



# *Differential LDV measurements* using **flyable mirrors** for the vibration assessment of **remote structures**

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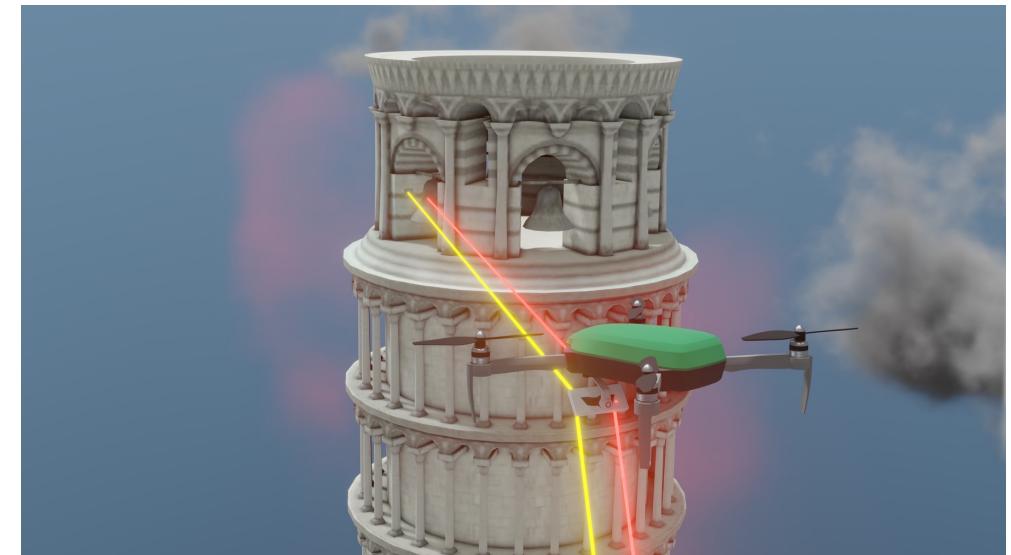
# Contents

- Background and motivation
- (Some gentle!) Mathematical modelling
- Lab-based verification
  - Benchtop – vibration mirror
  - Benchtop – tethered UAV
  - Field-based – “**flyable mirror**”
- Conclusions and recommendations for next steps



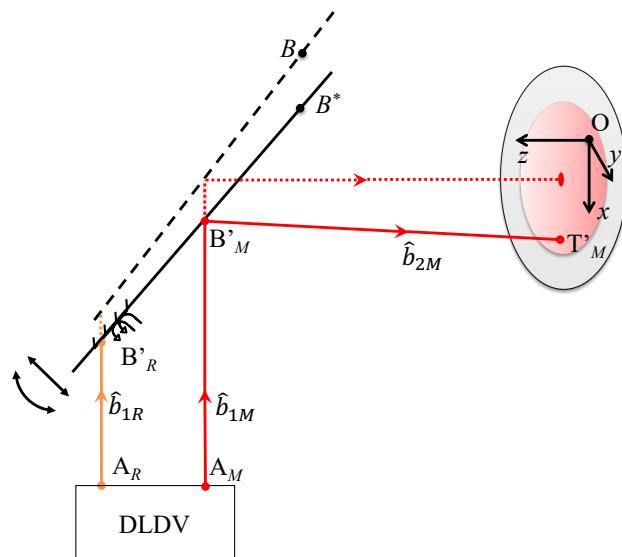
## Background and motivation

Instead of flying the LDV (problematic), let's just fly a mirror and use a *D-LDV*...  
...but, which possible configuration to use?!:

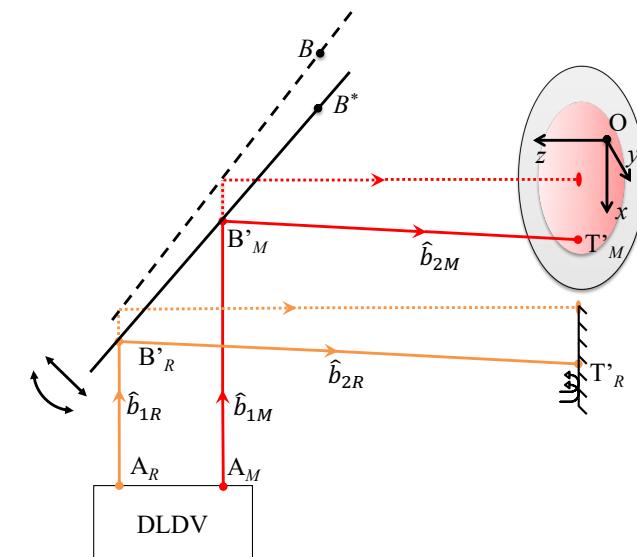


# Mathematical modelling

Vector-based approach shows velocity sensitivity for each (all possible) scenarios:

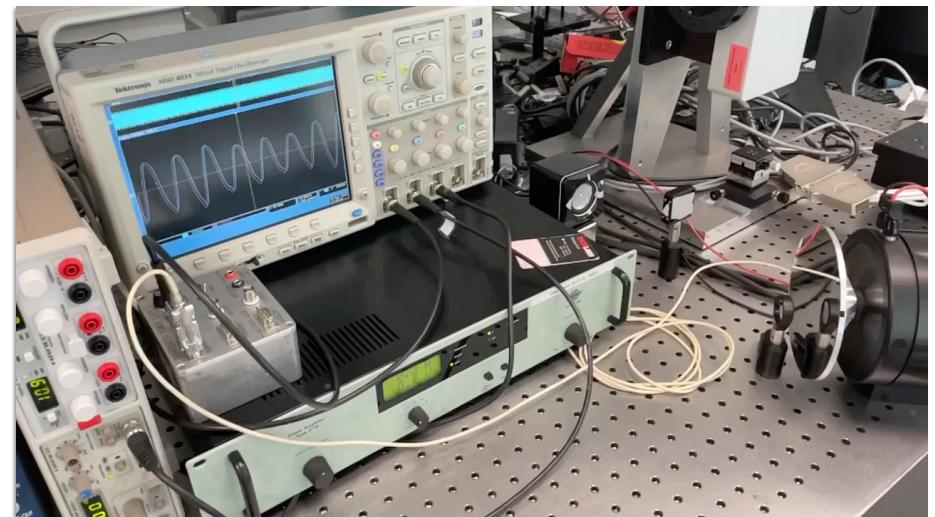
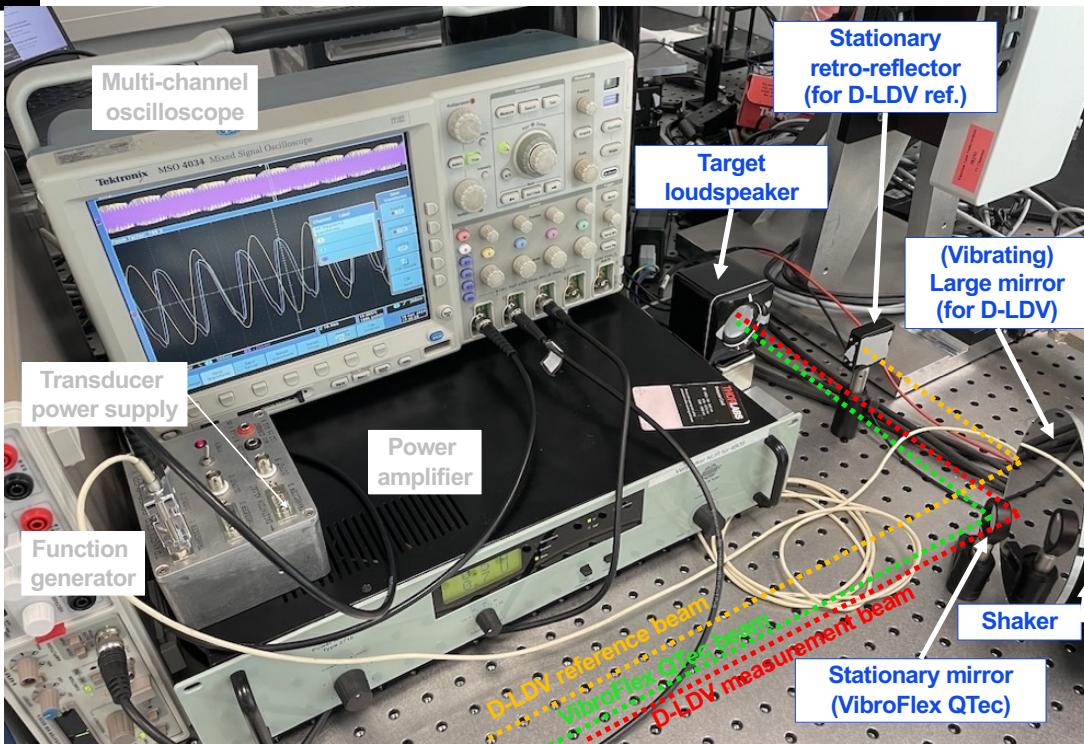


$$U_{m_{DLDV_a}} = -\hat{b}_{2M} \cdot \vec{V}_{T'_M} + (\hat{b}_{2M} - \hat{b}_{1M}) \cdot \vec{V}_{B'_M} + \hat{b}_{1R} \cdot \vec{V}_{B'_R}$$



$$U_{m_{DLDV_b}} = -\hat{b}_{2M} \cdot \vec{V}_{T'_M} \quad \checkmark$$

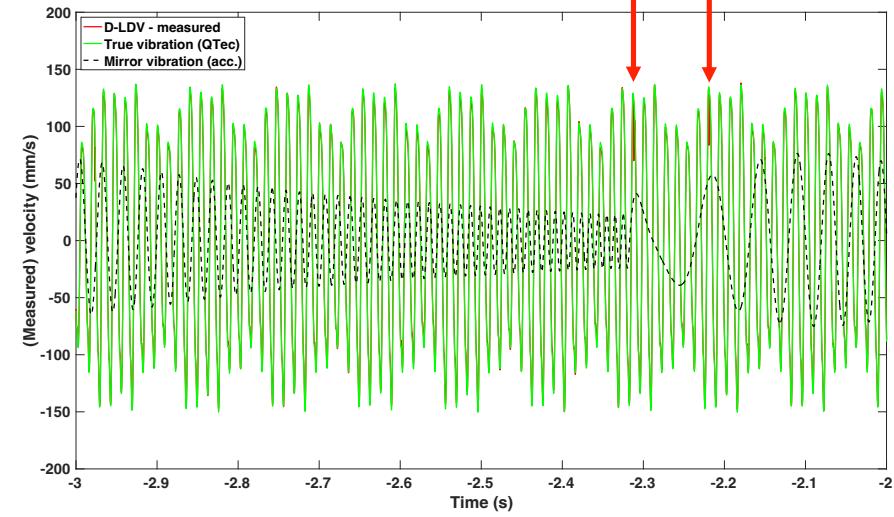
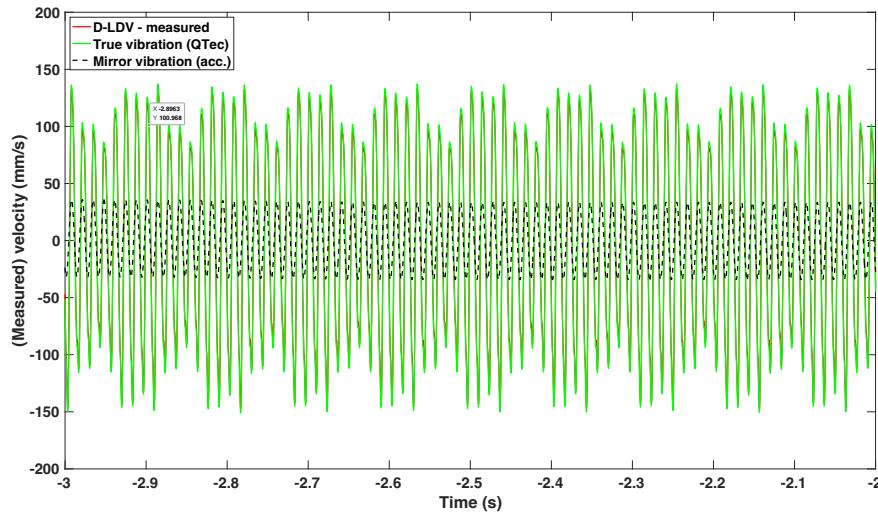
## Lab-based verification – mirror vibration...setup:



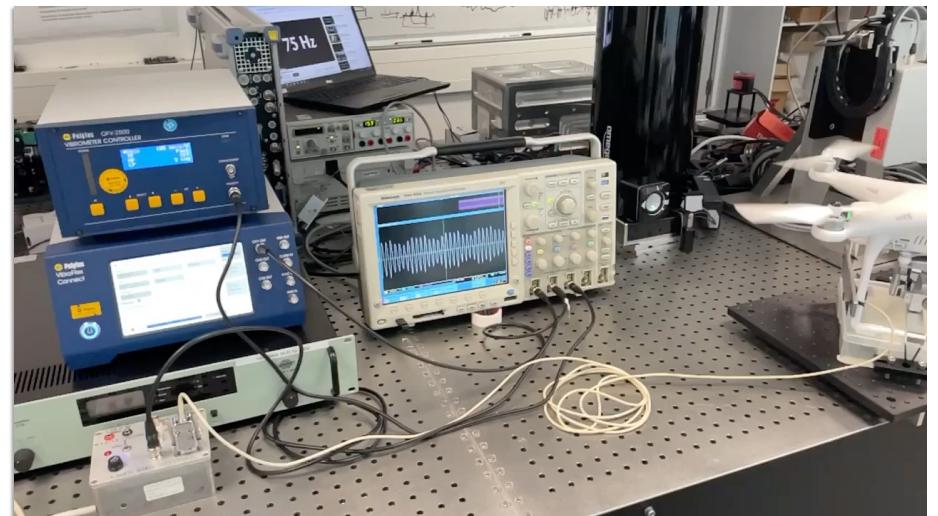
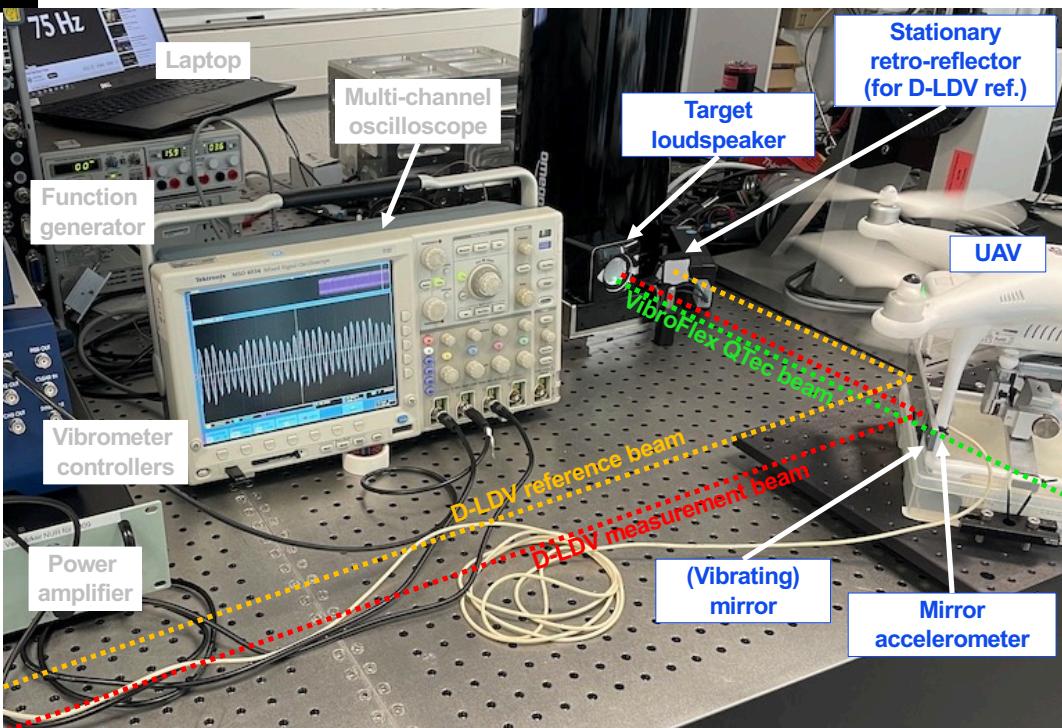
## Lab-based verification – mirror vibration...results:

Excellent agreement in the presence of (translational) mirror vibration...

...**QTEC** reference measurement vs. **mirror vibration** (velocity) vs. **D-LDV** measurement



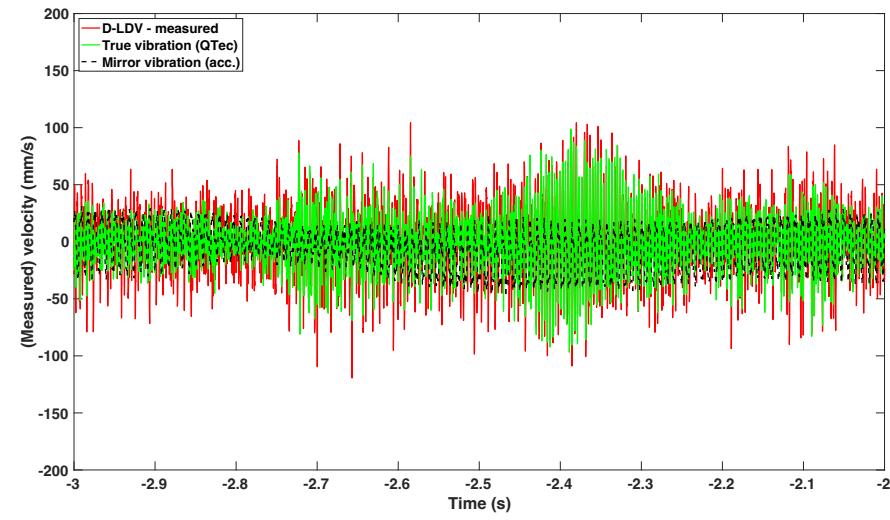
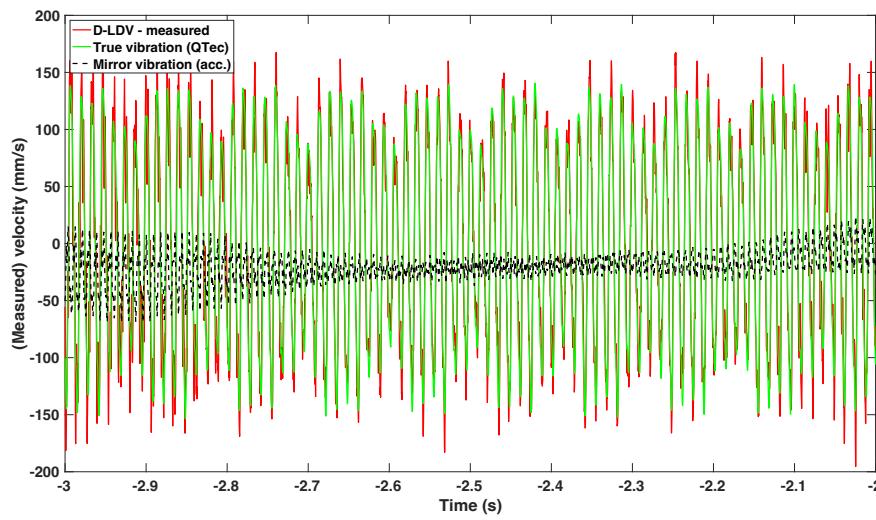
# Lab-based verification – (tethered) UAV vibration...setup:



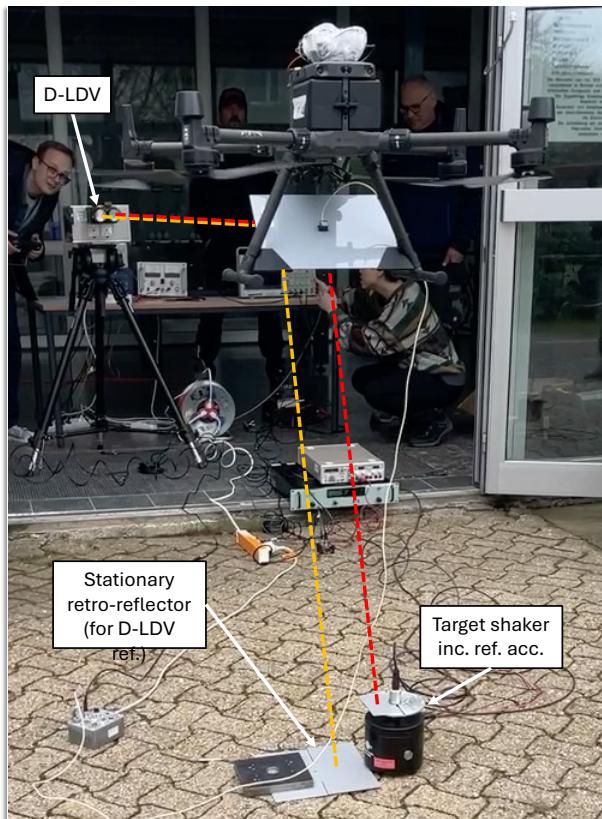
## Lab-based verification – (tethered) UAV vibration...results:

Reasonable? agreement, despite more complex mirror vibration, including rotation/bending...

...**QTEC** reference measurement vs. **mirror vibration** (velocity) vs. **D-LDV** measurement



## Field-based verification – UAV flyable mirror...setup:

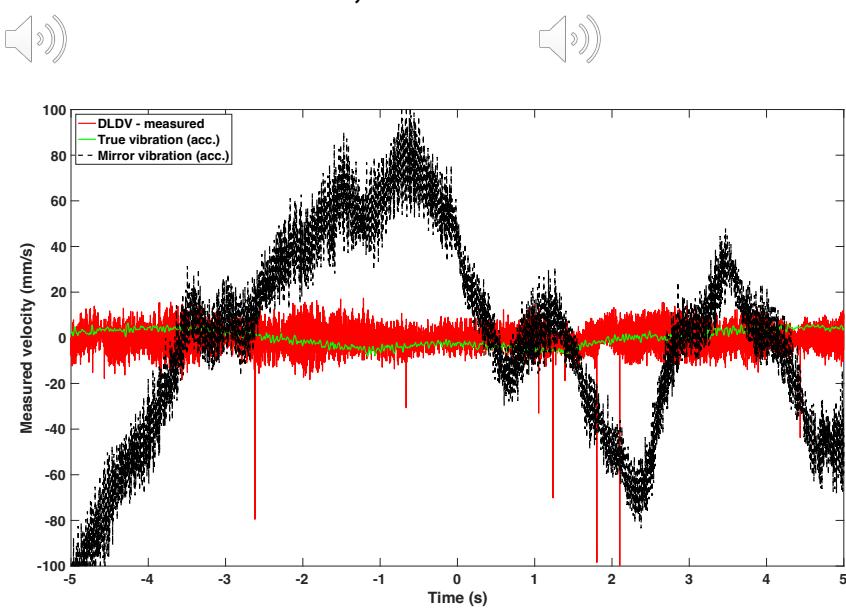
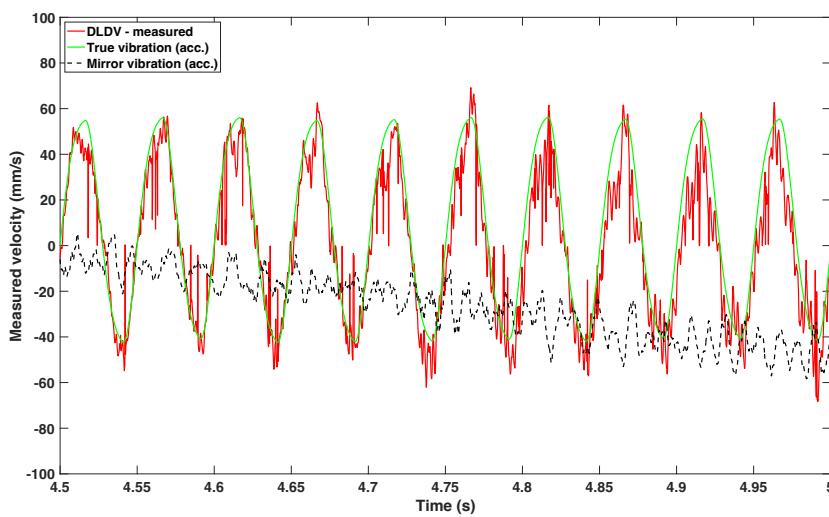


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## Field-based verification – (tethered) UAV vibration...results (20 Hz target vibration):

Promising? agreement, despite much more challenging measurement scenario...

...**Acc.** reference measurement (velocity) vs. **D-LDV** measurement; **mirror vibration not used...**



## Summary and conclusions

Differential LDV explicitly shown to be inherently insensitive to (translational) vibration

Not surprising that it's sensitive to angular vibration!?

Proper configuration for D-LDV measurements via Flyable Mirrors determined

Both beams travel to and from the remote target of via the vibrating mirror

Series of increasing complex, experimental scenarios described

Benchtop, vibrating mirror – *excellent* agreement

Benchtop, tethered UAV – *reasonable* agreement

Field-based, flyable mirror – *promising* agreement

Next steps should include:

Use of signal diversity (mitigate **laser speckle** sensitivity)

Treatment of D-DLV sensitivity to **angular vibration**

Integrated control of **LDV pointing/UAV positioning**

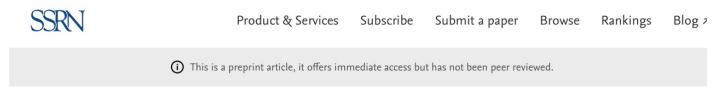


## Some references

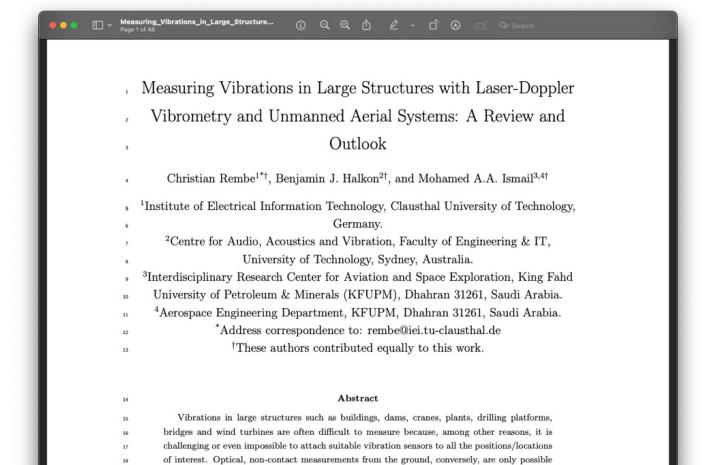
*Differential Laser Doppler Vibrometer Measurements Using "Flyable Mirrors" for the Vibration Assessment of Remote Structures* – under review MSSP:  
[https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=5189527](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=5189527)

...and...

*Measuring Vibrations in Large Structures with Laser-Doppler Vibrometry and Unmanned Aerial Systems: A Review and Outlook* – recently accepted(!) Advanced Devices and Instrumentation (SPJ):  
<http://hdl.handle.net/10453/186218>



The screenshot shows the SSRN preprint page for the paper. The title is 'Differential Laser Doppler Vibrometer Measurements Using "Flyable Mirrors" for the Vibration Assessment of Remote Structures'. It is a 90-page document posted on 22 Mar 2025. There are buttons for 'Download This Paper', 'Open PDF in Browser', and 'Remove Paper from My Library'. Below the title, there is a brief abstract: 'Vibrations in large structures such as buildings, dams, cranes, plants, drilling platforms, bridges and wind turbines are often difficult to measure because, among other reasons, it is challenging or even impossible to attach suitable vibration sensors to all the positions/locations of interest. Optical, non-contact measurements from the ground, conversely, are only possible if the structures are accessible from the air. In this paper, we propose a novel measurement technique based on a Differential Laser Doppler Vibrometer (DLDV) and a system of "flyable mirrors" to measure vibrations in remote structures.'



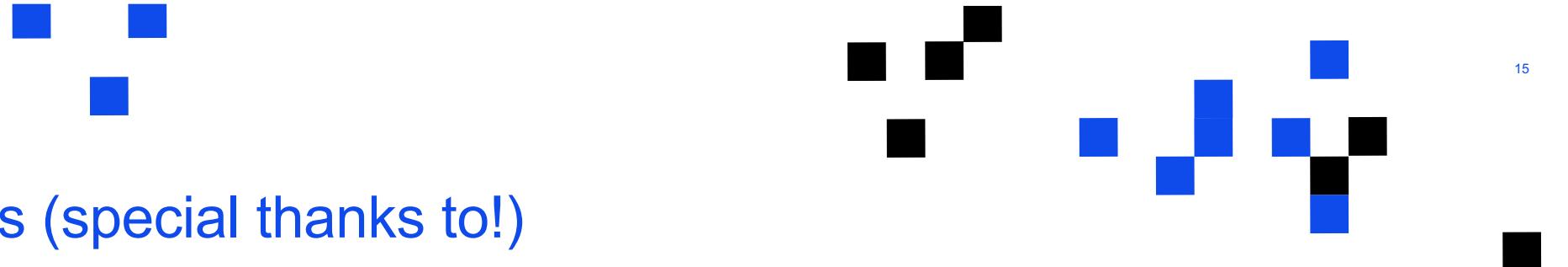
The screenshot shows the first page of the PDF. The title is 'Measuring Vibrations in Large Structures with Laser-Doppler Vibrometry and Unmanned Aerial Systems: A Review and Outlook'. It is a 34-page document by Christian Rembe<sup>1\*</sup>, Benjamin J. Halkon<sup>2†</sup>, and Mohamed A.A. Ismail<sup>3,4‡</sup>. The authors are from the Institute of Electrical Information Technology, Clausthal University of Technology, Germany; Centre for Audio, Acoustics and Vibration, Faculty of Engineering & IT, University of Technology, Sydney, Australia; Interdisciplinary Research Center for Aviation and Space Exploration, King Fahd University of Petroleum & Minerals (KFUPM), Dhahran 31261, Saudi Arabia; and Aerospace Engineering Department, KFUPM, Dhahran 31261, Saudi Arabia. Address correspondence to: rembe@iet.tu-clausthal.de. \*These authors contributed equally to this work.



Thank  
you

Questions?





## Credits (special thanks to!)

Colleagues and collaborators

Prof. Christian Rembe, Dr Mohamed Ismail...

...Prof. Steve Rothberg (for conversations on the mathematical modelling)

Junior researchers

Chunlin Gao, Robin Zimmermann...

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Technical support

IEI workshop...

## Some (optional) further reading!

**Halkon, BJ** and Rothberg, SJ, [Taking laser Doppler vibrometry off the tripod: correction of measurements affected by instrument vibration](#), *Opt. Las. in Eng.*, **99** (2017), DOI: [10.1016/j.optlaseng.2016.11.006](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.optlaseng.2016.11.006)

**Halkon, BJ** and Rothberg, SJ, [Restoring high accuracy to laser Doppler vibrometry measurements affected by vibration of beam steering optics](#), *JSV*, **405** (2017), DOI: [10.1016/j.jsv.2017.05.014](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jsv.2017.05.014)

**Halkon, BJ** and Rothberg, SJ, [Establishing correction solutions for scanning laser Doppler vibrometer measurements affected by sensor head vibration](#). *MSSP*, **150** (2020), DOI: [10.1016/j.ymssp.2020.107255](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ymssp.2020.107255)

Darwish, A, **Halkon, B**, Rothberg, SJ, Oberst, S, and Fitch, R, [A comparison of time and frequency domain-based approaches to laser Doppler vibrometer instrument vibration correction](#), *JSV*, **520** (2022), DOI: [10.1016/j.jsv.2021.116607](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jsv.2021.116607)

Rothberg, S, ... **Halkon, B**, et al., [An international review of laser Doppler vibrometry: Making light work of vibration measurement](#), *Opt. Las. in Eng.*, **99**, (2017), DOI: [10.1016/j.optlaseng.2016.10.023](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.optlaseng.2016.10.023)