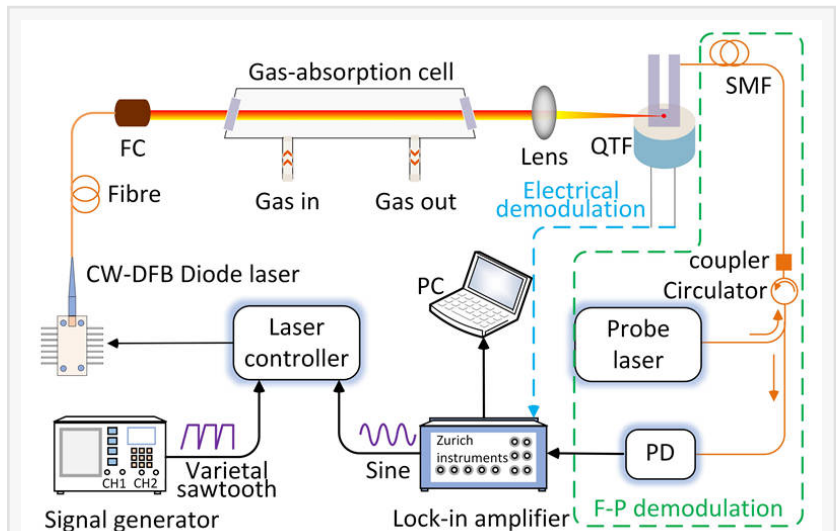


Fabry–Perot-based phase demodulation of heterodyne light-induced thermoelastic spectroscopy

FAYETTEVILLE, GA, USA, September 1, 2023 /EINPresswire.com/ -- A [Fabry-Perot](#) (F-P) based phase demodulation of heterodyne light-induced thermoelastic spectroscopy (H-LITES) is demonstrated. The vibration of quartz tuning fork (QTF) was detected by using F-P interferometer (FPI) to avoid the thermal noise. Given that FPI is vulnerable to disturbance, a phase demodulation method is employed in H-LITES. This new method of phase demodulation is structurally simple and was found to be resistant to interference from light sources and the surroundings using the LITES technique.

Trace gas sensors are used in different fields. Light-induced thermoelastic spectroscopy (LITES) has extremely high sensitivity and offers non-contact measurement, attracting extensive research attention. In general, the electrical signal amplitude increases linearly with an increase in laser power. However, thermal noise caused by laser irradiation in electrical signals magnifies exponentially as the laser power increases, restricting the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) and minimum detection limit (MDL) of a LITES sensor. A potential solution is demodulating the vibration of the QTF in place of the electrical signal. Fabry–Perot (F–P) interferometer (FPI) are safe, remote, sensitive, anti-electromagnetic interference measurement devices for micro-vibration. For F–P micro-vibration sensors, the intensity demodulation method is typically used.



CW-DFB (continuous-wave distributed feedback); FC (fibre collimator); PD (photodetector); QTF (quartz tuning fork); SMF (single-mode fibre).

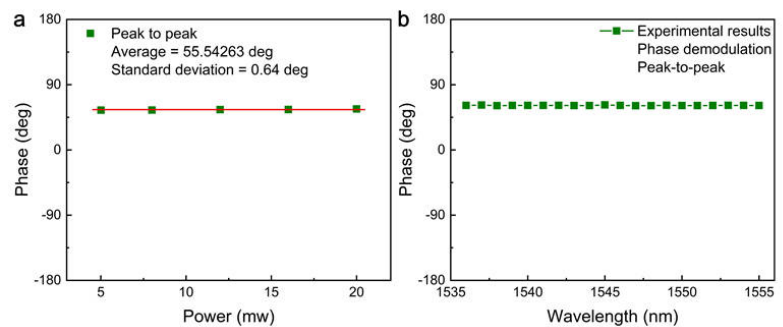


Figure 2. Power and wavelength response of H-LITES sensor based on FPI using phase demodulation method.

Owing to ambient interference and disturbance of the laser wavelength, the signal becomes unstable.

In a new paper published in [Light: Advanced Manufacturing](#), a team of scientists, led by Professor Yufei Ma from National Key Laboratory of Science and Technology on Tunable Laser, Department of Aerospace, Harbin Institute of Technology, China, and co-workers have developed a F-P-based phase demodulation of heterodyne LITES (H-LITES). The F-P cavity is comprised of an end-face of a single-mode fibre and a side of a prong of the QTF. When the QTF vibrates due to the effect of light-induced thermoelastic, the F-P cavity length varies; thus the phase changes. Because the vibration of the QTF is proportional to the gas concentration, the concentration can be inverted linearly by demodulating phase.

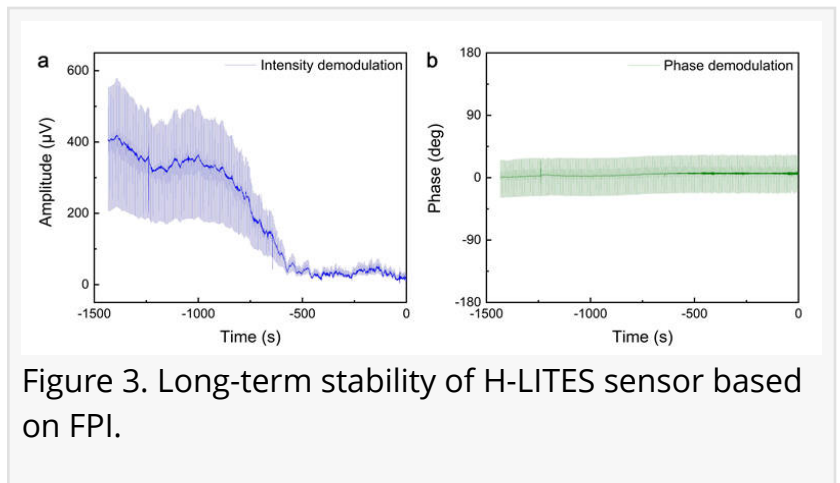


Figure 3. Long-term stability of H-LITES sensor based on FPI.

Compared to the H-LITES signal obtained directly from the electrical signal, the signal based on FPI had a greater SNR. The phase demodulation method can produce better detection performance, linear response, and long-term stability than the intensity demodulation method. Using the phase demodulation method, the signal peak-to-peak values are independent from power and wavelength. The phase demodulation method is immune to interference from the laser source and wavelength, and can resolve the issue of Q-point drifting due to ambient interference.

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References

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