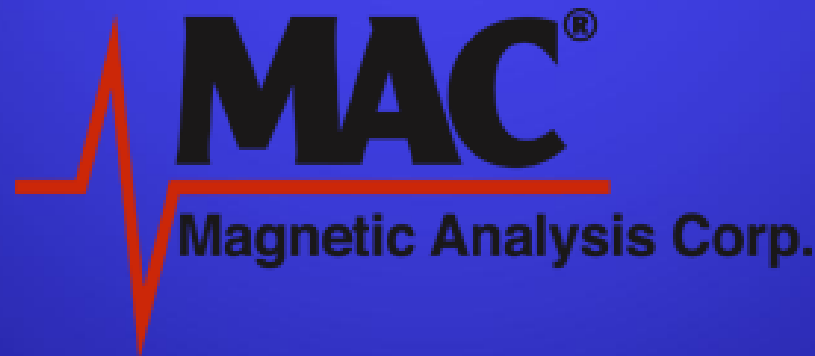


Velocity Measurement For Determining Ductility and Nodularity in Cast Iron

Zhongqing You, PhD & Mike Moist
Magnetic Analysis Corporation



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Background



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Traditional Ultrasonic Testing

- Sound travels into the part, reflecting from a defect
 - “Flaw Detection”
- Reflector size is also determined by signal amplitude.
 - “Flaw sizing”
- Sound travels into the part and returns after a measurable length of time.
 - “Thickness Gaging”
- All instrument calibrations are based on these simple principles

Distance = Time times Velocity

$D = T \times V$ $T = V/D$ and

$V = \text{Distance} / \text{Time}$



Sound Velocity

- Ultrasonic sound Velocity varies in different materials.
- Every material has a measurable velocity
 - Mild Steel = 2.3 inches / sec 10^{-5} (MS) Microseconds
 - Water = 0.584 inches / sec 10^{-5}
 - Gold = 1.3 inches / sec 10^{-5}
 - Lead = 0.87 inches / sec 10^{-5}
 - Iron = 2.3 inches / sec 10^{-5}
 - Iron (Cast) = 1.8 inches / sec 10^{-5}

Velocity = Distance / Time



Elastic Modulus

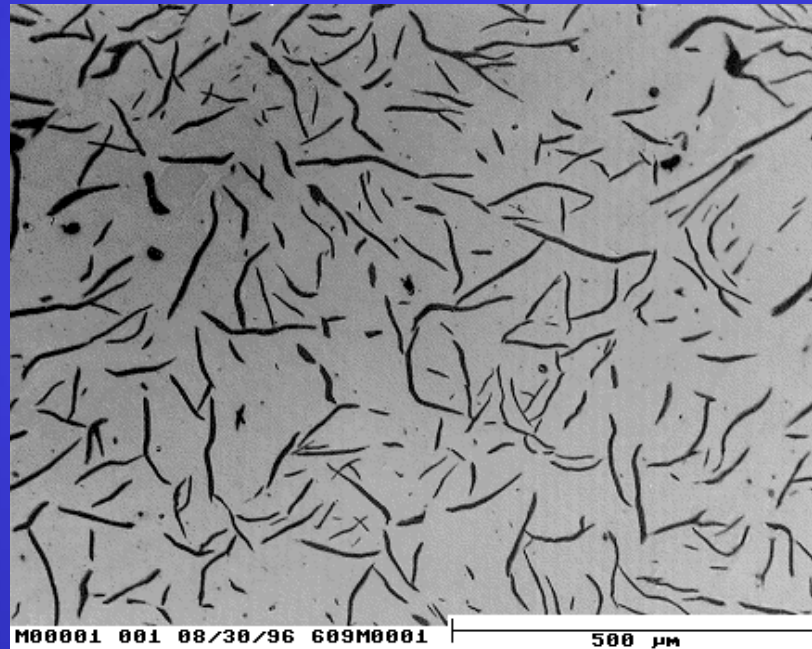
- Velocity is directly related to:
 - Modulus of Elasticity
 - Young's Modulus
 - E Modulus
- E Modulus is related to Ductility/ Nodularity
- Ductility is related to suitability for purpose
 - Brittle Cast iron is not suitable for some structural applications
 - I.e. Safety related auto Parts
 - Brake and steering components

Cast parts can be sorted with Ultrasonics for suitability for these uses.



Graphite Flake Slower Velocity

Ultrasound

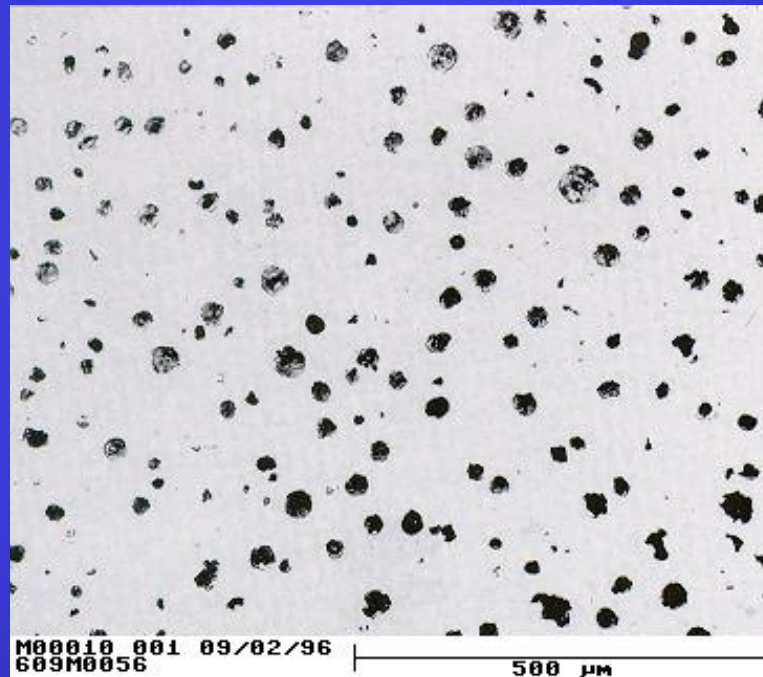


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Nodular Grain - Faster Velocity

Ultrasound



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Cast Iron - Grey Iron

- Depending on the graphite flake content of the cast iron the ultrasonic velocity of cast iron varies.
- When nodular, the flakes minimally affect the grain boundaries in the iron and therefore the iron is less brittle.
- When it is less brittle it is also Ultrasonically faster than when it is brittle.
- Relate it to
 - Strength
 - Machinability
 - Ductility



Specifications

- Auto Components
 - Automotive companies can specify an ultrasonic test for their safety related components.
- The ultrasonic method is accepted for many test requirements and when the test is put on the production line 100% of the parts are inspected without having scrap with destructive testing.
- When incorporated in the production line “Integrity” tests can also be incorporated into multiple channel ultrasonic systems
 - “Flaw Detection” and “thickness measurements”



Steering Component

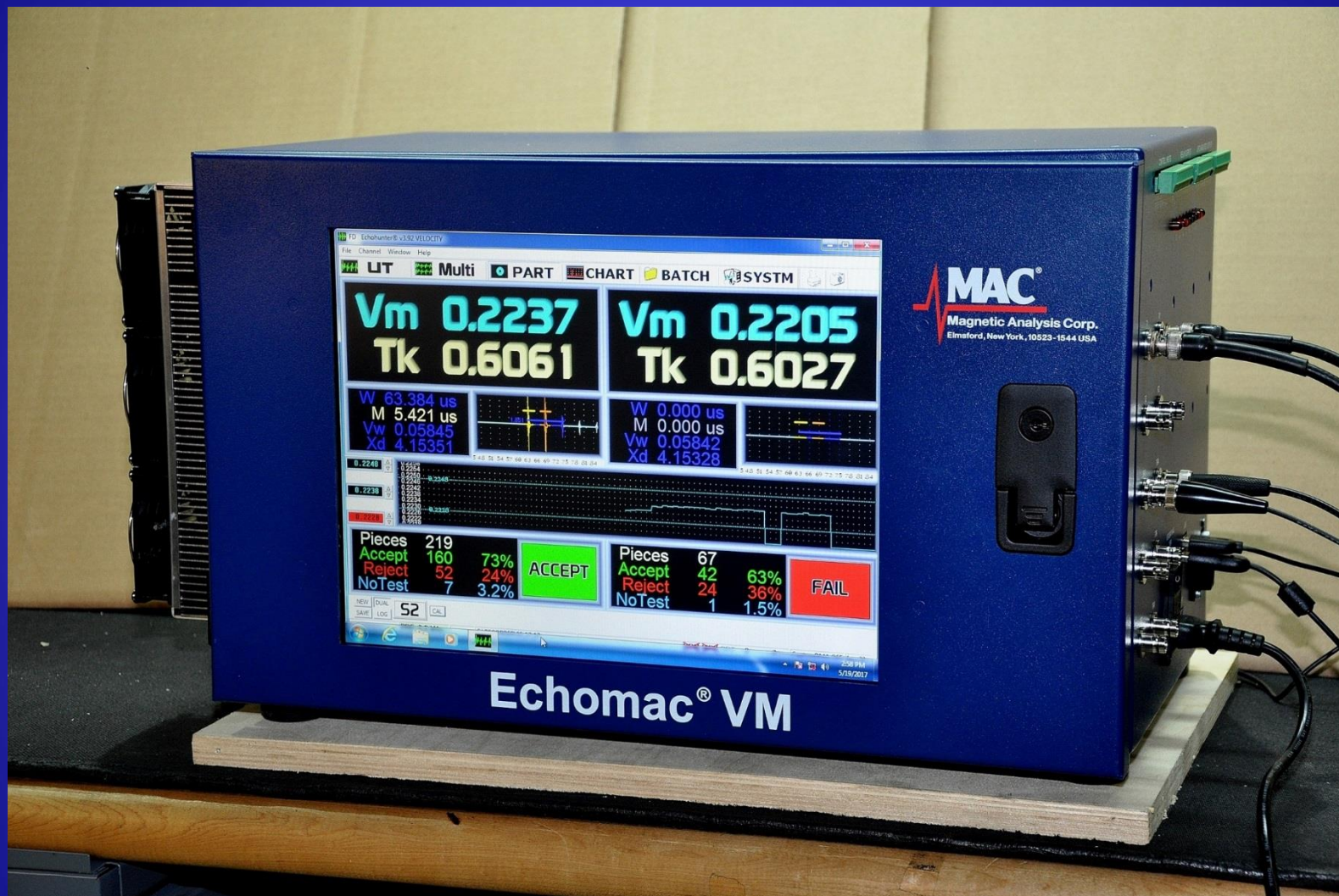


Implementation



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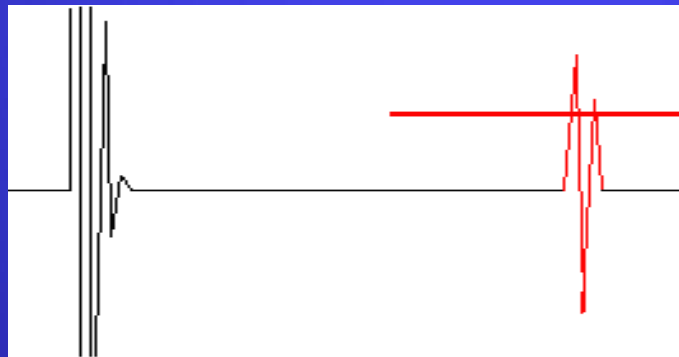
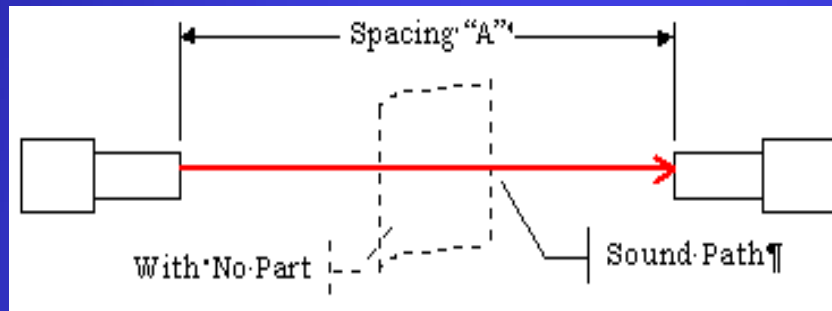




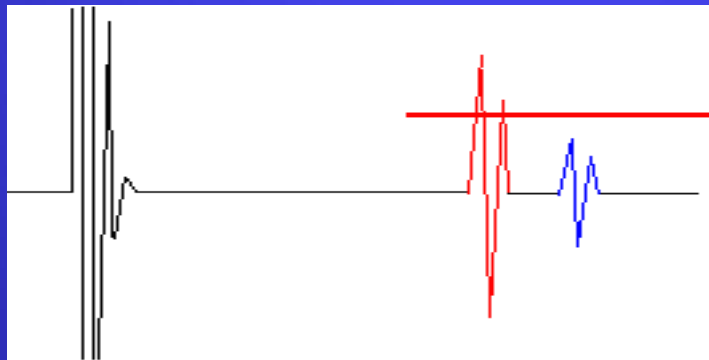
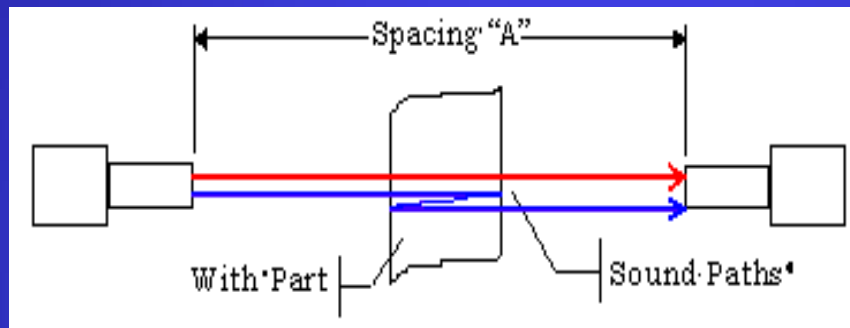
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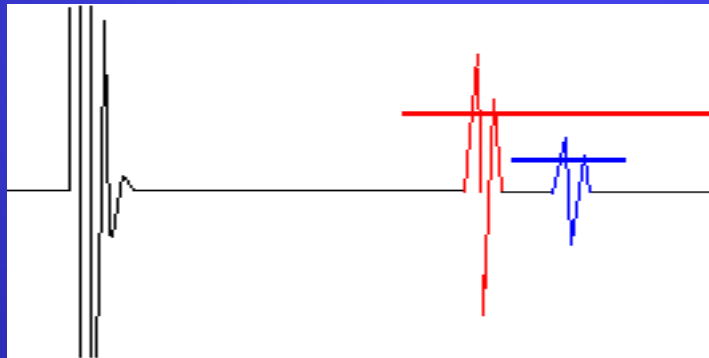
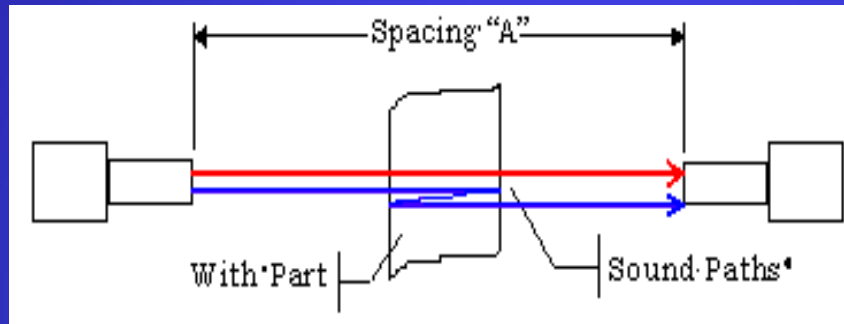
Time measurement (TOF) T1 (only in tank mode)



Time measurement (TOF) T2



Time measurement (TOF) T3



Velocity Formula

The following three relationships are used to derive the velocity formula:

$$V_w = \frac{S}{T_1}$$
$$\frac{(S - T_k)}{V_w} + \frac{T_k}{V_c} = T_2$$
$$V_c = \frac{2T_k}{T_3}$$

Key:

V_w	:	Water Velocity
V_c	:	Component Velocity
S	:	Transducer Spacing
T_k	:	Component Thickness
T_1	:	Time of Flight without Component in Place
T_2	:	Time of Flight with Component in Test Position
T_3	:	Time for Round Trip Through Component

The derived formula for velocity is

$$V_c = \frac{2 S + V_w (T_3 - 2T_2)}{T_3}$$



Calibration in Tank Mode

- Calibration process calculates probe spacing and water velocity;
- Input know velocity, click “CalV” to perform calibration,
Or Input know thickness, using “CalT” to calibrate;
- Time measurement T2, T3 with reference part in place;
- Remove the reference part and read T1 after removing the reference part;
- When calibration is done, system will show “Load Part” indicating ready status;



Calibration in Bubbler Mode

- No T1 (water pass without part) is available;
- Input know velocity, click “CalV” to perform calibration,
Or Input know thickness, using “CalT” to calibrate;
- Time measurement T2, T3 with reference part in place, then remove the reference part;
- Calibration uses standard water velocity to calculate the transducer spacing and part velocity.
- When calibration is done, system will show “Load Part” indicating ready status;
- Calculate target distance in the reference channel and monitor water velocity through TOF reading of this channel.





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Functions

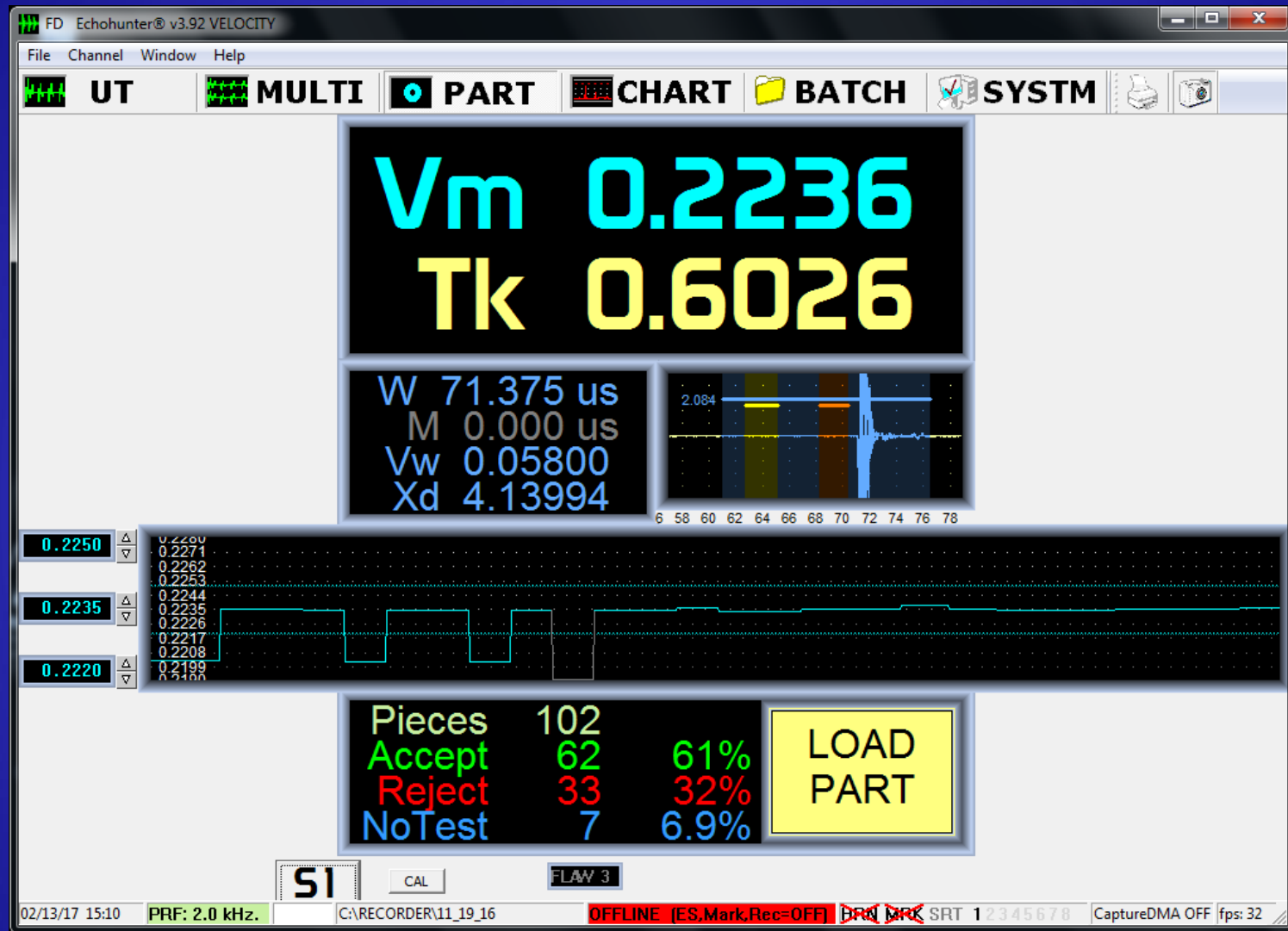
- Measure material velocity and thickness
- One channel UT in Tank configuration, T/R model
- Bubbler configuration requires a separate channel to monitor water velocity (temperature)
- Calibration with known piece velocity or thickness
- One or two velocity stations



Operation

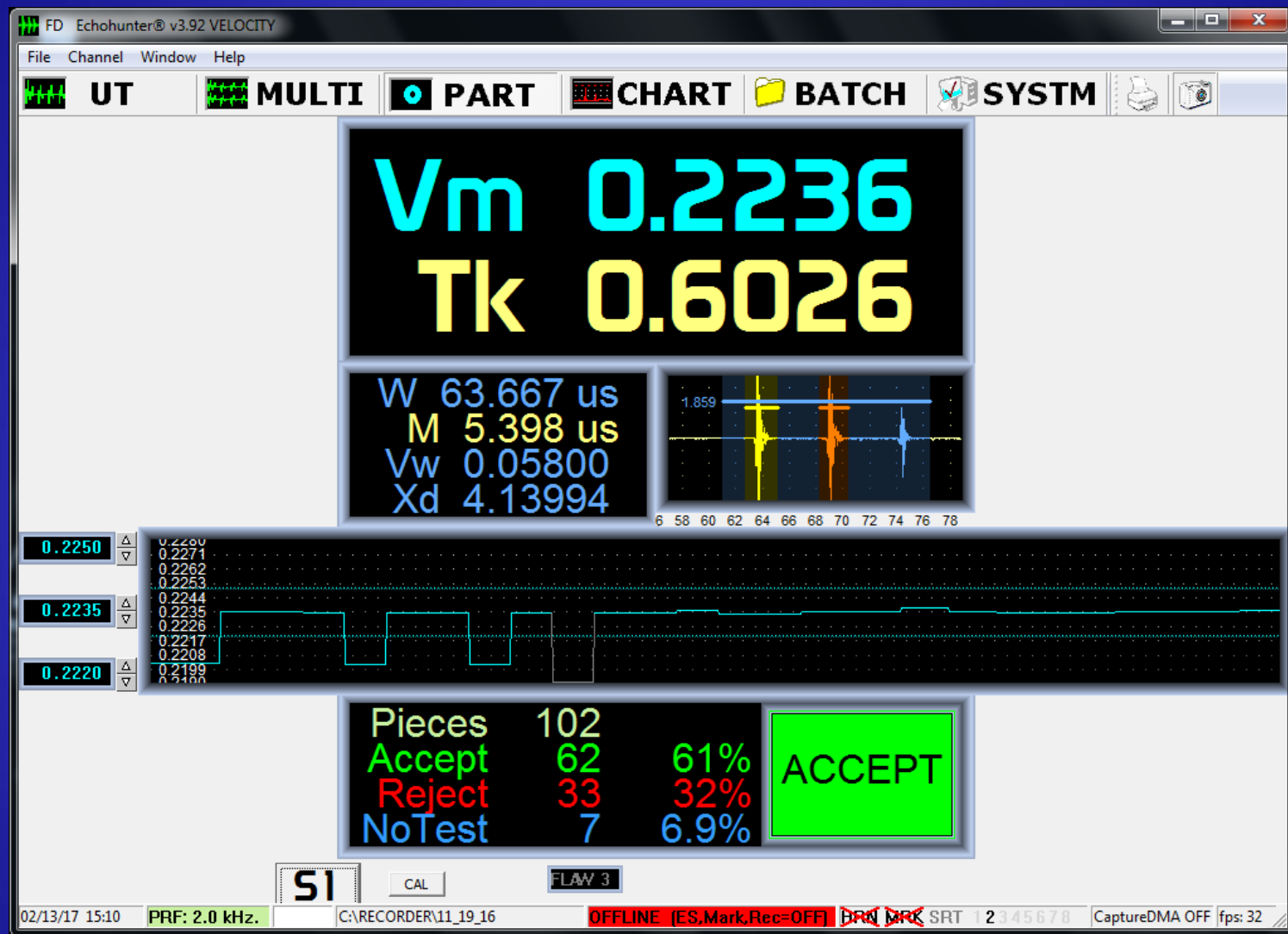
- In normal operation mode, system displays one of the four modes:
 1. Load Part: System is ready to accept part;
 2. Accept: Part is tested with velocity in the specified range;
 3. Reject: Part is tested but velocity is outside the specification;
 4. No Test: Invalid measurement; no material path or thickness can be read.
- Additional flaw channels are available to monitor other portion of the part. They can contribute to Reject condition;





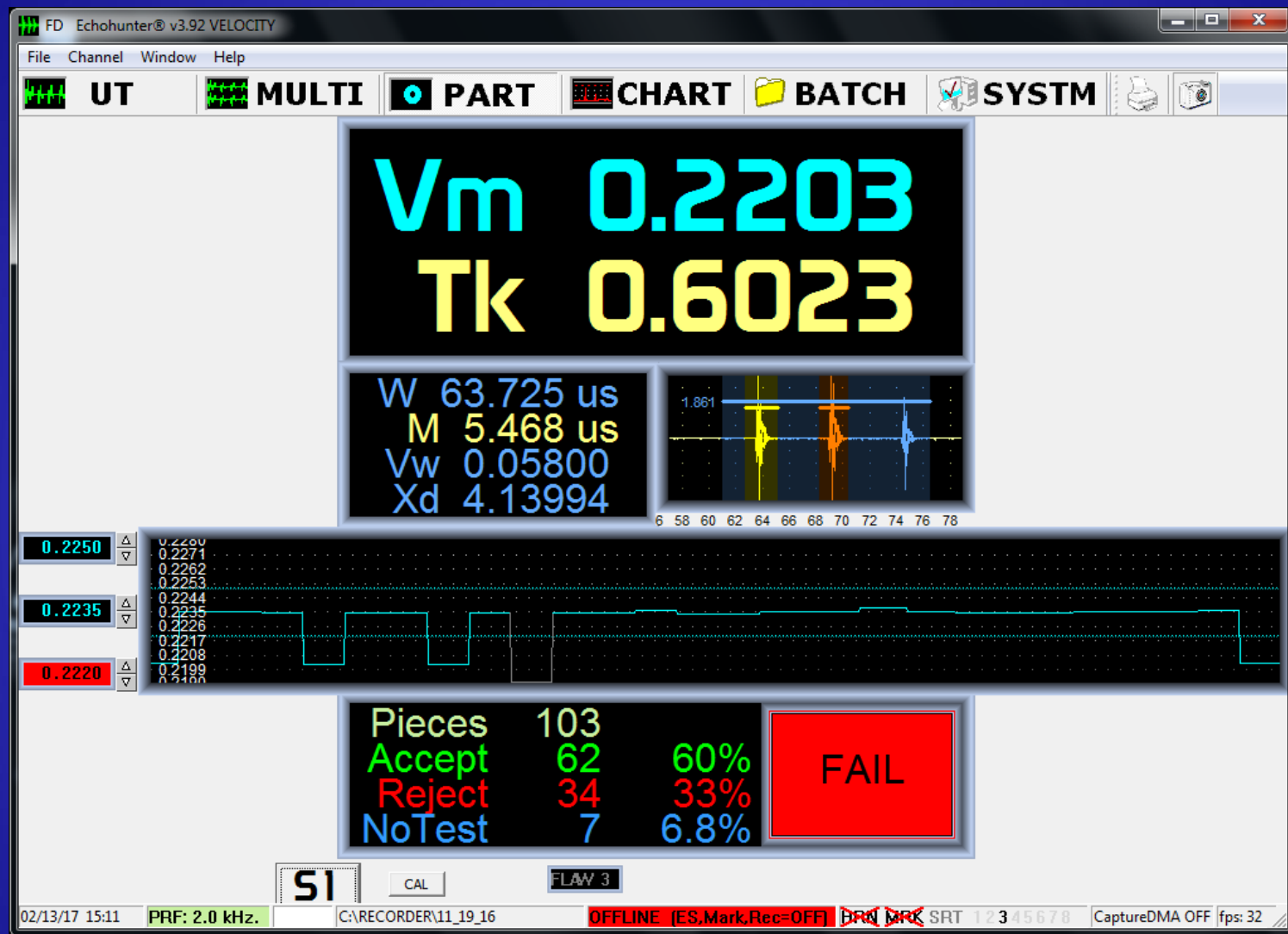
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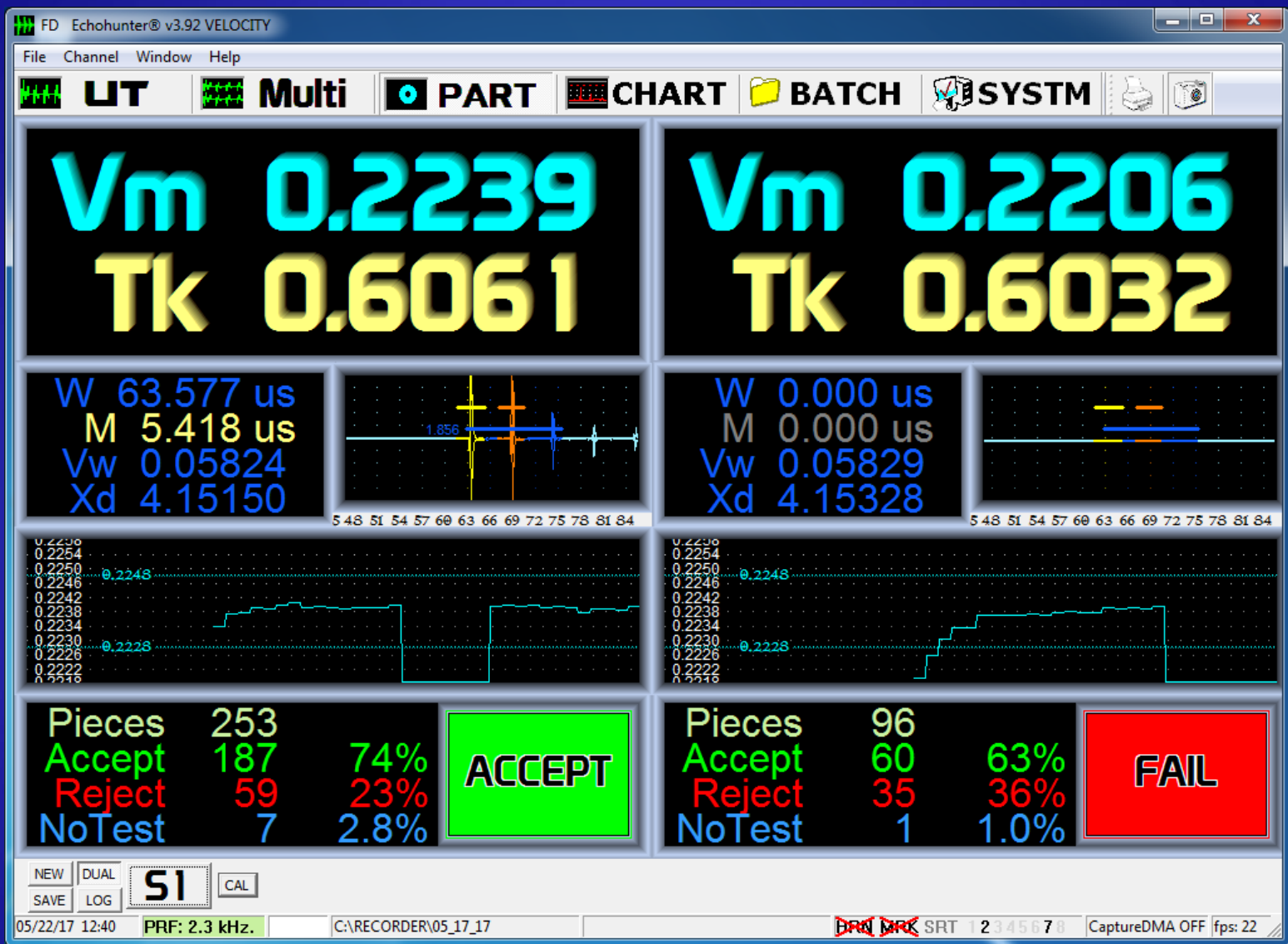
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Configuration

- Base unit: 4 channel with 2 velocity stations;
- 4 additional flow channels can be optional;
- Tank and test fixtures can be quoted and supplied through our partner.



Results



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With two customer samples marked 0.2235 (accept) and 0.2200 (reject), we have tested with both Tank and Bubbler mode of operations. Each sample is tested for 20 times and the velocity is recorded. Calibration is done on the accept sample (with velocity 0.2235 inch/us). Test results are tabulated as follows:



Tank Mode

Test Sequence	Results	Nominal	Error	Error %	Error square
1	0.2235	0.2235	0	0	0
2	0.2235	0.2235	0	0	0
3	0.2235	0.2235	0	0	0
4	0.2235	0.2235	0	0	0
5	0.2235	0.2235	0	0	0
6	0.2235	0.2235	0	0	0
7	0.2234	0.2235	-0.0001	-0.04474	1E-08
8	0.2234	0.2235	-0.0001	-0.04474	1E-08
9	0.2232	0.2235	-0.0003	-0.13423	9E-08
10	0.2233	0.2235	-0.0002	-0.08949	4E-08
11	0.2234	0.2235	-0.0001	-0.04474	1E-08
12	0.2235	0.2235	0	0	0
13	0.2235	0.2235	0	0	0
14	0.2235	0.2235	0	0	0
15	0.2235	0.2235	0	0	0
16	0.2235	0.2235	0	0	0
17	0.2235	0.2235	0	0	0
18	0.2235	0.2235	0	0	0
19	0.2235	0.2235	0	0	0
20	0.2235	0.2235	0	0	0



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Tank Mode (Cont'd)

Test Sequence	Results	Nominal	Error	Error %	Error square		
21	0.2202	0.22	0.0002	0.090909	4E-08		
22	0.2202	0.22	0.0002	0.090909	4E-08		
23	0.2202	0.22	0.0002	0.090909	4E-08		
24	0.2202	0.22	0.0002	0.090909	4E-08		
25	0.2202	0.22	0.0002	0.090909	4E-08		
26	0.2202	0.22	0.0002	0.090909	4E-08		
27	0.2202	0.22	0.0002	0.090909	4E-08		
28	0.2202	0.22	0.0002	0.090909	4E-08		
29	0.2201	0.22	1E-04	0.045455	1E-08		
30	0.2202	0.22	0.0002	0.090909	4E-08		
31	0.2202	0.22	0.0002	0.090909	4E-08		
32	0.2202	0.22	0.0002	0.090909	4E-08		
33	0.2202	0.22	0.0002	0.090909	4E-08		
34	0.2202	0.22	0.0002	0.090909	4E-08		
35	0.2202	0.22	0.0002	0.090909	4E-08		
36	0.2203	0.22	0.0003	0.136364	9E-08		
37	0.2202	0.22	0.0002	0.090909	4E-08		
38	0.2202	0.22	0.0002	0.090909	4E-08		
39	0.2202	0.22	0.0002	0.090909	4E-08		
40	0.2202	0.22	0.0002	0.090909	4E-08		
Standard Deviation					0.0001565 inch/us	0.071148%	



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Bubbler Mode

Test Sequence	Results	Nominal	Error	Error %	Error square
1	0.2236	0.2235	1E-04	0.044743	1E-08
2	0.2236	0.2235	1E-04	0.044743	1E-08
3	0.2236	0.2235	1E-04	0.044743	1E-08
4	0.2236	0.2235	1E-04	0.044743	1E-08
5	0.2236	0.2235	1E-04	0.044743	1E-08
6	0.2235	0.2235	0	0	0
7	0.2236	0.2235	1E-04	0.044743	1E-08
8	0.2236	0.2235	1E-04	0.044743	1E-08
9	0.2236	0.2235	1E-04	0.044743	1E-08
10	0.2234	0.2235	-0.0001	-0.04474	1E-08
11	0.2236	0.2235	1E-04	0.044743	1E-08
12	0.2236	0.2235	1E-04	0.044743	1E-08
13	0.2236	0.2235	1E-04	0.044743	1E-08
14	0.2236	0.2235	1E-04	0.044743	1E-08
15	0.2236	0.2235	1E-04	0.044743	1E-08
16	0.2236	0.2235	1E-04	0.044743	1E-08
17	0.2236	0.2235	1E-04	0.044743	1E-08
18	0.2236	0.2235	1E-04	0.044743	1E-08
19	0.2236	0.2235	1E-04	0.044743	1E-08
20	0.2236	0.2235	1E-04	0.044743	1E-08



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Bubbler Mode (Cont'd)

Test Sequence		Results	Nominal	Error	Error %	Error square
21	0.2203	0.22	0.0003	0.136364	9E-08	
22	0.2203	0.22	0.0003	0.136364	9E-08	
23	0.2203	0.22	0.0003	0.136364	9E-08	
24	0.2203	0.22	0.0003	0.136364	9E-08	
25	0.2203	0.22	0.0003	0.136364	9E-08	
26	0.2203	0.22	0.0003	0.136364	9E-08	
27	0.2203	0.22	0.0003	0.136364	9E-08	
28	0.2203	0.22	0.0003	0.136364	9E-08	
29	0.2203	0.22	0.0003	0.136364	9E-08	
30	0.2203	0.22	0.0003	0.136364	9E-08	
31	0.2203	0.22	0.0003	0.136364	9E-08	
32	0.2203	0.22	0.0003	0.136364	9E-08	
33	0.2203	0.22	0.0003	0.136364	9E-08	
34	0.2203	0.22	0.0003	0.136364	9E-08	
35	0.2203	0.22	0.0003	0.136364	9E-08	
36	0.2203	0.22	0.0003	0.136364	9E-08	
37	0.2203	0.22	0.0003	0.136364	9E-08	
38	0.2203	0.22	0.0003	0.136364	9E-08	
39	0.2203	0.22	0.0003	0.136364	9E-08	
40	0.2203	0.22	0.0003	0.136364	9E-08	
Standard Deviation					0.000223 inch/us	0.101385%



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