Crossing the shoreline with fiber-optic Distributed Acoustic Sensing (DAS) in Monterey Bay

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Berkeley Seismology Lab

Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute









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 Undersea cables owned by Amazon, Facebook, Google or Microsoft

__ Other undersea cables

The New York Times, 2019

Fiber-optic cables are everywhere



DAS turns a fiber-optic cable into a massive 1C seismic array. (of strain-rate sensors)



Ajo-Franklin et al., 2019



Questions at Dec 2018 DAS workshop

How does an optical fiber couple to the seafloor? Questions at Dec 2018 AGU Fall Meeting

How can we use DAS to monitor submarine volcanoes and track whales? Questions at Dec 2018 DAS workshop

How do we store, transfer, share, analyze TB/day data volumes? Questions at Dec 2018 AGU Fall Meeting

How can we use DAS for earthquake early warning?

Aims for Today's Talk

- What is DAS instrument response?
- What can we do offshore with DAS now?

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Number of photons = Laser energy / (hc / λ) * Pulse duration Number of photons = 1 mW / (6.26e-34 Js * 3e8 m/s / 1550 nm) * 30 ns Number of photons = 247,603,834 per pulse

Number of scatterers = Number of photons per meter * Loss * Rayleigh scattering contribution Number of scatterers = 247,603,834 * (1 pulse / 30 ns) * (1.45 / 3e8 m/s) * 0.15 dB/km * 0.96 Number of scatterers = 1322 per meter



DAS turns a fiber-optic cable into a massive 1C seismic array. (of strain-rate sensors)



DAS turns a fiber-optic cable into a massive 1C seismic array.



DAS turns a fiber-optic cable into a massive 1C seismic array.

(of strain-rate sensors)

99.9% of DAS experiments are in oil & gas industry





"Direct burial" of fiber-optic cables requires trenching and splicing.



Fiber-optic geophysics for time > days?

Permafrost degradation experiment (Wagner, et al., 2018, *Scientific Reports*)



Fiber-optic geophysics for time > days?

Distributed fiber-optic measurements of strain due to subsidence during permafrost degradation experiment







Using existing "**dark fiber**" in telecommunications cables requires access and leads to greater uncertainty in geometry and coupling, but is more efficient.



"Three conditions for a seismometer"

Lay and Wallace, 1995, Modern Global Seismology

- 1. Timing
- 2. Known instrument response
- 3. Coupled sensor

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What is DAS instrument response?



Lindsey et al., in review [JGR]

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What is DAS instrument response?

Measuring DAS Performance Parameters SEAFOM MSP-02 (https://seafom.com/?mdocs-file=1270)

- Dynamic range
- Frequency response
- Fidelity
- Self-noise

- Spatial Resolution
- Cross-talk
- Loss budget

Lindsey et al., in review [JGR]

Empirical evaluation using teleseismic earthquakes



Empirical evaluation using teleseismic earthquakes



Empirical evaluation using teleseismic earthquakes



1000

Lindsey et al., in review [JGR]

Empirical evaluation using teleseismic earthquakes



1000

Lindsey et al., in review [JGR]

Converting DAS

strain to particle velocity in FK

domain over 500 channel subarrav

Empirical evaluation using teleseismic earthquakes



Time [s]

-110

101

Period [s]

 10^{2}

1000

Converting DAS

strain to particle velocity in FK

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Lindsey et al., in review [JGR]

Empirical evaluation using teleseismic earthquakes















Empirical evaluation using teleseismic earthquakes



Empirical evaluation using teleseismic earthquakes



Lindsey et al., in review [JGR]



Result of Deconvolution

Seismomete

DAS Strain

3000

2500

2000

As broadband as seismometer, flat phase, reduced amplitude...coupling? photonic?



Aims for Today's Talk

- What is DAS instrument response?
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DAS-MARS Cable Experiment



Linear Fiber Distance [km]

Questions:

- Seafloor DAS sensitivity ...ocean acoustics? solid earth signals?
- How is microseism energy partitioned at the ocean-solid earth interface?
- Long period DAS response? ...hydrodynamic signals?
- Can we use DAS to study seafloor fault properties?

DAS-MARS Cable Experiment



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How is microseism energy partitioned at the ocean-solid earth interface?





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How is microseism energy partitioned at the ocean-solid earth interface?

Outgoing

Waves

(0.85%)

0.01

0.00

0.00

Wavenumber [m⁻¹]

0.01

0.02

0.02

-50

Power Spec. Density [db rel. 1 (ɛ/s)²/Hz 5 – – – – – – – – – – – – – –

-75

 $\omega^2 = gk \tanh(kH)$



DAS-MARS Cable Experiment



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Long period DAS response to hydrodynamic signals?

DAS-MARS Cable Experiment



- Infragravity waves tidally modulated
- Post-low tide bore migration
- Field evidence of DAS response T~1000 s



Dolenc et al., 2005; Cazenave 2008; Colosi et al., 2018; Becker et al., 2017

DAS-MARS Cable Experiment



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DAS-MARS Cable Experiment

A -122.25°



- FK-filter removes microseism
- Aptos Fault Zone recently mapped with dense 3-D seismic reflection (CSMP).
- Point scattering of body waves into 400-800 m/s surface waves.

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- FK-filter removes microseism
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- Point scattering of body waves into 400-800 m/s surface waves.
- Wavefront delay = 0.5 s



Further reading in pre-print, press...

Instrument response

 Becker, M.W. and Coleman, T. (2019). Distributed Acoustic Sensing of Strain at Earth Tide Frequencies. *Sensors 19*(9), 1975; <u>https://doi.org/10.3390/s19091975</u>.

Seafloor DAS

- Williams, E., Fernandez-Ruiz, M. R., Magalhaes, R., Vanthillo, R., Zhan, Z., Gonzalez-Herraez, M., & Martins, H. F. (2019). Teleseisms and Microseisms on an Ocean-Bottom Distributed Acoustic Sensing Array. EarthArXiv; https://eartharxiv.org/kg7q4/ (in review, *Nat Comm.*).
- Sladen, A., Rivet, D., Ampuero, J. P., Hello, Y., Calbris, G., and Lamare, P. (2019). Distributed sensing of earthquakes and ocean-solid Earth interactions on seafloor telecom cables. *EarthArXiv*; <u>https://eartharxiv.org/ekrfy/</u> (in review, *Nat Comm.*).
- Lindsey, N., Dawe, T.C., & Ajo-Franklin, J. (2019). Photonic seismology in Monterey Bay: Dark fiber DAS illuminates offshore faults and coastal ocean dynamics. *EarthArXiv*; <u>https://eartharxiv.org/7bf92/</u> (accepted, *Science*).



Thank you for your attention!

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• What is DAS instrument response?

As broadband as seismometer, flat phase, reduced amplitude...coupling? photonic? Are all fibers and instruments the same? Need cross-validation and calibration. Many more open aspects to investigate...self-noise, dynamic range, cross-talk.

• What can we do offshore with DAS now?

10-Mar-

DAS has sensitivity to nearshore ocean noises and solid earth seismic signals. Examine microseism partitioning, nearshore soundscape, seafloor fault properties.





Supplementary Slides

"Fast Axis" [10⁻⁶ s]

Distance [m] "Fast Axis" [10⁻⁶ s]

Laser pulse width $\sim 10 - 40$ ns

after Posey 2000; Masoudi and Newsom, 2016; Hartog, 2017

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Also works in "lit fiber" telecommunications geometries...stay tuned

Aleksei Titov

- Full fidelity DAS recording
- 1310 nm 100baseT Ethernet connection reported 0 packet loss when sharing fiber

