
  - gauge 2m < l < 20m
  - sampling 0.25m < ds < 30m









Explosive defusion of a 250kg WW2 bomb in Downtown Potsdam





IMPROVE network school Potsdam, 30. May 2024 Fibre optic sensing 2 km

Fibre DAS system

GFZ Bomb



#### Distributed Acoustic Sensing vs. traditional seismometers



- A seismometers measures the 3D (particle)
  - movement,
  - velocity or
  - acceleration

of an inertial mass.

 Response depends on the specifications of the oscillatory system (mass, spring constant, damping).

12





#### Distributed Acoustic Sensing vs. traditional seismometers



Strain is the relative distance change of two seismometers at a certain distance 1 ...



IMPROVE network school Potsdam, 30. May 2024 Fibre optic sensing

C. Wollin L. Ehsaninezhad

13

HELMHOLTZ SPITZENFORSCHUNG FÜR GROSSE HERAUSFORDERUNG

#### Distributed Acoustic Sensing vs. traditional seismometers



Potsdam, 30. May 2024

Fibre optic sensing

Helmholtz-Zentrum

POTSDAM

Strain is the relative distance change of two seismometers at a certain distance 1 when dislocated by some external forcing

14



C. Wollin L. Ehsaninezhad



"Distributed seismometer"

h

 $v_{v}(b)$ 

Absolute kinematic parameters (particle movment or velocity) of the DAS measurement are unknown.

"Extend" point measurement of the particle velocity in direction of the fiber by adding spatial integral of the distributed strain-rate measurement.

$$\mathbf{v}_{x}(b) = \mathbf{v}_{x}(0) + \int_{0}^{b} \dot{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}(x) dx$$

15

1

GFZ Helmholtz-Zentrum Potsdam IMPROVE network school Potsdam, 30. May 2024 Fibre optic sensing  $v_{v}(0)$ 

X



### Use cases / application examples

Exploration



IMPROVE network school Potsdam, 30. May 2024 Fibre optic sensing



# Exploration

#### Urban ambient-Noise-Tomography, Berlin (MASW) Dark fiber 2) Surface wave



Ehsaniezhad et al. (2024)





### Use cases / application examples

Seismological monitoring





# Local seismicity

#### Recording with a horizontal telecommunication fiber

- M1.5
- 3.5 km depth
- P- and S-wave recorded along the entire fiber (approx. 12 km)
- Prolonged coda indicates location of faults





GFZ Helmholtz-Zentrum Potsdam IMPROVE network school Potsdam, 30. May 2024 Fibre optic sensing

C. Wollin L. Ehsaninezhad 23 SPIZENFORSCHUNG FÜR GRÖßse HERAUSFORDERUNN

# Volcanic monitoring



#### Using ambient noise

Maass et al. (JGR Solid Earth, 2024)

- Two cycles of crustal inflation
- Analysis of ambient noise traveling between two fiber segments
- Relative velocity changes correlate with the uplift documented by GPS timeseries







#### Volcanic monitoring with multiparametric measurements





a) DAS

- b) Broadband seismometer
- c) Infrasound pressure sensors



IMPROVE network school Potsdam, 30. May 2024 Fibre optic sensing



# Volcanic monitoring

#### Jousset et al. (Nature Communications, 2022)



a) DAS record is separated into seismic and the infrasound wavefield

b) Wavefield enhancement and separation into components transmitted and reflected at a vertical structure crossing the fiber.





IMPROVE network school Potsdam, 30. May 2024 Fibre optic sensing

C. Wollin L. Ehsaninezhad 26

HELMHOLTZ SPITZENFORSCHUNG FÜR GROSSE HERAUSFORDERUNGEN

# Local seismicity

Recording with a vertically cemented borehole fiber (approx. 1 km depth)

- Induced seismicity in vicinity of an Enhanced Geothermal System (EGS), Utha, USA
- Varying contrasts between amplitude values of different seismic phases, e.g. Pand S-wave could originate from different source mechanisms



GFZ Helmholtz-Zentrum Potsdam IMPROVE network school Potsdam, 30. May 2024 Fibre optic sensing

C. Wollin HELMHOLT L. Ehsaninezhad 27 SPITZENFORSCHURG FÜ GROSSE HERAUSFORDEL

### Local seismicity

Recording with a vertically cemented borehole fiber





- Detection and localisation of earthquakes with DAS
- In a cross section of approx. 10 x 10 km
- A lower detection threshold (<M -1) than seismological network at the surface
- => Shift in the b-value

Lellouch et al. (2018)





# Induced seismicity

Micro seismicity resulting from hydraulic fracking, Denver (USA)



GFZ Helmholtz-Zentrum Potsdam IMPROVE network school Potsdam, 30. May 2024 Fibre optic sensing

C. Wollin L. Ehsaninezhad 29 SPITZENFORSEL MERAUSFORDERUN

#### Use cases / application examples

Infrastructure monitoring



IMPROVE network school Potsdam, 30. May 2024 Fibre optic sensing

C. Wollin L. Ehsaninezhad



#### **Monitoring of a well integrity** during completion: Distributed Temperature Sensing (DTS) monitoring of gravel-packing operation



Hart et al. (2022, in preparation)

A) cool flushing flow (1) arrives at the end of the flushing lance (2); circulation through the control filter.B) periodic cooling below control filter due to the arrival of gravel



IMPROVE network school Potsdam, 30. May 2024 Fibre optic sensing



#### Summary

- DAS offers an efficient and powerful way to observe not only creep deformations (DSS) and temperature (DTS) but also elastic processes (DAS) with the same infrastructure.
- Several thousand (virtual) sensors along several dozen kilometers of fiber allow for spatially unaliased sampling of the strain-/wave- or temperature field.
  - In the case of the seismic wavefield, coherence analysis is a powerful tool for enhancing the recordings and exploring the underlying elastic medium.
  - Broadband spectral response.
- The specific measurement characteristics of the wavelength- and direction-dependent sensitivity as well as fiber properties and circumstance of deployment must be taken into account.



IMPROVE network school Potsdam, 30. May 2024 Fibre optic sensing



- 1960: invention of the laser by Theodore H. Maiman at Hughes Research Laboratories (California, USA).
- 1970: Corning Glass Works (Company, New York, USA) develop the first optic fiber practical for telecommunication.
- 1977: Installation of the first commercial fiber optic communication system
- 1980s: Optical Time Domain Reflectometry (OTDR) allows for the distributed measurement of signal loss
- 1990s: Development of further intrinsic scattering techniques (Raman and Brillouin)
- 2000s: Distributed Temperature Sensing applied in the oil and gas industry borehole monitoring
- 2024: IMPROVE network school





 1960: invention of the laser by Theodore H. Maiman at Hughes Research Laboratories (California, USA).



Scetch of Maiman's ruby laser from 1960. Approx. 6X4 cm size. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ruby\_laser]



Commercial semi-conductor laser component (14-Pin butterfly) for modern applications. Approx. 2X3cm size [www.beaq.com]



IMPROVE network school Potsdam, 30. May 2024 Fibre optic sensing



- 1960: invention of the laser by Theodore H. Maiman at Hughes Research Laboratories (California, USA).
- 1970: Corning Glass Works (Company, New York, USA) develop the first optic fiber practical for telecommunication.







- 1960: invention of the laser by Theodore H. Maiman at Hughes Research Laboratories (California, USA).
- 1970: Corning Glass Works (Company, New York, USA) develop the first optic fiber practical for telecommunication.
- 1977: Installation of the first commercial fiber optic communication system









- 2010s: Commercialization of Distributed Acoustic Sensing
- 2018: Detection of seismicity with DAS using dark telecom. fibers (Jousset et al. 2018)





We now invite you to

- visit the GIPP,
- look at a live DAS recording,
- perform a small experiment and
- touch some some seismic data.



#### • 2024: IMPROVE network school



IMPROVE network school Potsdam, 30. May 2024 Fibre optic sensing

C. Wollin		
L. Ehsaninezhad	39	S

HELMHOLTZ SPITZENFORSCHUNG FÜR GROSSE HERAUSFORDERUNG

We now invite you to

- visit the GIPP,
- look at a live DAS recording,
- perform a small experiment and
- touch some some seismic data.



#### • 2024: IMPROVE network school



IMPROVE network school Potsdam, 30. May 2024 Fibre optic sensing

C. Wollin L. Ehsaninezhad 40

HELMHOLTZ SPITZENFORSCHUNG FÜR GROSSE HERAUSFORDERUNG

#### Thank you for your attention and ...

... let's go



IMPROVE network school Potsdam, 30. May 2024 Fibre optic sensing

