

# PROCEEDINGS OF SPIE

## ***Fourth European Workshop on Optical Fibre Sensors***

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*Editors*

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# Contents

- xix *Conference Committee*
- xxi *Introduction*
- xxiii *Conference Sponsors*

---

## SPECIAL SESSION: OPTICAL FIBRE SENSORS FOR SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT

---

- 7653 02 **A paradigm change in energy: the new electricity age (Invited Paper)** [7653-160]  
T. Bosselmann, Siemens AG (Germany)
- 7653 03 **Temperature monitoring of geothermal energy wells (Invited Paper)** [7653-166]  
M. Jaaskelainen, SensorTran (United States)

---

## EWOF2010 INTRODUCTORY OVERVIEW

---

- 7653 04 **Fibre optic sensor technology: An engineering reality or a scientific opportunity? (Invited Paper)** [7653-162]  
B. Culshaw, Univ. of Strathclyde (United Kingdom)

---

## INVITED TALKS

---

- 7653 05 **Multimaterial fiber sensors (Invited Paper)** [7653-167]  
F. Sorin, Y. Fink, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (United States)
- 7653 06 **Spintronic microfluidic platform for biomedical and environmental applications (Invited Paper)** [7653-169]  
F. A. Cardoso, INESC MN and IN (Portugal) and Instituto Superior Técnico (Portugal);  
V. C. Martins, INESC MN and IN (Portugal) and Institute of Biotechnology and Bioengineering (Portugal);  
L. P. Fonseca, Institute of Biotechnology and Bioengineering (Portugal);  
J. Germano, L. A. Sousa, M. S. Piedade, Instituto Superior Técnico (Portugal) and INESC ID (Portugal);  
P. P. Freitas, INESC MN and IN (Portugal) and Instituto Superior Técnico (Portugal)
- 7653 07 **Emerging fiber optic endomicroscopy technologies towards noninvasive real-time visualization of histology in situ (Invited Paper)** [7653-161]  
J. Xi, Y. Zhang, L. Huo, Y. Chen, T. Jabbour, The Johns Hopkins Univ. (United States); M.-J. Li, Corning Inc. (United States); X. Li, The Johns Hopkins Univ. (United States)
- 7653 08 **Fibre optic grating sensors for biofuels (Invited Paper)** [7653-62]  
M. Muller, J. L. Fabris, H. J. Kalinowski, Univ. Tecnológica Federal do Paraná (Brazil)

- 7653 09 **Recent progress towards centimetric spatial resolution in distributed fibre sensing (Invited Paper)** [7653-170]  
L. Thévenaz, S. Fioleng-Mafang, K.-Y. Song, S. Chin, J.-C. Beugnot, N. Primerov, M. Tur, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (Switzerland)
- 7653 0A **Distributed fiber optic sensors embedded in technical textiles for structural health monitoring (Invited Paper)** [7653-164]  
K. Krebber, P. Lenke, S. Liehr, N. Noether, M. Wendt, A. Wosniok, Bundesanstalt für Materialforschung und -prüfung (Germany)

Wednesday, 8 September 2010

---

**SESSION 1    PHYSICAL AND MECHANICAL SENSORS**

---

- 7653 0B **Fibre optic hot-wire flowmeter based on a metallic coated hybrid LPG-FBG structure** [7653-132]  
P. Caldas, INESC Porto (Portugal), Univ. do Porto (Portugal), and Escola Superior de Tecnologia e Gestão (Portugal); P. A. S. Jorge, INESC Porto (Portugal); G. Rego, INESC Porto (Portugal) and Escola Superior de Tecnologia e Gestão (Portugal); O. Frazão, INESC Porto (Portugal); J. L. Santos, INESC Porto (Portugal) and Univ. do Porto (Portugal); L. A. Ferreira, F. Araújo, INESC Porto (Portugal)
- 7653 0C **Drift in high-temperature FBG sensors** [7653-09]  
A. Busboom, GE Global Research (Germany); H. Xia, B. K. Lee, G. P. Koste, GE Global Research (United States)
- 7653 0D **Polarimetric sensitivity to hydrostatic pressure and temperature in birefringent dual-core microstructured polymer fiber** [7653-34]  
M. K. Szczurowski, T. Martynkien, G. Stańkiewicz-Barabach, W. Urbanczyk, Wroclaw Univ. of Technology (Poland); D. J. Webb, Aston Univ. (United Kingdom)
- 7653 0E **Wavelength encoded fiber sensor for extreme temperature range** [7653-107]  
D. Barrera, Univ. Politécnica de Valencia (Spain); V. Finazzi, G. Coviello, Institut de Ciències Fotoniques (Spain); A. Bueno, S. Sales, Univ. Politécnica de Valencia (Spain); V. Pruneri, Institut de Ciències Fotoniques (Spain) and Institució Catalana de Recerca i Estudis Avançats (Spain)
- 7653 0F **Strain calibration of optical FBG-based strain sensors** [7653-110]  
J. Roths, A. Wilfert, P. Kratzer, F. Jülich, R. Kuttler, Munich Univ. of Applied Sciences (Germany)
- 7653 0G **Investigation of long term stability of arc-induced gratings heat treated at high temperatures** [7653-85]  
G. Rego, Escola Superior de Tecnologia e Gestão (Portugal) and INESC Porto (Portugal); P. Caldas, Escola Superior de Tecnologia e Gestão (Portugal), INESC Porto (Portugal), and Univ. do Porto (Portugal); O. Ivanov, Institute of Radio Engineering and Electronics (Russian Federation) and Ulyanovsk State Univ. (Russian Federation); J. L. Santos, INESC Porto (Portugal) and Univ. do Porto (Portugal)

- 7653 OH **Temperature independent bend measurement using a pi-phase shifted FBG at twice the Bragg wavelength** [7653-93]  
H. K. Bal, F. Sidirolou, Z. Brodzeli, Victoria Univ. (Australia); S. A. Wade, Swinburne Univ. of Technology (Australia); G. W. Baxter, S. F. Collins, Victoria Univ. (Australia)
- 7653 OI **Investigation of sensing properties of long period gratings based on microstructured polymer optical fibres** [7653-112]  
J. Witt, M. Steffen, M. Schukar, K. Krebber, Bundesanstalt für Materialforschung und -prüfung (Germany)
- 7653 OJ **Optical inclinometer based on fibre-taper-modal Michelson interferometer** [7653-43]  
L. M. N. Amaral, O. Frazão, INESC Porto (Portugal); J. L. Santos, INESC Porto (Portugal) and Univ. do Porto (Portugal); A. B. Lobo Ribeiro, Univ. Fernando Pessoa (Portugal)
- 7653 OK **Photonic crystal fiber sensor for magnetic field detection** [7653-139]  
S. M. M. Quintero, Pontifícia Univ. Católica do Rio de Janeiro (Brazil); C. Martelli, Univ. Tecnológica Federal do Paraná (Brazil); C. C. Kato, L. C. G. Valente, A. M. B. Braga, Pontifícia Univ. Católica do Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)
- 7653 OL **Optimized conditions for gas light interaction in photonic crystal fibres** [7653-134]  
I. Dicaire, J.-C. Beugnot, L. Thévenaz, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (Switzerland)
- 7653 OM **Fibre loop mirror using a small core microstructured fibre for the simultaneous measurement of strain and temperature** [7653-01]  
R. M. André, M. B. Marques, INESC Porto (Portugal) and Univ. do Porto (Portugal); P. Roy, XLIM, CNRS, Univ. de Limoges (France); O. Frazão, INESC Porto (Portugal)
- 7653 ON **H<sub>2</sub> sensing performance of optical fibers coated with WO<sub>3</sub> film** [7653-103]  
J. Ou, RMIT Univ. (Australia); M. H. Yaacob, RMIT Univ. (Australia) and Univ. Putra Malaysia (Malaysia); M. Breedon, K. Kalantar-Zadeh, W. Wlodarski, RMIT Univ. (Australia)
- 7653 OO **Optical refractometer based on high birefringence Bragg grating Fabry-Perot cavity** [7653-151]  
C. Jesus, INESC Porto (Portugal) and Univ. da Madeira (Portugal); O. Frazão, P. A. S. Jorge, INESC Porto (Portugal); J. M. Baptista, Univ. da Madeira (Portugal) and INESC Porto (Portugal)
- 7653 OP **Transverse strain sensor based on etched phase-shifted fiber Bragg gratings** [7653-96]  
H. K. Bal, Z. Brodzeli, F. Sidirolou, S. F. Collins, Victoria Univ. (Australia)
- 7653 OQ **Rapid disappearance of regenerated fibre Bragg gratings at temperatures approaching 1500 °C in boron-codoped germanosilicate optical fibre** [7653-106]  
M. L. Åslund, J. Canning, The Univ. of Sydney (Australia); H. Fu, H. Tam, The Hong Kong Polytechnic Univ. (Hong Kong, China)
- 7653 OR **Two-dimensional fibre grating packaging design for simultaneous strain and temperature measurement** [7653-131]  
M. R. Mokhtar, City Univ. London (United Kingdom) and Multimedia Univ. (Malaysia); T. Sun, K. T. V. Grattan, City Univ. London (United Kingdom)

- 7653 OS **Frequency response of underwater ultrasonic transducers in the near field using polarimetric polarization maintaining fiber sensors** [7653-157]  
A. Bennecer, M. McGuire, G. M. H. Flockhart, S. G. Pierce, G. Hayward, B. Culshaw, Univ. of Strathclyde (United Kingdom)
- 7653 OT **Dynamic studies of fibre Bragg gratings** [7653-07]  
D. A. Jackson, Univ. of Kent (United Kingdom)
- 7653 OU **Understanding the mode coupling process in a strong long period grating** [7653-21]  
L. Jin, W. Jin, J. Ju, The Hong Kong Polytechnic Univ. (Hong Kong, China)
- 7653 OV **Fiber optic Bragg grating sensors at cryogenic temperatures** [7653-55]  
T. Habisreuther, W. Ecke, I. Latka, K. Schröder, R. Willsch, IPHT Jena (Germany)
- 7653 OW **An ultra-high-resolution FBG static-strain sensor for geophysics applications** [7653-97]  
Q. Liu, Z. He, T. Tokunaga, K. Hotate, The Univ. of Tokyo (Japan)
- 7653 OX **Temperature and strain independent torsion sensor using a Sagnac interferometer based on a suspended twin-core fibre** [7653-111]  
R. M. Silva, INESC Porto (Portugal); J. Kobelke, K. Schuster, IPHT Jena (Germany); O. Frazão, INESC Porto (Portugal)
- 7653 OY **Acoustically modulated long period grating sensor for simultaneous viscosity and density measurement** [7653-16]  
R. A. Oliveira, Univ. Tecnológica Federal do Paraná (Brazil) and The Univ. of Sydney (Australia); M. Naqshbandi, K. Cook, J. Canning, The Univ. of Sydney (Australia); A. A. P. Pohl, Univ. Tecnológica Federal do Paraná (Brazil)
- 7653 OZ **Dual polarization fiber grating laser accelerometer** [7653-19]  
B.-O. Guan, Jinan Univ. (China) and Dalian Univ. of Technology (China); X.-S. Sun, Y.-N. Tan, Dalian Univ. of Technology (China)
- 7653 10 **Multi-parameter sensor using fiber in-line MZ interferometer embedded in fiber Bragg grating** [7653-25]  
C. R. Liao, Y. Wang, D. N. Wang, M. Yang, The Hong Kong Polytechnic Univ. (Hong Kong, China)
- 7653 11 **Intrinsic Fabry-Pérot cavity sensor based on chemical etching of a multimode graded index fiber spliced to a single mode fiber** [7653-76]  
P. A. R. Tafulo, O. Frazão, P. A. S. Jorge, INESC Porto (Portugal); F. M. Araújo, INESC Porto (Portugal) and FiberSensing (Portugal)
- 7653 12 **Strongly regenerated Bragg gratings in standard single-mode fibres** [7653-22]  
V. de Oliveira, H. J. Kalinowski, Univ. Tecnológica Federal do Paraná (Brazil)
- 7653 13 **Optical vibration sensor using FBG Fabry-Perot interferometer with wavelength scanning and Fourier analysis** [7653-67]  
A. Wada, S. Tanaka, N. Takahashi, National Defense Academy (Japan)

- 7653 14 **A fibre Bragg grating-based inclinometer system for ground movement measurement** [7653-74]  
J. Li, R. Correia, E. Chehura, S. Staines, S. W. James, R. P. Tatam, Cranfield Univ. (United Kingdom)
- 7653 15 **High sensitivity inline fiber Mach-Zehnder interferometer bend sensor using a twin core fiber** [7653-138]  
A. Harhira, J. Lapointe, R. Kashyap, Ecole Polytechnique de Montréal (Canada)
- 7653 16 **Optical fibre sensor for measurement of the large range of strain and frequency vibrations of flat diaphragm** [7653-152]  
H. Krisch, M. Lau, S. Tournillon, Krohne Messtechnik GmbH & Co. KG (Germany)
- 7653 17 **Simulation of vibration induced changes in the fiber Bragg grating reflection spectrum** [7653-141]  
A. Aray, H. Saghafifar, Malek-e-Ashtar Univ. of Technology (Iran, Islamic Republic of)
- 7653 18 **Angle transducer based on fiber Bragg gratings able for tunnel auscultation** [7653-60]  
A. Quintela, J. M. Lázaro, M. A. Quintela, J. Mirapeix, V. Muñoz-Berti, J. M. López-Higuera, Univ. de Cantabria (Spain)
- 7653 19 **Reflective polarimetric fiber optic thermometer** [7653-102]  
R. Wüest, ABB Ltd. (Switzerland); B. Gülenaltin, ABB Ltd. (Switzerland) and ETH Zurich (Switzerland); F. Buchter, T. Bühler, ABB Ltd. (Switzerland)
- 7653 1A **Dynamic response of optical fiber Bragg grating temperature sensors** [7653-137]  
G. E. da Silva, J. C. Santos, Univ. of São Paulo (Brazil); V. R. de Almeida, R. M. Caso, Instituto de Estudos Avançados (Brazil)

Thursday Morning, 9 September 2010

---

**SESSION II CHEMICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, BIOMECHANICAL, AND MEDICAL SENSORS**

---

- 7653 1B **Microstructured optical fiber with homogeneous monolayer of plasmonic nanoparticles for bioanalysis** [7653-36]  
K. Schröder, A. Csaki, I. Latka, T. Henkel, D. Malsch, K. Schuster, T. Schneider, D. Zopf, IPHT Jena (Germany)
- 7653 1C **Diffuse-light absorption spectroscopy by fiber optics for detecting and quantifying the adulteration of extra virgin olive oil** [7653-45]  
A. G. Mignani, L. Ciaccheri, IFAC-CNR (Italy); H. Ottevaere, H. Thienpont, Vrije Univ. Brussel (Belgium); L. Conte, M. Marega, Univ. degli Studi di Udine (Italy); A. Cichelli, Univ. degli Studi G. D'Annunzio (Italy); C. Attilio, A. Cimato, IVALS-CNR (Italy)
- 7653 1D **Ammonia sensing using a fibre optic long period grating with a porous nanostructured coating formed from silica nanospheres** [7653-73]  
S. Korposh, Cranfield Univ. at Kitakyushu (Japan) and The Univ. of Kitakyushu (Japan); W. Batty, Cranfield Univ. at Kitakyushu (Japan); S. Kodaira, S.-W. Lee, The Univ. of Kitakyushu (Japan); S. W. James, S. M. Topliss, R. P. Tatam, Cranfield Univ. (United Kingdom)

- 7653 1E **Lab-on-a-fiber: building a fiber optic sensing platform for low-cost and high-performance trace vapor TNT detection** [7653-15]  
J. Ma, A. Kos, W. J. Bock, Univ. du Québec en Outaouais (Canada); X. Li, H. Nguyen, Z. Y. Wang, Carleton Univ. (Canada); A. Cusano, Univ. degli Studi del Sannio (Italy)
- 7653 1F **Moving the wavelength detection range in surface plasmon resonance sensors based on tapered optical fibers** [7653-44]  
N. Díaz-Herrera, A. González-Cano, Univ. Complutense de Madrid (Spain); D. Viegas, J. L. Santos, INESC Porto (Portugal) and Univ. do Porto (Portugal); M.-C. Navarrete, Univ. Complutense de Madrid (Spain); Ó. Esteban, Univ. de Alcalá (Spain)
- 7653 1G **Evanescent-wave LPFG in D-fiber by periodically patterned overlay** [7653-75]  
G. Quero, A. Crescitelli, D. Paladino, M. Consales, Univ. degli Studi del Sannio (Italy); A. Buosciolo, M. Giordano, National Research Council (Italy); A. Cusano, Univ. degli Studi del Sannio (Italy)
- 7653 1H **A portable instrument for the optical interrogation of a novel biochip** [7653-128]  
F. Baldini, IFAC-CNR (Italy); L. Bolzoni, Datamed S.r.L. (Italy); A. Giannetti, IFAC-CNR (Italy); G. Porro, Datamed S.r.L. (Italy); C. Trono, IFAC-CNR (Italy)
- 7653 1I **Optical fiber biosensor based on enzymatic coating matrix for catecholamines assessment in human urine** [7653-31]  
L. I. B. Silva, Instituto Piaget (Portugal) and Univ. de Aveiro (Portugal); A. C. Freitas, T. A. P. Rocha-Santos, Instituto Piaget (Portugal); M. E. Pereira, A. C. Duarte, Univ. de Aveiro (Portugal)
- 7653 1J **Spectral marks for qualitative discriminant analysis** [7653-33]  
O. M. Conde, L. Uriarte, P. B. García-Allende, A. M. Cubillas, F. Anabitarte, J. M. Lopez-Higuera, Univ. de Cantabria (Spain)
- 7653 1K **Comparison of 2D planar approximation and rigorous 3D theoretical analysis of a fiber optic surface plasmon resonance sensor utilizing a Bragg grating** [7653-149]  
B. Špačková, J. Homola, Institute of Photonics and Electronics of the ASCR, v.v.i. (Czech Republic)
- 7653 1L **Regenerated Bragg gratings in high birefringence optical fibers** [7653-71]  
I. Abe, Univ. de Aveiro (Portugal); V. Oliveira, H. J. Kalinowski, Univ. Tecnológica Federal do Paraná (Brazil); J. L. Pinto, Univ. de Aveiro (Portugal)
- 7653 1M **Fabrication of dual analyte luminescent optrodes by photopolymerization** [7653-150]  
P. A. S. Jorge, INESC Porto (Portugal); C. Maule, INESC Porto (Portugal) and Univ. do Porto (Portugal); O. Soppera, Institut de Sciences des Matériaux de Mulhouse, CNRS (France); P. V. S. Marques, INESC Porto (Portugal) and Univ. do Porto (Portugal)
- 7653 1N **Optical cavity fibre sensor for detection of microcystin-LR in water** [7653-13]  
R. B. Queirós, INESC Porto (Portugal) and Univ. do Porto (Portugal); S. O. Silva, INESC Porto (Portugal); M. G. F. Sales, REQUIMTE, Instituto Superior de Engenharia do Porto (Portugal); J. P. Noronha, REQUIMTE, FCT-UNL (Portugal); O. Frazão, P. A. S. Jorge, G. G. Aguilár, INESC Porto (Portugal)



- 7653 1O **Functional multilayer coated long period grating tuned in transition region for life science applications** [7653-48]  
P. Pilla, Univ. degli Studi del Sannio (Italy); V. Malachovská, A. Borriello, M. Giordano, L. Ambrosio, National Research Council (Italy); A. Cutolo, A. Cusano, Univ. degli Studi del Sannio (Italy)
- 7653 1P **Optical properties of hydrogel-filled hollow core photonic crystal fibres** [7653-135]  
M. Rutowska, P. Galvin, F. C. Garcia Gunning, Univ. College Cork (Ireland)
- 7653 1Q **Remote gaseous acid sensing within a porphyrin-doped TiO<sub>2</sub> sol-gel layer inside a structured optical fibre** [7653-156]  
G. Huyang, J. Canning, M. L. Åslund, M. Naqshbandi, D. Stocks, M. J. Crossley, The Univ. of Sydney (Australia)
- 7653 1R **Ambient index sensor using a Sagnac interferometer based on a D-shaped polarization maintaining fiber** [7653-35]  
O.-J. Kwon, Y. B. Shim, R. K. Kim, Y.-G. Han, Hanyang Univ. (Korea, Republic of)
- 7653 1S **Characterization of nanolayer LPG refractometer according surrounding refractive index** [7653-63]  
E. Simões, I. Abe, J. Oliveira, J. L. Pinto, Univ. de Aveiro (Portugal); P. Caldas, INESC Porto (Portugal) and Escola Superior de Tecnologia e Gestão (Portugal); O. Frazão, INESC Porto (Portugal)
- 7653 1T **POF metrology in physics medicine and rehabilitation** [7653-65]  
L. Bilo, Univ. de Aveiro (Portugal); J. G. Oliveira, Hospital Inf. D. Pedro (Portugal); J. L. Pinto, Univ. de Aveiro (Portugal); R. N. Nogueira, Instituto de Telecomunicações (Portugal)
- 7653 1U **A cylindrical-core fibre optic oxygen sensor based on Pt (II) complexes immobilized in a polymer matrix** [7653-111]  
R. Chen, A. D. Farmery, Univ. of Oxford (United Kingdom); A. Obeid, Oxford Optronix Ltd. (United Kingdom); C. E. W. Hahn, Univ. of Oxford (United Kingdom)
- 7653 1V **A fibre optic chemical sensor for the detection of cocaine** [7653-146]  
T. H. Nguyen, T. Sun, K. T. V. Grattan, City Univ. London (United Kingdom); S. A. Hardwick, Home Office Scientific Development Branch (United Kingdom)
- 7653 1W **Lossy-mode resonance-based refractometers by means of indium oxide coatings fabricated onto optical fibers** [7653-61]  
C. R. Zamarreño, I. Del Villar, P. Sanchez, M. Hernaez, C. Fernandez, I. R. Matias, F. J. Arregui, Univ. Pública de Navarra (Spain)
- 7653 1X **High sensitivity transition-tuned long period grating for label-free immunosensing** [7653-59]  
P. Pilla, Univ. degli Studi del Sannio (Italy); V. Malachovská, A. Sandomenico, M. Ruvo, M. Giordano, National Research Council (Italy); A. Cutolo, A. Cusano, Univ. degli Studi del Sannio (Italy)

- 7653 1Y **Self-assembling and coordination of water nano-layers on polymeric coated long period gratings as promising tool for cation detection** [7653-119]  
P. Foglia Manzillo, Univ. degli Studi di Napoli Parthenope (Italy); P. Pilla, Univ. degli Studi del Sannio (Italy); S. Campopiano, Univ. degli Studi di Napoli Parthenope (Italy); A. Borriello, M. Giordano, National Research Council (Italy); A. Cusano, Univ. degli Studi del Sannio (Italy)
- 7653 1Z **Femtosecond laser induced microfiber Bragg grating for refractive index sensing** [7653-26]  
C. R. Liao, X. Fang, D. N. Wang, The Hong Kong Polytechnic Univ. (Hong Kong, China)
- 7653 20 **Humidity sensor based on a long-period fiber grating coated with a hydrophobic thin film** [7653-29]  
A. Urrutia, P. J. Rivero, J. Goicoechea, F. J. Arregui, I. R. Matías, Univ. Pública de Navarra (Spain)
- 7653 21 **Colloidal-core photonic crystal fiber incorporating CdSe quantum dots for temperature sensing** [7653-116]  
A. Bozolan, Univ. de São Paulo (Brazil) and Univ. Presbiteriana Mackenzie (Brazil); C. J. S. de Matos, Univ. Presbiteriana Mackenzie (Brazil); M. A. Romero, Univ. de São Paulo (Brazil)
- 7653 22 **Biconical tapered optical fiber biosensor for real-time monitoring of bovine serum albumin at femtogram/mL levels on antibody-immobilized tapered fibers** [7653-41]  
M. I. Zibaii, H. Latifi, M. Arabsorkhi, A. Kazemi, M. Gholami, M. Karimi Azar, S. M. Hosseini, Shahid Beheshti Univ. (Iran, Islamic Republic of)
- 7653 23 **Fiber optic biosensor fabricated for measuring the growth rate of Escherichia coli K-12 in the aqueous** [7653-42]  
M. I. Zibaii, A. Kazemi, H. Latifi, M. Karimi Azar, S. M. Hosseini, M. H. Ghezelaigh, Shahid Beheshti Univ. (Iran, Islamic Republic of)
- 7653 24 **Simultaneous strain and refractive index sensor based on a TFBG** [7653-79]  
N. J. Alberto, Univ. de Aveiro (Portugal); C. A. Marques, Instituto de Telecomunicações (Portugal); J. L. Pinto, Univ. de Aveiro (Portugal); R. N. Nogueira, Instituto de Telecomunicações (Portugal)
- 7653 25 **Optical fiber micro-analyzer for real-time monitoring of trimethylamine** [7653-32]  
L. I. B. Silva, Instituto Piaget (Portugal) and Univ. de Aveiro (Portugal); A. C. Freitas, T. A. P. Rocha-Santos, Instituto Piaget (Portugal); M. E. Pereira, A. C. Duarte, Univ. de Aveiro (Portugal)
- 7653 26 **Operation of optical fiber sensors in hydrogen-rich atmosphere** [7653-144]  
C. Martelli, Univ. Tecnológica Federal do Paraná (Brazil); A. L. C. Triques, Petrobras Research Ctr. (Brazil); A. Braga, Pontifícia Univ. Católica do Rio de Janeiro (Brazil); J. Canning, K. Cook, The Univ. of Sydney (Australia); R. Llerena, V. Takahashi, Pontifícia Univ. Católica do Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)

- 7653 27 **Low cost plastic optical fiber sensor based on surface plasmon resonance** [7653-148]  
V. M. Muñoz-Berti, A. C. López-Pérez, Instituto de Microelectrónica de Madrid (Spain) and Univ. de Cantabria (Spain); B. Alén, J. L. Costa-Krämer, A. García-Martín, Instituto de Microelectrónica de Madrid (Spain); M. Lomer, J. M. López-Higuera, Univ. de Cantabria (Spain)
- 7653 28 **Low power signal processing for demodulation of wide dynamic range of interferometric optical fibre sensor signals** [7653-153]  
N. Fernandes, Krohne Marshall Pvt Ltd. (India); K. Gossner, H. Krisch, Krohne Messtechnik GmbH & Co. KG (Germany)
- 7653 29 **Sensing applications of U-optrodes** [7653-57]  
L. Kalvoda, J. Aubrecht, R. Klepáček, P. Lukášová, Czech Technical Univ. in Prague (Czech Republic)

Thursday Afternoon, 9 September 2010

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**SESSION III ELECTROMAGNETIC, INTERFEROMETRIC, POLARIMETRIC, NEW CONCEPTS, AND DEVICES FOR SENSORS**

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- 7653 2A **Temperature- and strain-independent curvature sensor based on multimode interference** [7653-14]  
S. Silva, INESC Porto (Portugal) and Univ. do Porto (Portugal); O. Frazão, L. A. Ferreira, F. M. Araújo, INESC Porto (Portugal); F. X. Malcata, Instituto Superior da Maia (Portugal) and Ctr. Interdisciplinar de Investigação Marinha e Ambiental (Portugal); J. L. Santos, INESC Porto (Portugal) and Univ. do Porto (Portugal)
- 7653 2B **Enhancing absorption and sensitivity within structured optical fibres** [7653-52]  
J. Canning, W. Padden, D. Boskovic, M. Naqshbandi, L. Costanzo, G. Huyang, H. de Bruyn, T. H. Sum, M. J. Crossley, The Univ. of Sydney (Australia)
- 7653 2C **Dynamic interrogation of long period gratings with modulated fibre Bragg gratings** [7653-121]  
J. P. Carvalho, INESC Porto (Portugal) and Univ. do Porto (Portugal); L. Coelho, INESC Porto (Portugal); L. Correia, Instituto Militar de Engenharia (Brazil); O. Frazão, P. A. S. Jorge, INESC Porto (Portugal); J. M. Baptista, INESC Porto (Portugal) and Univ. da Madeira (Portugal); I. Dias, INESC Porto (Portugal); J. L. Santos, INESC Porto (Portugal) and Univ. do Porto (Portugal); J. Weyl, Univ. Federal do Pará (Brazil); M. J. Pontes, Univ. Federal do Espírito Santo (Brazil); M. A. Martinez, Ctr. Federal de Educação Tecnológica Celso Suckow de Fonesca (Brazil); A. P. Barbero, R. M. Ribeiro, Univ. Federal Fluminense (Brazil); A. J. G. Abelém, Univ. Federal do Pará (Brazil); M. T. R. Giraldo, Instituto Militar de Engenharia (Brazil)
- 7653 2D **Feedback controlled single wavelength interrogation technique for miniature all-silica EFPI fibre optic pressure sensors** [7653-125]  
K. Bremer, E. Lewis, G. Leen, B. Moss, Univ. of Limerick (Ireland); S. Lochmann, I. Mueller, Hochschule Wismar (Germany)
- 7653 2E **Digital control of a white light system for interrogation of optical fiber interferometric sensors** [7653-129]  
E. Velosa, C. Gouveia, Univ. da Madeira (Portugal) and INESC Porto (Portugal); P. A. S. Jorge, INESC Porto (Portugal); J. M. Baptista, Univ. da Madeira (Portugal)

- 7653 2F **Fibre optic remote sensing based on long period gratings with in situ optical source** [7653-122]  
D. Viegas, J. P. Carvalho, Univ. do Porto (Portugal) and INESC Porto (Portugal); L. Coelho, INESC Porto (Portugal); J. L. Santos, Univ. do Porto (Portugal) and INESC Porto (Portugal); L. A. Ferreira, F. M. Araújo, O. Frazão, INESC Porto (Portugal)
- 7653 2G **All-fibre interferometric configurations based on suspended-core fibres for pressure measurement** [7653-30]  
S. H. Aref, INESC Porto (Portugal), Univ. of Qom (Iran, Islamic Republic of), and Shahid Beheshti Univ. (Iran, Islamic Republic of); M. I. Zibaii, M. Kheiri, H. Porbeyram, H. Latifi, Shahid Beheshti Univ. (Iran, Islamic Republic of); O. Frazão, F. M. Araújo, L. A. Ferreira, INESC Porto (Portugal); J. L. Santos, INESC Porto (Portugal) and Univ. do Porto (Portugal); J. Kobelke, K. Schuster, IPHT Jena (Germany)
- 7653 2H **Bragg gratings in the germanium-doped concentric rings of an Yb<sup>3+</sup>-doped core solid photonic bandgap fibre** [7653-69]  
K. Cook, W. Padden, J. Canning, The Univ. of Sydney (Australia); S. Février, XLIM, CNRS, Univ. de Limoges (France); B. Li, The Univ. of Sydney (Australia) and Yanshan Univ. (China)
- 7653 2I **Magnetic field strength measurement using tailored dispersion characteristics of phase-shifted fibre Bragg gratings** [7653-24]  
P. Orr, Univ. of Strathclyde (United Kingdom); M. Stevenson, J. Canning, The Univ. of Sydney (Australia); P. Niewczas, Univ. of Strathclyde (United Kingdom)
- 7653 2J **Surface-plasmon-resonance sensor based on H-shaped optical fibre** [7653-104]  
D. Viegas, Univ. do Porto (Portugal) and INESC Porto (Portugal); M. Hautakorpi, Aalto Univ. (Finland); A. Guerreiro, J. L. Santos, Univ. do Porto (Portugal) and INESC Porto (Portugal); H. Ludvigsen, Aalto Univ. (Finland)
- 7653 2K **Fiber optic intensity sensor referenced with virtual instrumentation for measuring displacement** [7653-90]  
A. J. G. Fernandes, Univ. da Madeira (Portugal); C. Jesus, Univ. da Madeira (Portugal) and INESC Porto (Portugal); P. A. S. Jorge, INESC Porto (Portugal); J. M. Baptista, Univ. da Madeira (Portugal) and INESC Porto (Portugal)
- 7653 2M **A Raman intensity sensor induced by the Rayleigh scattering in a ring configuration** [7653-50]  
C. Correia, J. M. Baptista, INESC Porto (Portugal) and Univ. da Madeira (Portugal); M. B. Marques, INESC Porto (Portugal) and Univ. do Porto (Portugal); O. Frazão, INESC Porto (Portugal)
- 7653 2N **Acoustic source location of partial discharges in transformers** [7653-143]  
S. E. U. Lima, O. Frazão, INESC Porto (Portugal); R. G. Farias, Univ. Federal do Pará (Brazil); F. M. Araújo, L. A. Ferreira, INESC Porto (Portugal); V. Miranda, J. L. Santos, INESC Porto (Portugal) and Univ. do Porto (Portugal)
- 7653 2O **An all-fiber beam shaping using multimode fiber** [7653-92]  
M. Mayeh, F. Farahi, The Univ. of North Carolina at Charlotte (United States)

- 7653 2P **Interrogation of microresonators using multimode fibers** [7653-81]  
P. Caldas, INESC Porto (Portugal), Univ. do Porto (Portugal), and Escola Superior de Tecnologia e Gestão (Portugal); P. A. S. Jorge, F. A. Araújo, L. A. Ferreira, INESC Porto (Portugal); G. Rego, INESC Porto (Portugal) and Escola Superior de Tecnologia e Gestão (Portugal); J. L. Santos, INESC Porto (Portugal) and Univ. do Porto (Portugal); S. Berneschi, Ctr. Studi e Ricerche Enrico Fermi (Italy) and IFAC-CNR (Italy); F. Cosi, S. Soria, S. Pelli, G. Nunzi Conti, IFAC-CNR (Italy)
- 7653 2Q **Fiber optic simultaneous measurement of strain and temperature using a PM-PCF-based Sagnac interferometer incorporating a pumped EDF** [7653-08]  
O.-J. Kwon, H.-J. Kim, S. Cuh, M.-S. Yoon, S. Park, Y. Shim, Hanyang Univ. (Korea, Republic of); M. Y. Jeong, C.-S. Kim, Pusan National Univ. (Korea, Republic of); Y.-G. Han, Hanyang Univ. (Korea, Republic of)
- 7653 2R **Residual thermal stress-induced integrated optical waveguides on Bi<sub>2</sub>GeO<sub>20</sub> substrate** [7653-136]  
S. S. Sato, J. C. Santos, Univ. de São Paulo (Brazil); M. A. R. Franco, Instituto de Estudos Avançados (Brazil)
- 7653 2S **Analysis and realization of a fiber optic turbidity sensor based on measurements of scattered light** [7653-124]  
Prerana, M. R. Shenoy, B. P. Pal, B. D. Gupta, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (India)

Friday, 10 September 2010

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**SESSION IV     DISTRIBUTED, MULTIPLEXING, SYSTEM APPLICATIONS, FIELD TRIALS**

---

- 7653 2T **Measurement with 2m resolution using a Raman-assisted BOTDA sensor featuring 75km dynamic range** [7653-120]  
S. Martin-Lopez, F. Rodriguez-Barrios, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (Spain); A. Carrasco-Sanz, Univ. de Granada (Spain); P. Corredera, J. D. Ania-Castañon, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (Spain); L. Thevenaz, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (Switzerland); M. Gonzalez-Herraez, Univ. de Alcalá (Spain)
- 7653 2U **Impact of self phase modulation on the performance of Brillouin distributed fibre sensors** [7653-140]  
S. Foa Leng Mafang, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (Switzerland); F. Rodríguez, S. Martin Lopez, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (Spain); M. González Herráez, Univ. de Alcalá (Spain); L. Thévenaz, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (Switzerland)
- 7653 2V **A novel fiber optic technique for quasi-distributed and dynamic measurement of length change and refractive index** [7653-72]  
S. Liehr, K. Krebber, Bundesanstalt für Materialforschung und -prüfung (Germany)
- 7653 2W **Distributed gas sensor based on a photonic bandgap fiber cell with laser-drilled, lateral microchannels** [7653-118]  
H. Lehmann, H. Bartelt, R. Willsch, IPHT Jena (Germany); R. Amezcua-Correa, J. C. Knight, Univ. of Bath (United Kingdom)

- 7653 2Y **Distributed optical fibre sensing of temperature using time-correlated two-photon excited fluorescence** [7653-88]  
C. J. Dalzell, T. P. J. Han, I. S. Ruddock, Univ. of Strathclyde (United Kingdom)
- 7653 2Z **A new MRI-compatible optical fiber tactile sensor for use in minimally invasive robotic surgery systems** [7653-49]  
R. Ahmadi, J. Dargahi, M. Packirisamy, Concordia Univ. (Canada); R. Cecere, McGill Univ. (Canada)
- 7653 30 **Measurement of the longitudinal and circumferential muscular activity associated with peristalsis using a single fibre grating array** [7653-68]  
J. W. Arkwright, N. G. Blenman, I. D. Underhill, S. A. Maunder, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (Australia); N. J. Spencer, M. Costa, S. J. Brooks, Flinders Univ. (Australia); M. M. Szczesniak, P. G. Dinning, The Univ. of New South Wales (Australia)
- 7653 31 **A fiber optics textile composite sensor for geotechnical applications** [7653-23]  
O. Artières, TenCate Geosynthetics (France); G. Dortland, TenCate Geosynthetics (Netherlands)
- 7653 32 **Impact of the pulse modulation format on distributed BOTDA sensors based on Simplex coding** [7653-77]  
M. A. Soto, G. Bolognini, F. Di Pasquale, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna (Italy)
- 7653 33 **Strain measurements of a fiber loop rosette using high spatial resolution Rayleigh scatter distributed sensing** [7653-147]  
D. K. Gifford, A. K. Sang, S. T. Kreger, M. E. Froggatt, Luna Technologies (United States)
- 7653 34 **Low-cost Brillouin optical time domain analysis (BOTDA) distributed sensor setup** [7653-80]  
A. Zornoza, A. Loayssa, Univ. Pública de Navarra (Spain)
- 7653 35 **Fibre laser sensor based on a phase-shifted chirped grating for acoustic sensing of partial discharges in power transformers** [7653-28]  
S. E. U. Lima, INESC Porto (Portugal) and Univ. do Porto (Portugal); O. Frazão, INESC Porto (Portugal); R. G. Farias, Univ. Federal do Pará (Brazil); F. M. Araújo, L. A. Ferreira, INESC Porto (Portugal); V. Miranda, J. L. Santos, INESC Porto (Portugal) and Univ. do Porto (Portugal)
- 7653 36 **Experimental study for the detection of the laminar/turbulent aerodynamic transition on a wing aircraft, using fiber optic sensors** [7653-39]  
S. Molin, D. Dolfi, Thales Research & Technology (France); M. Doisy, Thales Underwater Systems (France); A. Seraudie, D. Arnal, E. Coustols, ONERA (France); J. Mandle, Thales Avionics (France)
- 7653 37 **Fiber optic sensor solutions for increase of efficiency and availability of electric power generators** [7653-113]  
M. Willsch, T. Bosselmann, M. Villnow, Siemens AG (Germany)
- 7653 38 **Ultrasonic modal detection in carbon fibre plates using fibre optic sensors** [7653-117]  
G. Thursby, B. Culshaw, Univ. of Strathclyde (United Kingdom)

- 7653 39 **Suspended-core Fabry-Perot temperature sensor interrogation through a dual wavelength Raman fiber laser** [7653-04]  
A. M. R. Pinto, Univ. Pública de Navarra (Spain); O. Frazão, INESC Porto (Portugal); J. L. Santos, INESC Porto (Portugal) and Univ. do Porto (Portugal); M. Lopez-Amo, Univ. Pública de Navarra (Spain); J. Kobelke, K. Schuster, IPHT Jena (Germany)
- 7653 3A **Polymer photonic sensing skin** [7653-89]  
X. Chen, C. Zhang, D. J. Webb, Aston Univ. (United Kingdom); B. Van Hoe, G. Van Steenberge, Ghent Univ. (Belgium); K. Kalli, Cyprus Univ. of Technology (Cyprus); F. Berghmans, H. Thienpont, Vrije Univ. Brussel (Belgium); W. Urbanczyk, Wroclaw Univ. of Technology (Poland); K. Sugden, Astasense Ltd. (United Kingdom); G.-D. Peng, The Univ. of New South Wales (Australia)
- 7653 3B **Smart medical textiles with embedded optical fibre sensors for continuous monitoring of respiratory movements during MRI** [7653-115]  
J. Witt, Bundesanstalt für Materialforschung und -prüfung (Germany); F. Narbonneau, Multifitel (Belgium); M. Schukar, K. Krebber, Bundesanstalt für Materialforschung und -prüfung (Germany); J. De Jonckheere, M. Jeanne, Ctr. Hospitalier Regional Univ. de Lille (France); D. Kinet, Multifitel (Belgium); B. Paquet, Centexbel (Belgium); A. Depré, Elasta (Belgium); L. T. D'Angelo, Technische Univ. München (Germany); T. Thiel, AOS GmbH (Germany); R. Logier, Ctr. Hospitalier Regional Univ. de Lille (France)
- 7653 3C **Smart CFRP systems for the controlled retrofitting of reinforced concrete members** [7653-12]  
M.-B. Schaller, Gesellschaft für Geomechanik und Baumeßtechnik mbH (Germany); S. Käseberg, Hochschule für Technik, Wirtschaft und Kultur Leipzig (Germany); M. Kuhne, Bauhaus Univ. Weimar (Germany)
- 7653 3D **Extension of the maximum measuring range in distributed Brillouin fiber sensors by tuning the Stokes/anti-Stokes power ratio** [7653-56]  
A. Minardo, Second Univ. of Naples (Italy); R. Bernini, Istituto per il Rilevamento Elettromagnetico dell'Ambiente, CNR (Italy); L. Zeni, Second Univ. of Naples (Italy) and Consortium for Research on Advanced Remote Sensing Systems (Italy)
- 7653 3E **Distributed crystal fibre sensing for extreme environments** [7653-87]  
C. J. Dalzell, T. P. J. Han, I. S. Ruddock, Univ. of Strathclyde (United Kingdom)
- 7653 3F **Self-referenced wavelength-sensitive monitoring technique for quasi-distributed fiber Bragg gratings sensors** [7653-95]  
C. Caucheteur, D. Kinet, N. Ben Soltana, P. Mégret, M. Wuilpart, Univ. de Mons (Belgium)
- 7653 3G **Fiber optic sensors for CMS-CERN** [7653-05]  
A. Cusano, Univ. degli Studi del Sannio (Italy) and OptoSmart s.r.l. (Italy); G. Breglio, OptoSmart s.r.l. (Italy) and Univ. degli Studi di Napoli Federico II (Italy); A. Irace, Univ. degli Studi di Napoli Federico II (Italy); M. Consales, Univ. degli Studi del Sannio (Italy); A. Buosciolo, Institute for Composite and Biomedical Materials, CNR (Italy); M. Giordano, Institute for Composite and Biomedical Materials, CNR (Italy) and OptoSmart s.r.l. (Italy); A. Cutolo, Univ. degli Studi del Sannio (Italy) and OptoSmart s.r.l. (Italy); S. Buontempo, Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare (Italy); P. Petagna, European Organization for Nuclear Research (Switzerland)

- 7653 3H **Automated suppression of polarization-fluctuation in resonator fiber optic gyro by a resonator with twin 90° polarization-axis rotated splices: theoretical analysis** [7653-70]  
X. Wang, Z. He, K. Hotate, The Univ. of Tokyo (Japan)
- 7653 3I **Fiber optic sensor network for monitoring new building cladding systems** [7653-100]  
R. Unzu, J. A. Nazabal, Univ. Pública de Navarra (Spain); G. Vargas, Alonso, Hernández & Associates Architects (Spain); R. Hernández, Univ. del País Vasco (Spain);  
C. Fernández-Valdivielso, N. Urriza, M. Galarza, M. Lopez-Amo, Univ. Pública de Navarra (Spain)
- 7653 3J **Unsupervised grouping of industrial textile dyes using K-means algorithm and optical fibre spectroscopy** [7653-109]  
A. M. Cubillas, O. M. Conde, P. Anuarbe, A. Quintela, J. M. Lopez-Higuera, Univ. de Cantabria (Spain)
- 7653 3K **A process for embedding fiber Bragg gratings in flexible skin foils** [7653-18]  
A. F. Silva, Univ. of Minho (Portugal); F. Goncalves, TMG Automotive (Portugal); L. A. Ferreira, F. M. Araujo, FiberSensing (Portugal) and INESC Porto (Portugal); P. M. Mendes, J. H. Correia, Univ. of Minho (Portugal)
- 7653 3L **Low-cost self-referenced all-fibre polarimetric current sensor for the monitoring of current in the railway catenary** [7653-114]  
M. L. Filograno, Univ. de Alcalá (Spain); P. Corredera, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (Spain); L. Monteagudo Lerma, Ó. Esteban, M. González-Herráez, Univ. de Alcalá (Spain)
- 7653 3M **Real-time monitoring of railway traffic using fiber Bragg gratings** [7653-130]  
M. L. Filograno, A. Rodriguez-Barrios, Univ. de Alcalá (Spain); P. Corredera, S. Martin-Lopez, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (Spain); M. Rodriguez-Plaza, A. Andres-Alguacil, Administrador de Infraestructuras Ferroviarias (Spain);  
M. Gonzalez-Herraez, Univ. de Alcalá (Spain)
- 7653 3N **How reliable do fibre Bragg grating patches perform as strain sensors?** [7653-10]  
V. G. Schlüter, N. Kusche, W. R. Habel, Bundesanstalt für Materialforschung und -prüfung (Germany)
- 7653 3O **Fiber Bragg gratings for optical sensing (FIBOS) for an aerospace application** [7653-17]  
R. L. Heredero, M. Frovel, H. Laguna, A. Anderson, D. Garranzo, T. Belenguer-Dávila, Instituto Nacional de Técnica Aeroespacial (Spain)
- 7653 3P **Raman distributed temperature sensing in underground geexchange system** [7653-37]  
M. Giuseffi, P. Ferdinand, CEA, LIST, Lab. de Mesures Optiques (France); A. Vrain, M. Philippe, H. Lesueur, BRGM (France)
- 7653 3Q **An approach to monitor railway pantograph-catenary interaction with fiber optic sensors** [7653-82]  
M. Bocciolone, G. Bucca, A. Collina, L. Comolli, Politecnico di Milano (Italy)



- 7653 3R **Long-range hybrid double-bus network with point and distributed Brillouin sensors using Raman amplification** [7653-126]  
M. Fernandez-Vallejo, D. Olier, A. Zornoza, R. A. Perez-Herrera, S. Díaz, C. Elosúa, C. Barriain, A. Loayssa, M. Lopez-Amo, Univ. Pública de Navarra (Spain)
- 7653 3S **Permanently bent single mode optical fiber as novel evanescent wave sensor** [7653-127]  
A. Iadicicco, Univ. degli Studi di Napoli Parthenope (Italy); D. Paladino, Univ. degli Studi del Sannio (Italy); S. Campopiano, Univ. degli Studi di Napoli Parthenope (Italy); W. Bock, Univ. du Québec en Outaouais (Canada); A. Cutolo, A. Cusano, Univ. degli Studi del Sannio (Italy)
- 7653 3T **Design of a surface attachable hybrid fiber sensor packaged in a polyimide film for engineering applications** [7653-142]  
M. Ramakrishnan, G. Rajan, Y. Semenova, G. Farrell, Dublin Institute of Technology (Ireland)
- 7653 3U **Location of vibrational disturbance using a serial array of identical low-finesse fiber Fabry-Perot interferometers** [7653-145]  
R. Martínez Manuel, Univ. of Johannesburg (South Africa); M. G. Shlyagin, S. V. Miridonov, Ctr. de Investigación Científica y de Educación Superior de Ensenada (Mexico); J. Meyer, Univ. of Johannesburg (South Africa)
- 7653 3V **Stable multiwavelength fiber laser for referencing intensity sensor networks using multiple amplified ring resonators** [7653-02]  
M. Fernandez-Vallejo, R. A. Perez-Herrera, C. Elosúa, C. Barriain, M. Lopez-Amo, Univ. Pública de Navarra (Spain)
- 7653 3W **Broadband photonic crystal fiber coupler with polarization selection of coupling ratio** [7653-47]  
L. R. Jaroszewicz, K. A. Stasiewicz, P. Marć, M. Szymański, Military Univ. of Technology (Poland)
- 7653 3X **Distributed humidity sensing based on Rayleigh scattering in polymer optical fibers** [7653-64]  
P. Lenke, M. Wendt, S. Liehr, K. Krebber, Bundesanstalt für Materialforschung und -prüfung (Germany)
- 7653 3Y **Performance evaluation of an IGBT module by thermal analysis using fiber Bragg grating** [7653-86]  
J. P. Bazzo, T. Lukaszewicz, M. Vogt, M. L. S. Martins, H. J. Kalinowski, J. C. C. Silva, Univ. Tecnológica Federal do Paraná (Brazil)
- 7653 3Z **Numerical modeling of a birefringent photonic crystal fiber for discrete and distributed pressure sensing** [7653-91]  
R. C. R. Miraglia, C. J. S. de Matos, Univ. Presbiteriana Mackenzie (Brazil)
- 7653 40 **Hybrid OTDR-fiber laser system for remote sensor multiplexing** [7653-101]  
M. Bravo, M. Fernandez-Vallejo, M. Lopez-Amo, Univ. Publica de Navarra (Spain)
- 7653 41 **An application of FBG accelerometers for monitoring pantographs of underground trains** [7653-84]  
M. Boccione, G. Bucca, A. Cigada, A. Collina, L. Comolli, Politecnico di Milano (Italy)

- 7653 42 **Single-mode distributed temperature sensing using OFDR** [7653-53]  
W. Hill, J. Kübler, M. Fromme, LIOS Technology GmbH (Germany)
- 7653 43 **Multipoint dynamically reconfigure adaptive distributed fiber optic acoustic emission sensor (FAESense) system for condition based maintenance** [7653-165]  
E. Mendoza, J. Prohaska, C. Kempen, Y. Esterkin, S. Sun, Redondo Optics, Inc. (United States); S. Krishnaswamy, Northwestern Univ. (United States)
- 7653 44 **Bridge monitoring by Brillouin-based distributed strain measurements** [7653-54]  
A. Minardo, Second Univ. of Naples (Italy); R. Bernini, Istituto per il Rilevamento Elettromagnetico dell'Ambiente, CNR (Italy); L. Amato, Tecno In S.p.A. (Italy); L. Zeni, Second Univ. of Naples (Italy) and Consortium for Research on Advanced Remote Sensing Systems (Italy)
- 7653 45 **Use of fiber optic sensors for measurement of railway vibrations** [7653-38]  
A. Barreda, T. Molina, E. Valero, S. Recuero, AIDO—Instituto Tecnológico de Óptica, Color e Imagen (Spain)
- 7653 46 **Comparison of optical and electrical measurements of the pantograph-catenary contact force** [7653-83]  
M. Bocciolone, G. Bucca, A. Collina, L. Comolli, Politecnico di Milano (Italy)
- 7653 47 **Automatic classification of steel plates based on laser induced breakdown spectroscopy and support vector machines** [7653-108]  
F. Anabitarte, J. Mirapeix, O. M. Conde, A. M. Cubillas, L. Rodriguez-Cobo, C. Galindez, A. Cobo, Univ. de Cantabria (Spain)

*Author Index*

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## Introduction

Welcome to Porto and to the Fourth European Workshop on Optical Fibre Sensors. Following the successful meetings in Peebles (1998), Santander (2004), and Napoli (2007), we have the privilege of organizing the 2010 meeting, EWOFs'2010.

The Workshop series aims to promote a scientific meeting with a high level of interaction between participants, enabling an open debate and the assessment of new concepts, technologies, and applications in the domain of optical fibre sensors, as well as the establishment of new collaborations and networks.

Addressing scientific achievements, technological applications, and commercial exploitation, our goal was to create a program that could be attractive to both academics and professionals working in this area.

We have tried to incorporate a number of high-level invited talks addressing not only topics related to optical fibre sensors, but also other scientific domains that may be relevant to the future of this R&D field. Also, we wanted to strengthen the workshop's unique features, including the discussion of technical contributions, identifying and highlighting the most significant achievements. Because everyone's active participation is important, we planned a workshop with an invigorating and appealing social program that encourages true scientific socialization.

EWOFs'2010 takes place a decade after the beginning of this new century, of this new millennium. Humankind is currently facing great challenges in the search for a future characterized by global justice, fair and sustainable progress, as well as economic and social wealth. This is a demanding, yet necessary purpose, and science and technology create opportunities so that society may evolve in that direction. A special session was organized on "Optical Fibre Sensors for Sustainable Environment" which reflects our commitment to one of the big challenges humankind currently faces.

EWOFs'2010 aims to encourage scientific and technological advances, and provide a forum where young and experienced researchers and entrepreneurs may interact in a mutually profitable relationship oriented towards the development of optical fibre sensors and its impact on society. Pursuing this central objective, we hope to have created a technically and socially

invigorating atmosphere and our best wish is that you will enjoy your visit to the metropolitan area of Porto, Portugal, in September 2010.

**José Luís Santos**  
**Brian Culshaw**  
**José Miguel López-Higuera**  
**William N. MacPherson**