



# Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Infrastructure Inspection

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1<sup>st</sup> International Conference on "Robotics in Agriculture, Bio-Waste Management and Surgery" SRM Insitute of Science & Technology, Kattankulathur, India 14-15 September 2023



International Islamic University Malaysia



- 7 campuses in Gombak, Kuala Lumpur, Pahang & Pagoh
- Main campus is in Gombak, 10 km from the centre of Kuala Lumpur
- Around 2000 academic staff (from around 40 countries)
- More than 23k students (from more than 100 countries)

### Faculties @IIUM

#### LAWS

ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT SCIENCES

ISLAMIC REVEALED KNOWLEDGE AND HUMAN SCIENCES

ARCHITECTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN

ENGINEERING

**EDUCATION** 

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

MEDICINE

DENTISTRY

ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES

NURSING

LANGUAGES AND MANAGEMENT

## Kulliyyah of Engineering

- Established in 1994
- Located in Gombak campus, 10 km from the center of Kuala Lumpur
- 7 engineering departments
- 207 Academic staff and 89 non-Academic staff
- Currently caters around
  - 2200 Undergraduates
  - More than 300 Postgraduates students (PhD and MSc candidates)
- One of the largest in IIUM

### Departments in the Kulliyyah of Engineering

ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING

**\_**.

MECHANICAL AND AEROSPACE ENGINEERING CHEMICAL ENGINEERING AND SUSTAINABILITY

MANUFACTURING AND MATERIAL ENGINEERING

MECHATRONICS ENGINEERING



CIVIL ENGINEERING SCIENCE IN ENGINEERING

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8.8 8.8





Garden of Knowledge and Virtue

## Faculty of Engineering



## Bachelor in Engineering with Honours

Bachelor of Aerospace Engineering	Bachelor of Chemical Engineering	Bachelor of Civil Engineering	Bachelor of Electrical and Electronics Engineering
Bachelor of	Bachelor of	Bachelor of	Bachelor of
Manufacturing	Materials	Mechanical	Mechatronics
Engineering	Engineering	Engineering	Engineering

#### Programmes Offered - MSc

- Automotive Engineering
- Biochemical Engineering
- Biotechnology Engineering
- Communication Engineering
- Computer and Information Engineering
- Chemical Engineering
- Civil Engineering

- Electronics Engineering
- Engineering Mathematics
- Engineering Science
- Manufacturing Engineering
- Material Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Mechatronics Engineering

Mechatronics Engineering Department

- 30 academic staff members
- Programmes:

KELUAR #

- Bachelor in Mechatronics Engineering with Honours
- MSc in Mechatronics Engineering
  - By coursework
  - By Research
- PhD in Engineering
- 300 students approx.
- 2 intakes in a year

## The Team

#### **Academic Staff**

Positions	No. of Staff
Professors	4
Associate Professors	7
Assistant Professors	19

- All are PhD holders (Malaysia, Australia, Bangladesh, UK, USA, the Netherlands, Japan, New Zealand)
- 5 have Malaysia's professional engineer (Ir)
- >4 have UK's professional engineer status (CEng)

#### **Technical Staff**

Positions	No. of Staff
Engineers	1
Senior Asst. Engineers	3
Assistant Engineers	3



## Mechatronics Engineering Department

- Research Areas of the Academic Staff:
  - Robotics, autonomous systems, unmanned technologies
  - Rehabilitation robots, assistive technology, robotics for biomedical, biomechatronics, robotic hand
  - Human-robot interaction, social robotics
  - Manufacturing automation, non-conventional machining, NEMS, microfabrication
  - Artificial intelligence, Intelligent control
  - Energy harvesting, sensors, instrumentation, vibration, predictive maintenance, smart materials

# Research Groups in the Department

#### Centre of Unmanned Technologies (CUTe)

• Unmanned surface vessel, Maritime Robotic Lab, Embedded AI Lab, Aerial Robotic Lab, Robot Design Lab, RoMocapLab (Motion Capture), MRC3 Lab (MixReality Command Control Communication), RoboMakers Lab

#### Autonomous Systems and Robotics Research Unit (ASRRU)

• Autonomous agent research involves many fields including robotics, machine learning, reasoning, data-mining, diagnosis, communication, real-time and control system.

#### Intelligent Mechatronics System Research Unit (IMSRU)

• intelligent system design, control and development, nanotechnology, mechatronics, precision engineering, signal processing, vibration control, unmanned aerial vehicles, electric vehicles, autonomous vehicles and active suspension systems.

#### Healthcare Engineering and Rehabilitation Research Group (HERR)

• Healthcare, rehabilitation, biosensors, biomedical instrumentation, AI and IoT, Biomechatronic











## Laboratories and Workshops

		Area	Student	
No.	Laboratory Name	(m <sup>2</sup> )	Capacity	Related Subject
1	Control Systems	153.8	30	MCT3229 : Mechatronics Engineering Lab III
2	Robotics & Industrial Automation	168	30	MCT4125 : Robotics
3	Mechatronics System Design	172.8	24	MCT4125 : Mechatronics System Design
4	Instrumentation	115.2	25	MCT3139 : Mechatronics Engineering Lab II
5	Analog Electronics	118	30	MCT3229 : Mechatronics Engineering Lab III
6	Digital Systems Design	100	30	MCT3133 : Digital Systems Design
7	Mechatronics Workshop & PCB Design	241.3	30	MCT2120 : Mechatronics Workshop
8	Machine Vision	123.6	15	MCT4323 : Machine Vision
9	Intelligent Systems	150.2	20	MCT4322 : Intelligent Systems
10	Project Development	185	15	MCT4199 : Project II
11	Industrial Automation	123.6	15	MCT4226 : Industrial Automation
12	Fluid Mechanic	242	30	MCT2219 : Mechatronics Engineering Lab I
13	Thermal Science	477.9	60	MCT2219 : Mechatronics Engineering Lab I
14	Electromechanical System	100	12	MCT3139 : Mechatronics Engineering Lab I
15	Basic Circuit	200	50	ECE1101 : Engineering Lab I
16	Electronics	232	50	ECE1201 : Engineering Lab II
17	Engineering Workshop	260	50	MME1103 : Workshop Technology

# Analog Lab







# **Control System Lab**

#### Mechatronics Workshop





#### Robotics Lab

## Digital System Lab







## **Mechatronics System Design Lab**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Infrastructure Inspection

### Infrastructure definition

- Infrastructure refers to
  - the basic systems and services that a country or organization needs in order to function properly

- It includes:
  - Transportation infrastructure
  - Energy infrastructure, such as oil and gas installations
  - Public facilities
  - Etc.

# Artificial Intelligence (AI)

- Al is the ability of machines to perform tasks that are typically associated with human intelligence, such as learning and problemsolving
  - David Poole and Alan Mackworth (2017): "Al is the study of how to make computers behave intelligently."
- Machine learning is a branch of AI which focuses on the use of data and algorithms to imitate the way that humans learn, gradually improving its accuracy.



# Al in Pulsed Eddy Current NDT for Structural Inspection

FRGS and PRGS projects – funded by Ministry of Higher Education

Collaboration with

- Malaysia Nuclear Agency
- Liverpool John Moores University, UK
- Danamin Sdn Bhd (previously)

# Structural inspection

- Why is it important?
  - Ensuring the safety, functionality, and longevity of infrastructure
  - Compliance with regulations
  - Protection of valuable assets.
  - Sustainability
- Inspection employs nondestructive testing (NDT) techniques and systems

# Non-destructive Testing (NDT)

- NDT techniques leverage different physical principles. The family includes:
  - Ultrasonic Testing (UT)
  - Radiography Testing (RT)
  - Magnetic Particle Testing (MT)
  - Liquid Penetrant Testing (PT)
  - Eddy Current Testing (ECT)
  - Visual Testing (VT)
  - Acoustic Emission Testing (AET)
  - Others
- The NDT techniques complement each other across various applications

• NDT is used for:

- Measurement of material properties, such as conductivity, thickness,
- Detection and quantification of defects, such as cracks, voids, porosity, inclusions, corrosion, and delamination

# The value of the NDT business

- Global market value
  - 2021: USD 6.3 billion
  - 2029: USD 16.66 billion (predicted)



# Effects of Undetected Defects

- San Bruno pipeline explosion, 2010 in US
  - Caused by defective welds on 30 inch diameter natural gas pipes.
  - 8 people were killed.
  - The company, PG&E, was fined \$1.6 billion by the California Public Utilities Commission and \$3 million by a federal jury for violating pipeline safety laws<sup>4</sup>.





1.0

2.0

4.0

3.0

# Eddy Current NDT



- Based on electromagnetic induction, which induces eddy currents in the structure/materials being inspected.
- Presence of defects or change of material properties affects the eddy currents.



**Excitation Coil** 

Ferrite







# Pulsed Eddy Current (PEC) NDT





• The gradient of the decay of the signal in logarithmic space is estimated to be inversely proportional to the square of the ferromagnetic plate's thickness.





## Probe Design and the Setup





## Obtained Signals – For training and validation



- Varying sample thicknesses
- Varying insulation thicknesses

# **Regression Model Development**

- Use of machine learning
- Wavelet scattering for feature extraction
- Use of machine learning
  - Neighborhood Component Feature Selection
  - Gaussian Process Regression



### Results

Model	Aluminum	Stainless Steel ∆mRMSE	
	<b>AmRMSE</b>		
GPX	0.046	0.023	
ITD	0.149	0.156	

#### Faster & more accurate inspection.

# Al-based Road Inspection

Fundamental Research Grant Scheme – Ministry of Higher Education Collaboration with

- Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering, IIUM, Malaysia
- School of Civil Engineering, Universiti Teknologi MARA, Malaysia
- Faculty of Rail, Transport, and Logistics, Technical University of Munich Asia, Singapore



# Road Infrastructure

- Roads play a fundamental role in modern society, serving as critical infrastructure with various social, economic, and environmental implications.
- The integrity and performance of pavement are very important
  - Safety, economy, environmental sustainability
- Road defects do not only degrade the road appearance and driving comfort but can also progress to cause structural damage and reduce the pavement's lifespan. They can even also lead to fatal accidents.

# Common Types of Road Defects

- Potholes
- Cracks
  - Transverse
  - Longitudinal
  - Alligator
  - Etc.
- Rutting
  - formation of grooves in the wheel tracks









# Challenges in Road Inspection

#### Manual

- Safety risks
- Human Subjectivity
- Costs, labor intensive
- Limited data analysis
- Inefficiency



#### Automated

Costly equipment





# Targeted specifications

- Off-the shelf cameras
- Able to cover the whole width of one road lane
- Allow the speed of at least 30 km/h

![](_page_41_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### Semi-automated Integrated System

![](_page_42_Figure_1.jpeg)

# Literature on Road Crack, Classification and Characterization

![](_page_43_Figure_1.jpeg)

Date Published

![](_page_44_Figure_0.jpeg)

# Data Acquisition Setup

Ø

ET

#### **Data - Selangor**

#### Data - KL

![](_page_46_Figure_2.jpeg)

36.2 km/h

11.4 km

50 m

19 min

![](_page_46_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_46_Figure_4.jpeg)

Ī	$\leftrightarrow$	Ø	7
18 min	11.4 km	38.6 km/h	90 m

![](_page_46_Picture_6.jpeg)

#### Training and Validation Loss Curves

![](_page_47_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Performance Metric Curves

![](_page_48_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Results

#### Validation Set – We Annotated

![](_page_49_Picture_2.jpeg)

#### **Output of the Deep Learning Model**

![](_page_49_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_50_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_50_Picture_1.jpeg)

## Results

![](_page_51_Picture_1.jpeg)

Longitude:0.6437149

![](_page_51_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_51_Picture_4.jpeg)

Transverse:0.685978

![](_page_51_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_51_Picture_7.jpeg)

Aligator:0.8784443

![](_page_51_Picture_9.jpeg)

Image 1

## Conclusions

- The 2 cases presented here are just a couple of examples showcasing the high potential of AI in the inspection application domain. AI offers:
  - Robustness against noise in the signal
  - Speed
  - Accuracy
  - Data integration and processing
- As we progress through IR 4.0 and NDT 4.0, the use of AI in infrastructure inspection will get more and more significant, which is instrumental for achieving improved safety, efficiency and sustainability.

# Thank you.