# Real-Time Particulate Filter Soot and Ash Measurements via Radio Frequency Sensing

Filter Sensing Technologies

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#### **Challenge: Determination of Filter/Catalyst State**



Stanton, D., "Systematic Development of Highly Efficient and Clean Engines to Meet Future Commercial Vehicle Greenhouse Gas Regulations," SAE Int. J. Engines 6(3):1395-1480, 2013

## **RF Sensors for Direct Measurement of DPF Loading**

- Antenna (RF Probe), similar size to exhaust temperature sensor
- Stainless steel rod-type antenna (passive component)

# **RF Control Unit**

- **DPF Loading** 
  - 1. Amount
  - 2. Type (PM vs. Ash)
  - 3. Distribution





#### **RF System Measurement Methodology**



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#### Single Probe RF Sensor Integration for DPF Control



#### Hardware and System Setup

- MY 2013 DD-13 diesel engine
- Stock controls and aftertreatment
- Open ECU M461 for RF-based control of regeneration
- HC dosing system upstream of DPF
- Single antenna RF sensor

#### **DD13 SPECIFICATIONS**

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Displacement	L)
Compression Ratio 17.3:1	
Bore 5.20 in. (132 mm	I)
Stroke 6.15 in. (156 mm	I)
Weight (Dry) 2540 lb. (1152 kg	g)
Electronics DDEC®	
Oil Capacity 40 qt. (38 L)	
Horsepower Range 350-470	





# Single Probe RF Sensor Integration for DPF Control

- Stock aftertreatment system with 22.03 L DPF (27.73 kg base weight)
- DOC upstream of DPF (same can) and RF antenna mounted at DPF outlet



- RF sensor validation over multiple loading and regeneration cycles
- Comparison with gravimetric, AVL MSS, BG3, and smoke meter measurements

#### **RF-Based Regeneration Management**



#### **Test Procedure**

- DPF loaded to three different levels of PM
  - High, medium, low load
- Stock ECU controlled regenerations carried out
- **RF-controlled** regenerations repeated at similar conditions
- Duration normalized to account for small differences in PM load and temperature

- Reduction in regeneration duration **15% 30%** relative to stock ECU control
- RF system directly monitors PM levels in DPF during regeneration and terminates HC dosing once oxidation is complete (vs. time-based ECU approach)



#### **RF System Transient Response Evaluation**



#### **Transient Response Well-Correlated with AVL MSS**



#### **Transient Response Details of Throttle Tip-In Events**



#### **Frequency Shift Well-Correlated to DPF Ash Levels**



- Ash loading level equivalent to ~ 380,000 miles of on-road accumulation
- Frequency shift at resonance well-correlated to ash level in DPF

#### **DPF Soot Load Measurements with Ash**



ΔP regeneration frequency increases with ash (over-estimate PM load) 12

# Sensing System Fleet Testing on Urban Cycles (NYC)



## **RF System Configuration (Mack MP-7) DSNY Fleet**

- MY 2009 and MY 2010+ vehicles over two year (24 months)
- Antennas mounted directly into DPF assembly
- Control unit mounted external to aftertreatment system
- Real-time monitoring and logging of DPF loading state
- System operation with stock OEM controls

#### **Fleet Vehicle Data Shows Frequent Regenerations**

RF sensor measurement data for 150 hr period with stock 2009 Volvo/Mack DPF regeneration control system.



• Data from 150 hours with 21 regenerations, avg. 18 min per regeneration

- OEM control triggers regenerations (~ every 7.1 hrs) at low soot loads
- Vehicles spends 4% 5% of operating time in regeneration

#### SAE 2014-01-2349 14

## **RF Measured Soot Oxidation to End Regeneration**



• Back-to-back regenerations occasionally observed due to vehicle shut-down

Real-time measurement of soot load can end regeneration when complete

Demonstrated direct measurement of DPF soot and ash levels via RF sensing in test cell and vehicle applications.

#### **Technical Highlights**

- Developed single antenna RF system and demonstrated high level of accuracy for DPF soot level measurements
- Demonstrated combined DPF **soot AND ash** measurements
- RF transient response well-correlated with AVL micro-soot sensor
- Demonstrated fast sensor response < 1 second
- Evaluated RF performance over **380,000 mile equivalent** DPF aging
- Fuel savings potential via extend regeneration interval and reduced regeneration duration relative to stock OEM controls

#### **Outlook and Additional Applications**

• Current work focused on controls optimization and sensor validation in a range of light-duty and heavy-duty applications with project partners.



• Additional opportunities for GPF and catalyst applications to monitor gas species adsorbed on catalysts.

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- Daimler Trucks NA / Detroit Diesel
- FEV

• DSNY









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