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*Title:* Time Reversal and Nonlinear Elastic Wave Spectroscopy:  
Methods, Technologies and Applications

*Author(s):* Timothy J. Ulrich II

*Intended for:* Collaborative workshop between LANL and IPGP, sponsored  
by EES, held in Santa Fe



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## **Time Reversal and Nonlinear Elastic Wave Spectroscopy: Methods, Technologies and Applications**

Over the last 15 years Nonlinear Elastic Wave Spectroscopy (NEWS) has emerged as the most sensitive set of techniques for early detection of mechanical damage. Another recent focus in acoustics research is a technique called Time Reversal (TR) for focusing and/or locating sources of wave energy. Combining the abilities of TR and NEWS provides new capabilities to detect, locate and image defects such as cracks, delaminations and disbonds with high precision.

The work reviewed here comprises the results from several studies focused on the combination of TR and NEWS and various methods and technologies spawned from these studies. Additionally, current and potential applications in fields of medicine, biology, seismology, engineering and others will be discussed.

**Timothy James (TJ) Ulrich II** obtained his Ph.D. in Physics at the University of Nevada Reno (UNR) after an M.S. degree in Physics and a B.S. in Materials Science and Engineering, also at UNR. Ulrich came to LANL in 2005 as a post-doc, and later became a staff member (Research Scientist) in 2008. His work includes developing new acoustics-based experimental tools and techniques for materials characterization and nondestructive evaluation as well as developing instrumentation, software and performing experiments in support of laboratory mission projects. He is widely recognized as one of the main developer of experimental techniques for nonlinear acoustic, time reversal and combinations of the two. He has been recognized as a Mackenzie scholar of Physics, a Regents scholar and a NASA Space Grant Student Fellow while at UNR. Since coming to LANL Ulrich has been invited numerous times (2005, 2006, 2007) by the Center National de la Recherche Scientifique - CNRS in Paris as a visiting scholar. His work has been recognized at LANL in multiple LANL Achievement Awards for his scientific contributions (2008 - 2010), including awards for “demonstrated excellence through peer-reviewed publications” and “technological advances in acoustic sensing and imaging.”

Photo:





# Time Reversal and Nonlinear Elastic Wave Spectroscopy

**Methods, Applications and Technologies**

**TJ Ulrich**

**May 3, 2011**

## TR Team & Collaborators

### ■ EES-17

- Pierre-Yves Le Bas
- Carene Larmat
- Michele Griffa (now @ ETH Zurich)
- Brian Anderson (now @ BYU)
- James TenCate
- Robert Guyer (also @ UNR)
- Paul Johnson

### ■ University Paris VI

- Jacques Rivière
- Pascal Laugier

### ■ KU Leuven (Kortrijk)

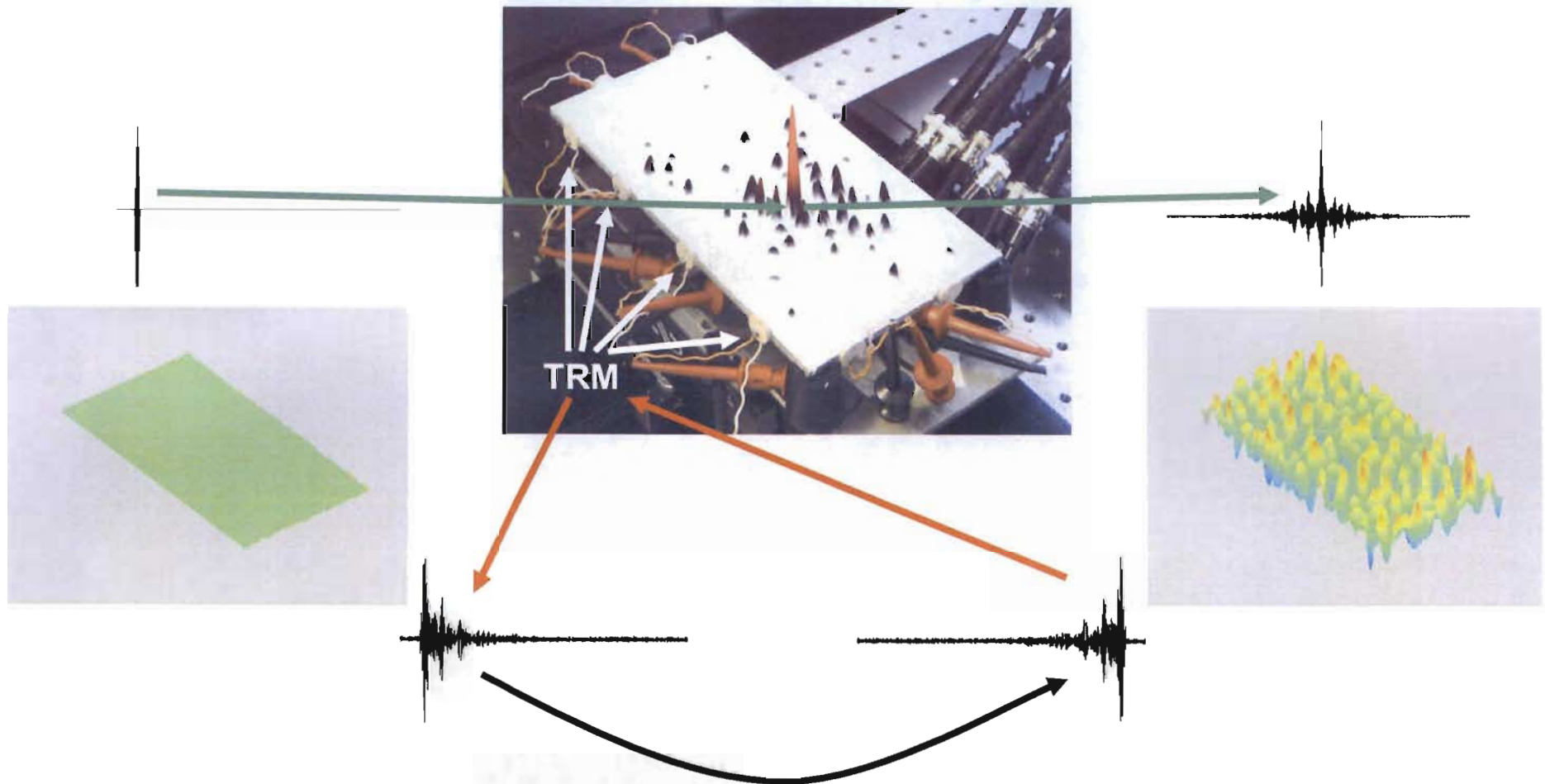
- Koen Van Den Abeele

### ■ Polytechnico di Torino

- Marco Scalerandi
- Antonio Gliozzi



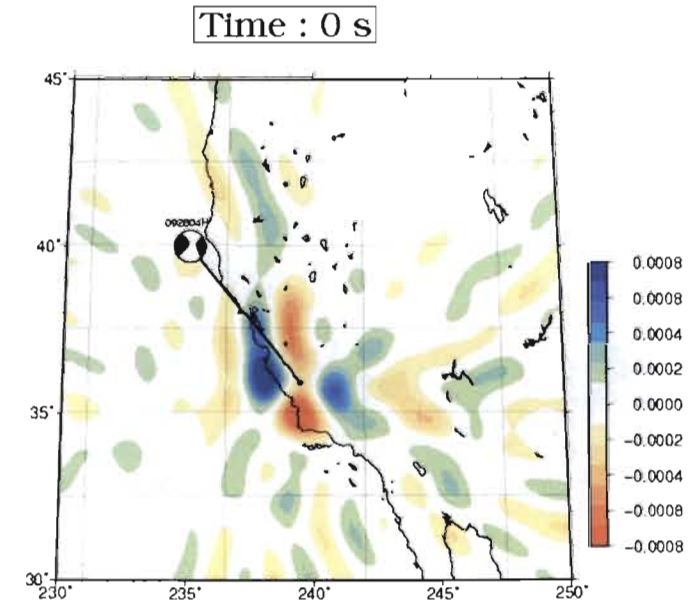
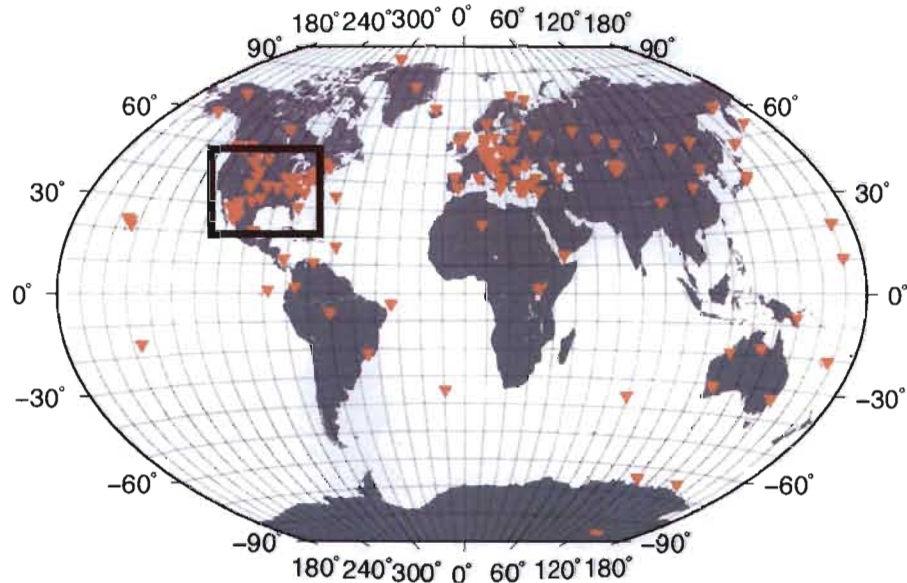
## What is Time Reversal?





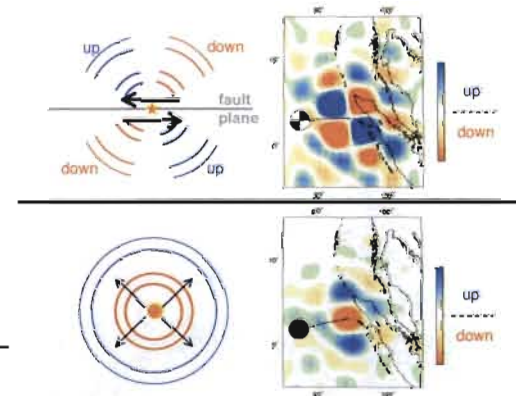
## Seismology

### 2004 Parkfield, CA Earthquake



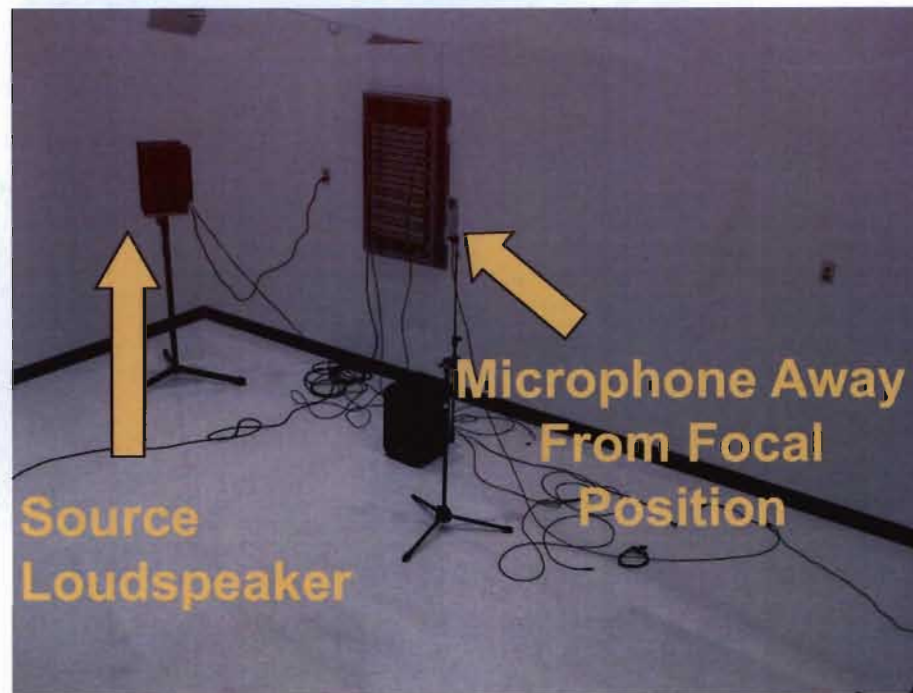
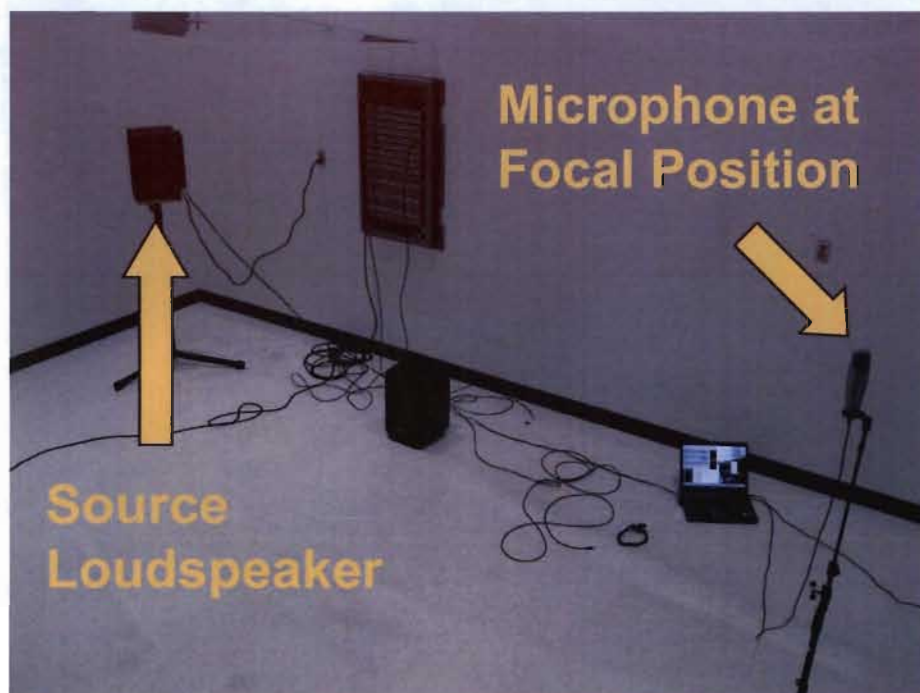
### Advantages:

- Improved localization (time & space)
- Obtain source time functions
- Obtain Radiation Patterns



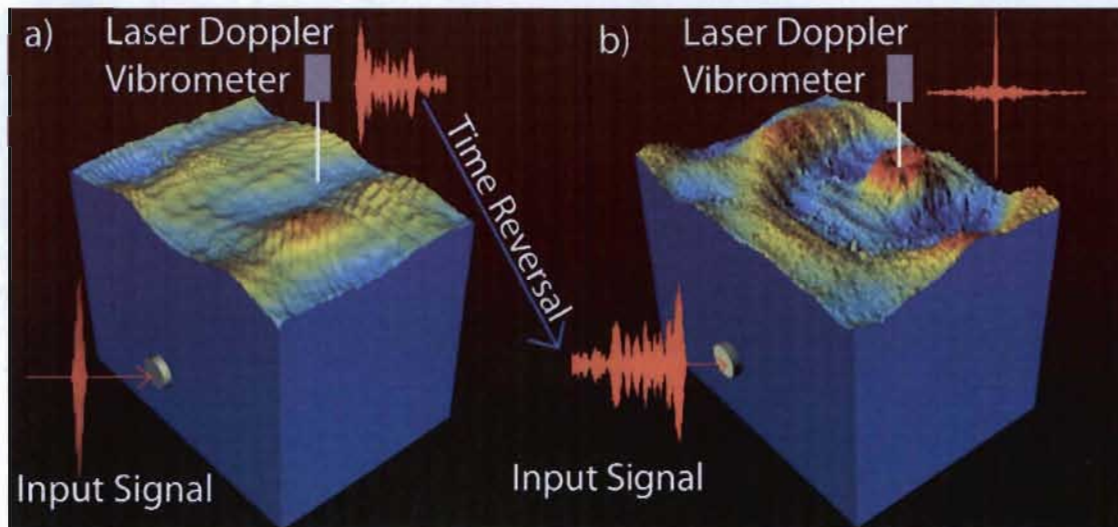
## Communications

Chamber dimensions – 28.6 x 18.6 x 18.8 ft

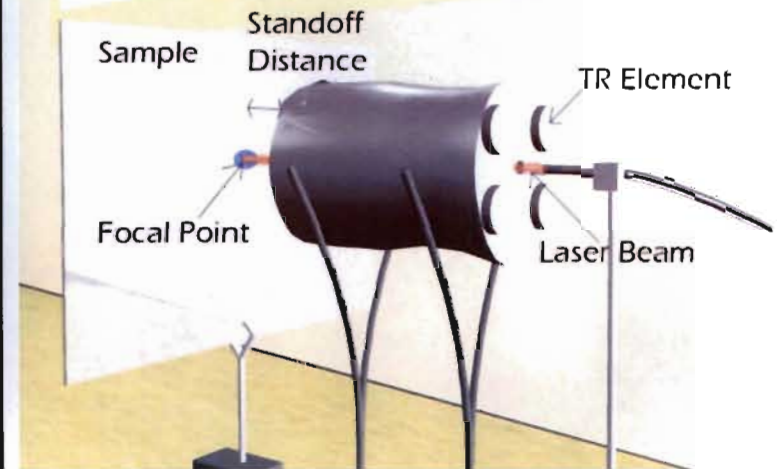




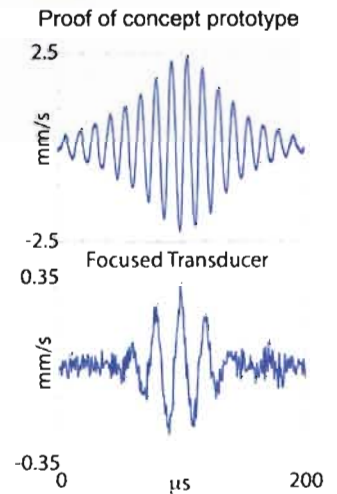
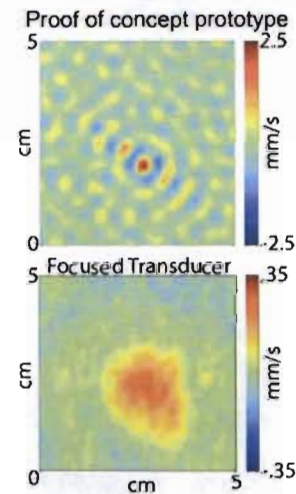
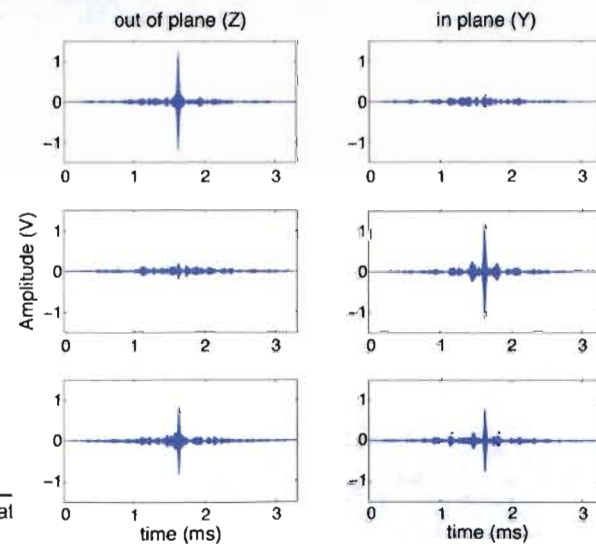
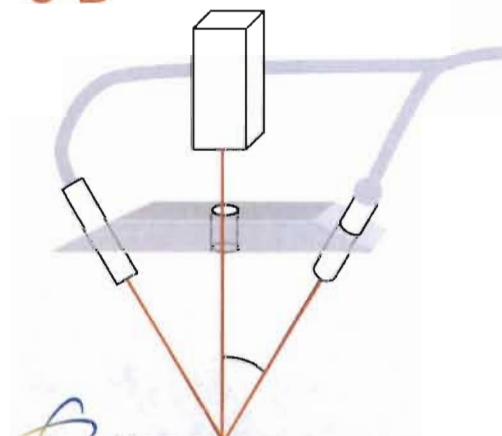
## Reciprocal TR ... Creating Virtual Sources



### Noncontact

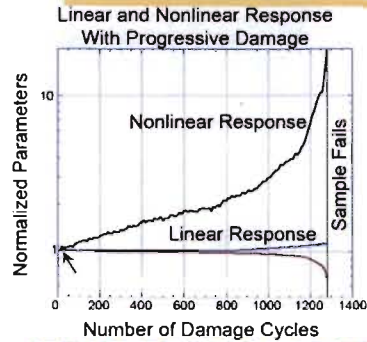


### 3-D

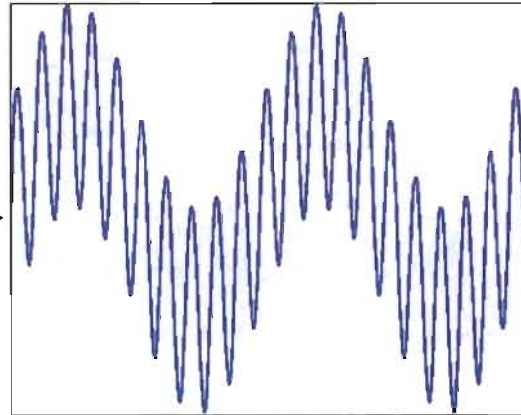




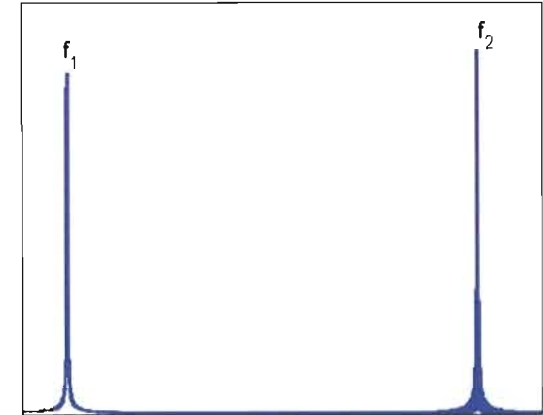
# Nonlinear Elastic Wave Spectroscopy



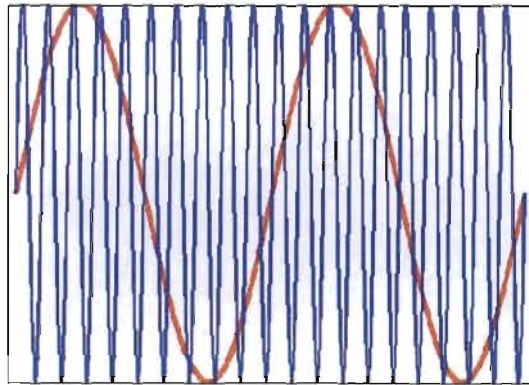
Linear  
Response



time



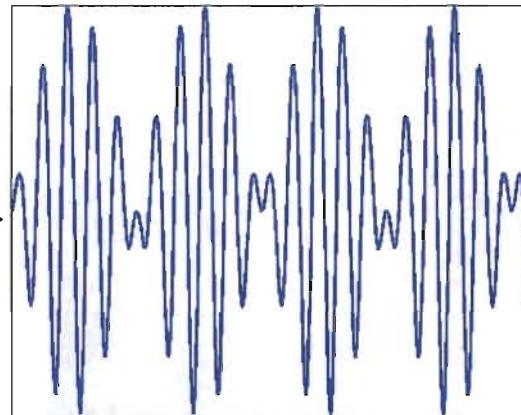
Frequency



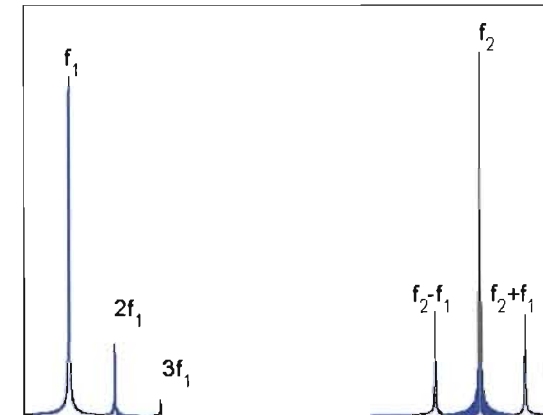
time

Sources

Nonlinear  
Response



time

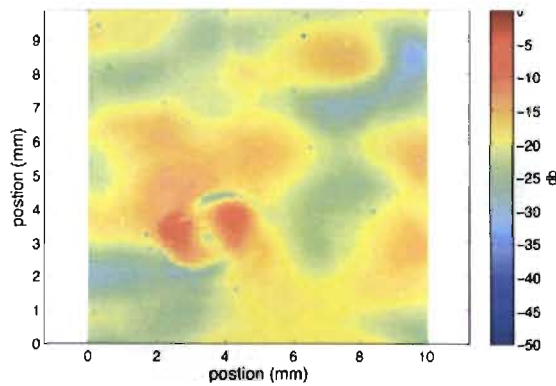


Frequency

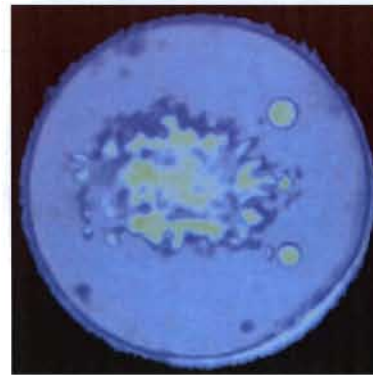
## Imaging – Time Reversed Elastic Nonlinearity Diagnostic (TREND)

### Linear

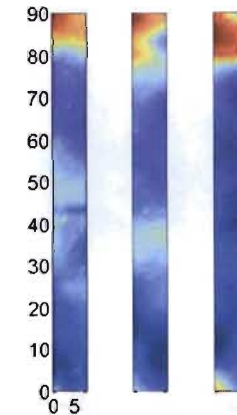
Impact damage (glass)



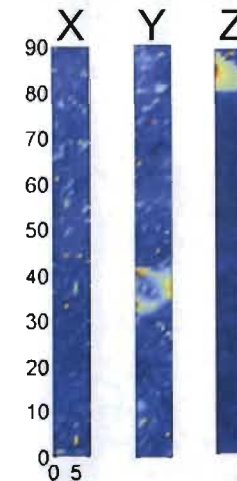
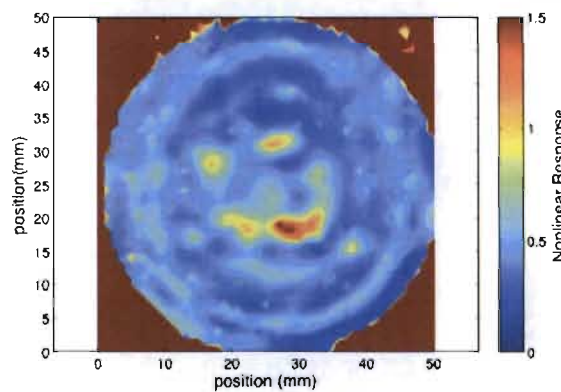
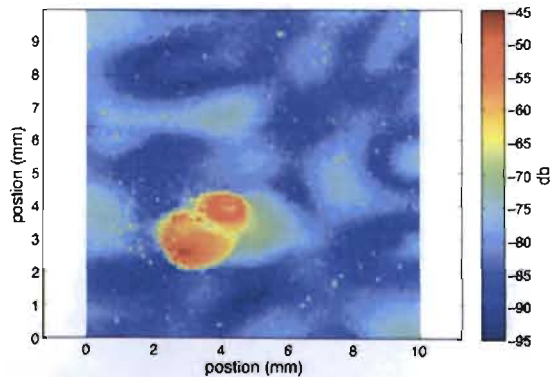
Diffusion bond defects  
(Cu-Au)



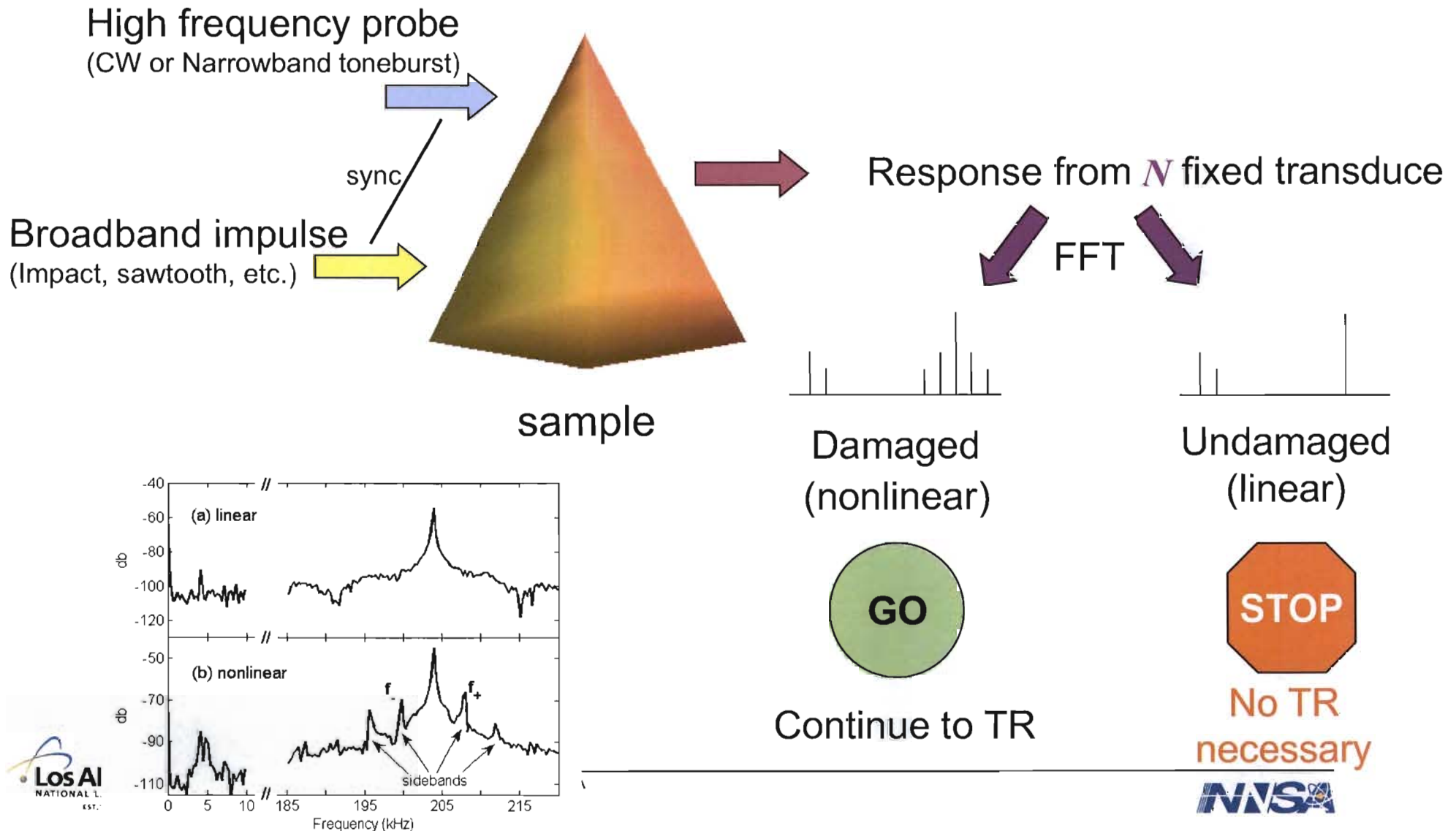
Defect Orientation  
(3-D TR)



### Nonlinear



## Imaging – TR NEWS

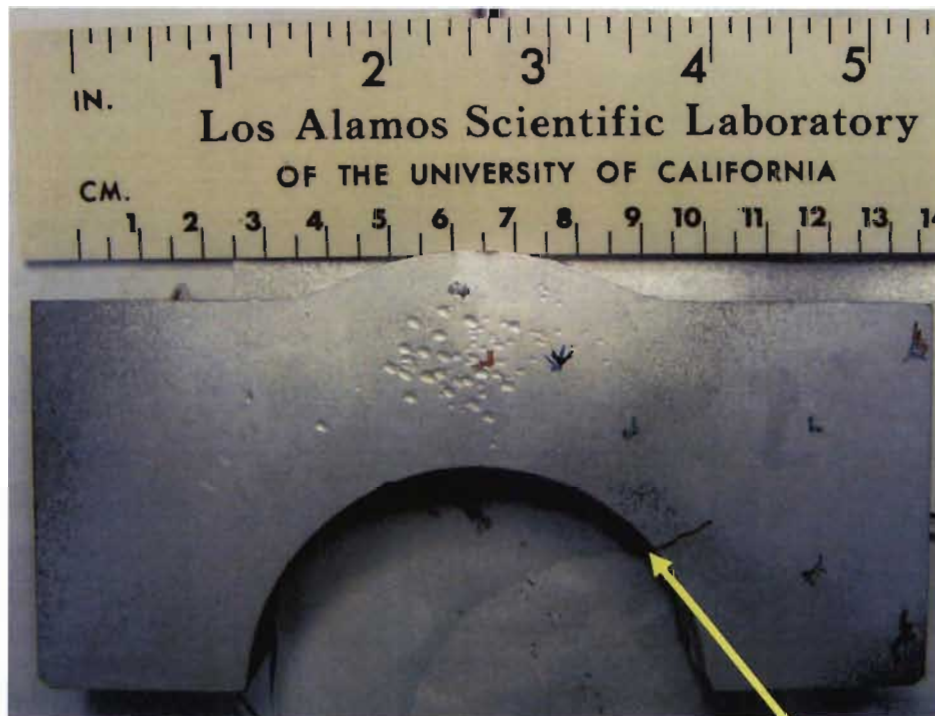




## Imaging – TR NEWS

### Sources:

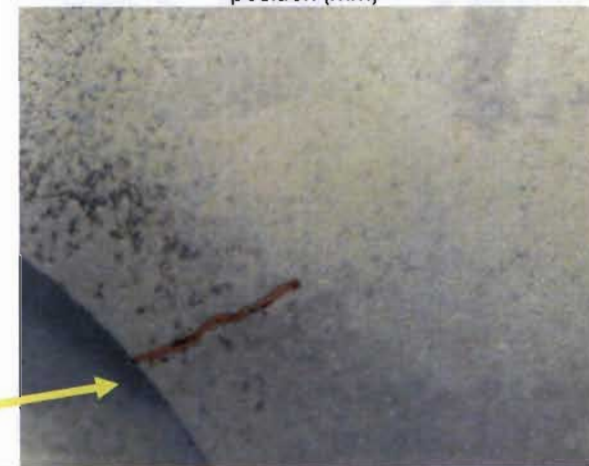
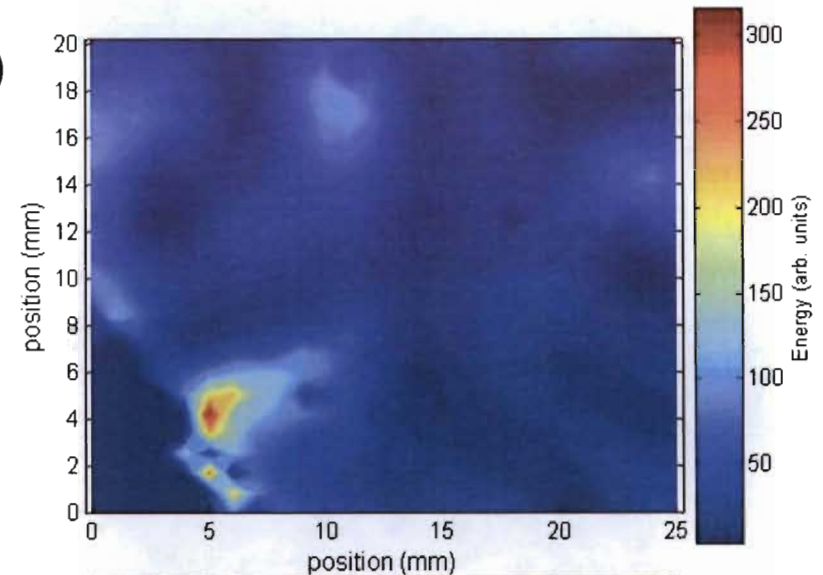
broadband -- hammer tap (excite 4 kHz)  
probe – 204 kHz, CW



3-D sample:

13.5 cm X 6.5 cm X 3.0 cm

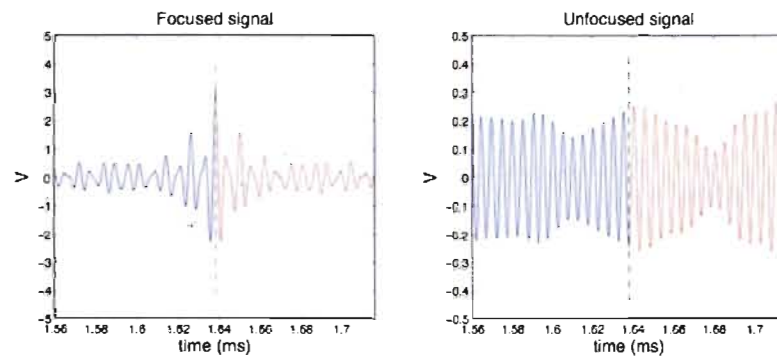
crack



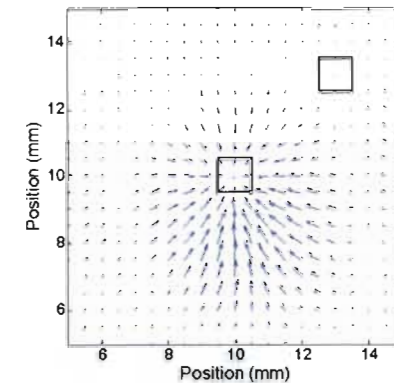


## Improved Imaging Metrics

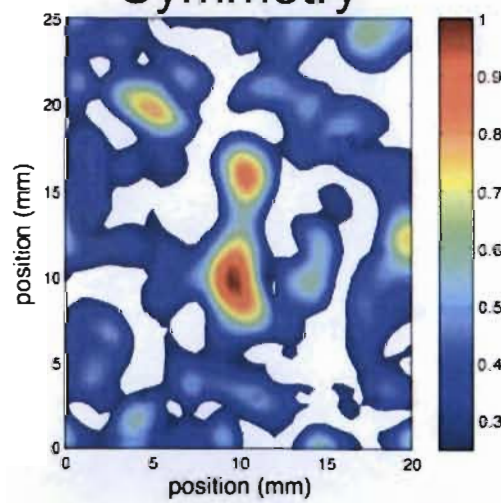
### Symmetry



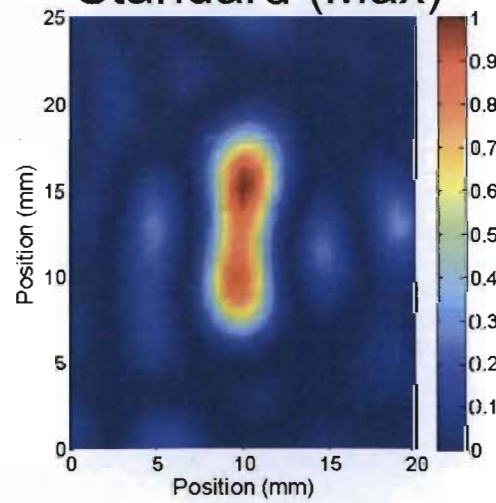
### Energy Flux



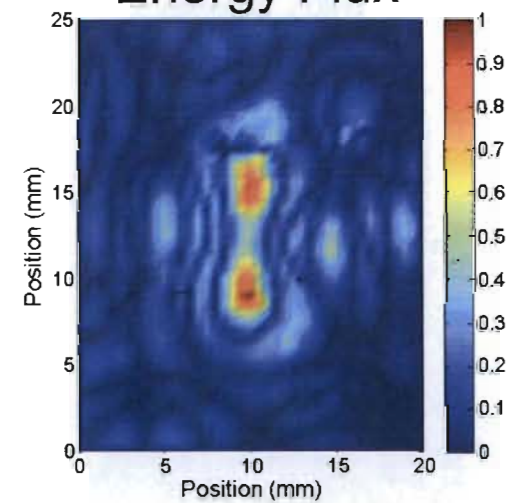
### Symmetry



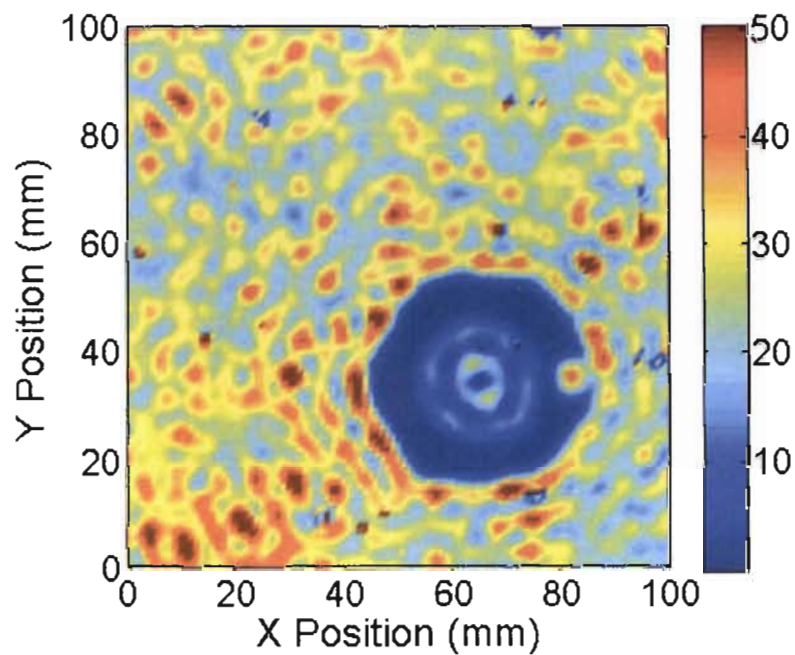
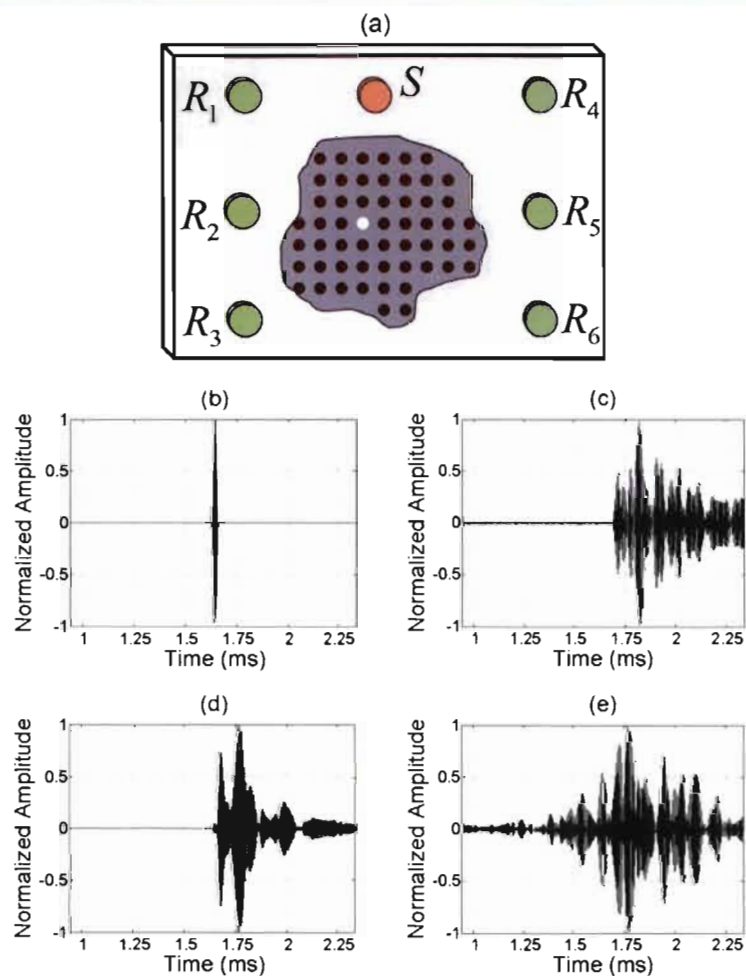
### Standard (Max)



### Energy Flux



## Alternative Imaging Method - Reverse Time Migration



## Potential Applications

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- **NDE**
  - Damage quantification
  - Locate and image defects
  - Progressive damage monitoring
- **Medical Ultrasound**
  - Osteoporosis diagnostics
  - Monitoring fractures (progressive damage and/or healing)
  - Implant placement quality.
- **Friction and Interface Mechanics**
  - Tribology & Wear
  - Earthquake Fault Mechanics