

An Optical Sensor and Wireless Mesh Network Advanced Instrumentation for the Large Laminar Soil Box

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The objective is to provide the *prompt* actionable data for post-event response



 Guidance for detailed inspections

Interstory drift is an essential earthquake demand parameter



The challenges of accurately measuring interstory drift have been well documented

Critical Assessment of Interstory Drift Measurements

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Abstract: Interstory drift, the relative translational displacement between two consecutive floors, is an important engineering demand parameter and indicator of structural performance. The structural engineering community would benefit well from accurate measurements of interstory drift, especially where structures undergo inelastic deformation. Unfortunately, the most common method for obtaining interstory drift, double integration of measured acceleration, is problematic. Several issues associated with this method (e.g., signal processing steps and sparse instrumentation) are illustrated using data from shake table studies and two extensively instrumented buildings. Some alternative contact and noncontact methods for obtaining interstory drift are then presented.

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The concept - exploit the physics of light for direct, broad-band drift measurement



Inexpensive light-sensitive diodes are at the heart of our sensor concept



Generation 1 - a prototype sensor for proof of concept



Testbed #1 - a motion table for generating realistic interstory drifts was developed



Prototype sensor measurements demonstrated excellent drift measurement

3 story









Imposed Versus Measured Interstory Drift



Drift Measurement Error 1st Floor

Testbed #2 - a simple laboratory scale frame structure

El Centro motion test





Generation 2 - an integrated sensor on a single circuit board (NSRD)



~9 inches

Testbed #3 - the DOE Office of Nuclear Safety supported a larger 3D test at UNR in 2017





Drift measurements ground truth versus DDPS



Generation 3 - a deployable sensor based on value engineering and lessons learned



Discovery – a diffuse laser is much better than a sharply focused laser



Four sensors were deployed in Wang Hall at Berkeley Lab in September 2019



The sensors have continuously operated very reliably for 14 months



Automated email delivery of data

Hardware for the first prototype of a new biaxial sensor version has been completed



Orbit plot for 20 story building subjected to strong near-field motions



Another use case - we have tested the optical sensor concept as an agile laboratory sensor



There is the potential to deploy as part of the soil box system diagnostics





Soil Box relative motion <