Non-contact measurement of planar vibrations

This invention measures vibrations on surfaces and makes them visible. It is ideal for non-destructive testing of components or for analyzing the oscillation properties of components or even musical instruments. Until now, a two-dimensional measurement has only been possible using extremely complex and expensive methods. The present innovation uses simple audio components and still offers high accuracy and comprehensible graphical evaluations.



Vibrations become visible and understandable

The measuring device enables vibration analyses of complex solids and offers a cost-effective and non-destructive possibility for quality monitoring and component testing. The simple visualization of the "out-of-the-plane" motion on the component surface is provided in a user-friendly map display.

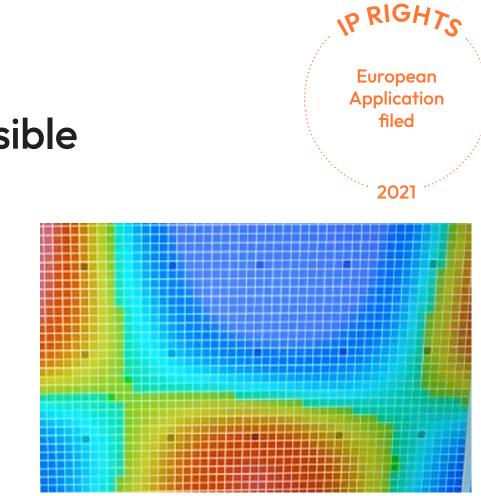
- 01 Multi-material suitable: even for sandwich- and composite, capable for natural materials, plastic and all kinds of metals.
- O2 Performs complex analyses and inspection tasks or nondestructive in-line quality testing.
- 03 Standard microphones with simple callibration process intuitive handling.
- 04 The variable evaluation enables easy-to-understand graphical illustrations.



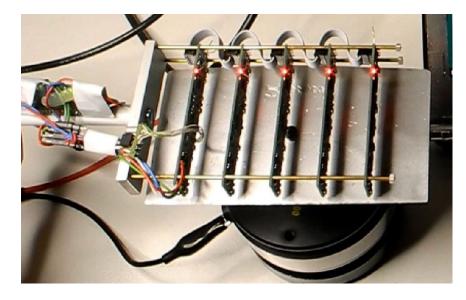


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The standing wave of the natural vibration of a metal plate gets visualized over the entire surface: Elevations appear red, depressions blue.



With increasing density and distribution of the microphone boards, the resolution and the quality of the measurement increases.

CHALLENGE

The two-dimensional measurement of vibrations on components is complex. Laser vibrometers measure only in the focal point of a laser beam. The measurement of a planar surface vibration can only be performed using several measuring heads or via scanning processes. Acceleration sensors only allow point measurements and influence the vibration behavior due to their own weight, since they sit on the object to be measured.

INNOVATION

A planar vibration analysis, especially of nonrepetitive events, is difficult to display with conventional measurement technology. The patent-pending system uses the speed of sound to calculate a two-dimensional dataset of the sound wave propagation in a vibrating component or in a group of components. The measurement is carried out with the aid of microphone pairs. These record the sound velocity and accurately calculate the geometric deflection of the vibrating surface based on their position. Reliable measurement of large-scale components seems possible.

01 Basic principles observed · **02** Technology concept formulated · **03** Experimental proof of concept · **04** Technology validated in lab · **05** Technology validated in relevant environment · **06** Technology demonstrated in relevant environment · **07** System prototype demonstration in operational environment · **08** System complete and qualified

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