

---

# **Finite element modeling of pulsed spiral coil Electromagnetic Acoustic Transducer (EMAT) for testing of plate**

---

*R. Dhayalan, Anish Kumar, B. Purnachandra Rao and T. Jayakumar*

*Ultrasonic Measurement Section (UMS), Nondestructive Evaluation  
Division (NDED), Metallurgy and Materials Group (MMG),  
Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR), Kalpakkam*

# Overview

- Introduction of EMAT
- Governing equations
- Electromagnetic modeling
- Elastodynamic modeling
- Generation of plate wave
- Defect detection using plate wave
- Summary and conclusions
- References

# Electromagnetic Acoustic Transducer (EMAT)

EMAT is a transducer for non-contact sound generation and reception using electromagnetic mechanisms.

- Electrically conducting materials
- All types of sound wave modes
- High speed scanning
- No couplant



## Applications

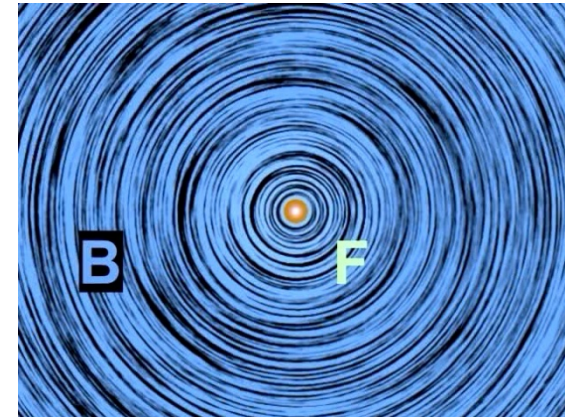
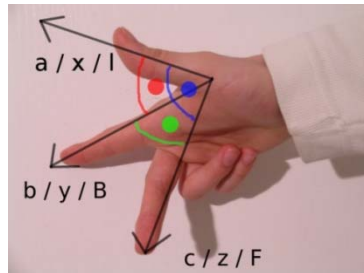
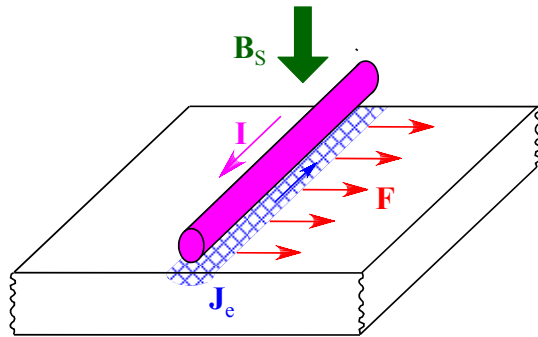
- Weld Inspection
- Thickness measurement
- Guided wave Inspection
- Material Characterization
- Pipeline in-service Inspection
- High Temperature Inspection

# Physical Principle of EMAT

$$\text{Lorentz force } \vec{F}_L(Z) = \vec{j}_e(X) \times \vec{B}_S(Y)$$

Where  $\vec{j}_e$  – induced current density (amp/m<sup>2</sup>)

$\vec{B}_S$  – applied static magnetic field (Tesla)



# Objective and Scope

The prime objective of the present work is to develop a finite element model of **pulsed spiral coil EMAT** transmitter for generating plate waves.

## The scope of the work is

- to design a 2D electromagnetic transient model for the **Lorentz force density** calculation. (**AC/DC quasi-static magnetic mode**)
- to simulate the **ultrasonic plate waves** by utilizing the Lorentz body forces as sources of wave propagation. (**Structural mechanics plain strain mode**)
- to analyze and compare the plate wave with **DISPERSION** curves.

# Governing equations

## Electromagnetic field Equations

The transient electromagnetic field for a transmitting EMAT may be stated in terms of the Magnetic vector potential (MVP) and the Source current density (SCD)

$$\frac{1}{\mu} \nabla^2 A_z + \sigma \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial t} + \frac{\sigma}{S_k} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \iint A_z ds = \frac{i_k(t)}{S_k} = j_{sk}$$

Where  $\mu$ ,  $\sigma$ ,  $A_z$ ,  $i_k$ ,  $S_k$  and  $j_{sk}$  are the permeability, conductivity, magnetic vector potential (MVP), total current, cross-sectional area of the sources and source current density (SCD) of the  $k_{th}$  source conductor, respectively.

# Governing equations

## Acoustic field Equations

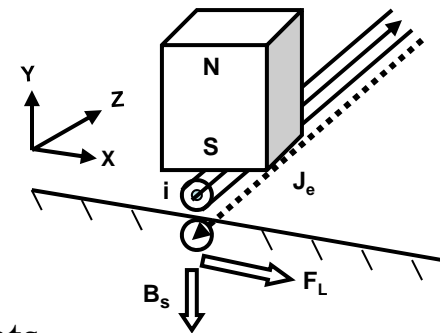
The Lorentz force causes the vibration of the atomic structure of the material which leads to the generation of acoustic wave inside the conducting materials.

$$F_L = j_{sk} \times B_0$$

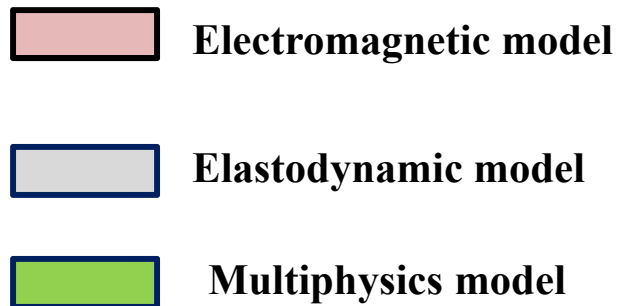
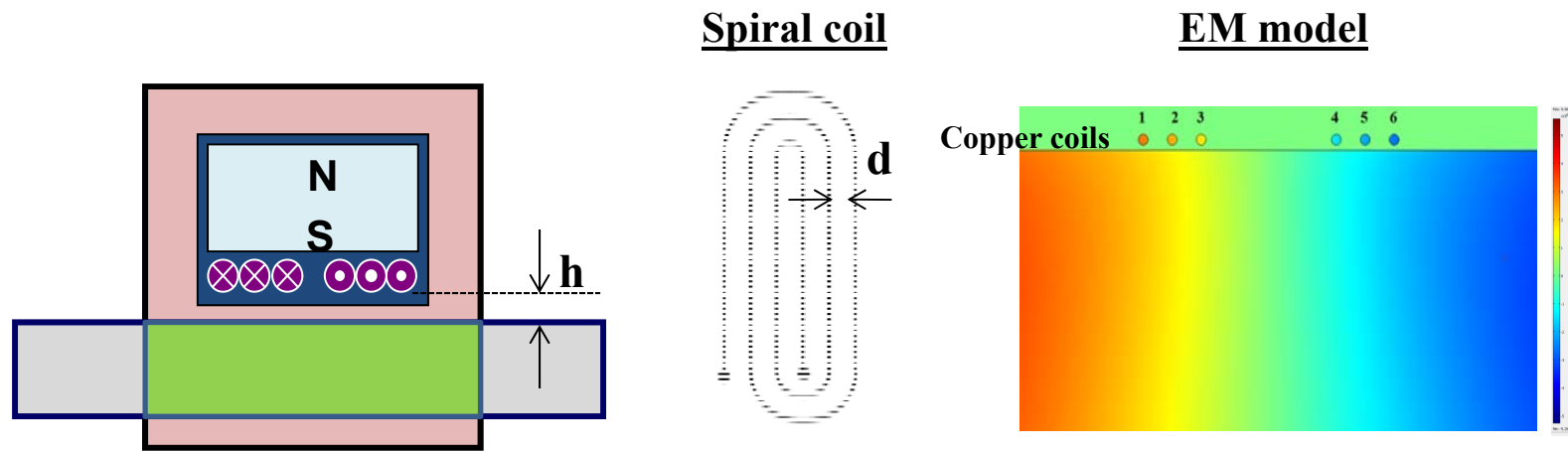
The acoustic field equation can be stated in terms of the particle displacement vector  $v$  and the Lorentz force as

$$\mu \nabla \times \nabla \times v - (\lambda + 2\mu) \nabla \nabla \cdot v + \rho \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial t^2} = F_L$$

Where  $\rho$  is mass volume density and  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$  are Lamé constants.



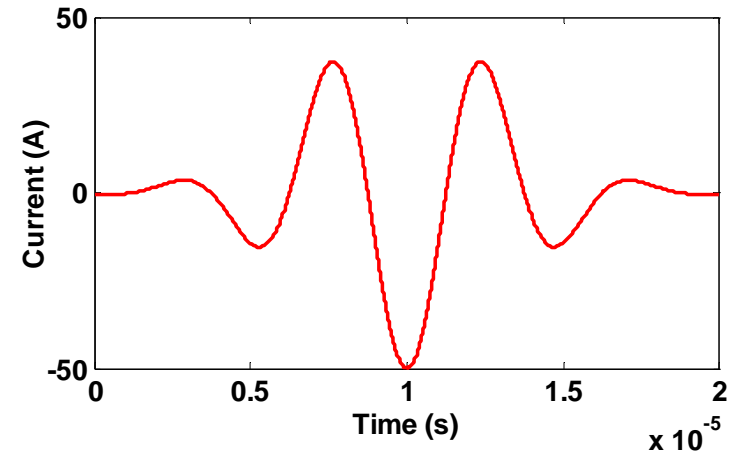
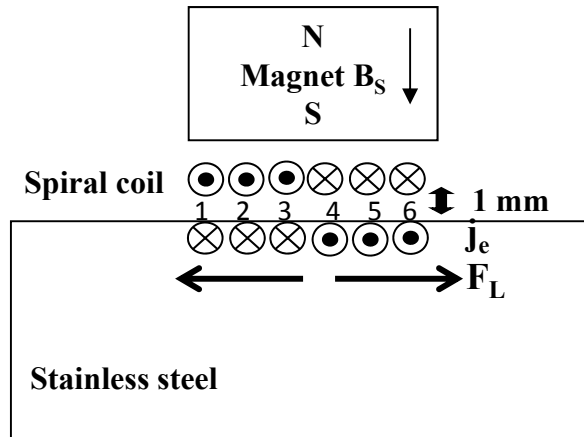
# Electromagnetic model - Spiral coil EMAT



Coil diameter ( $a$ ) - 1 mm  
Coil spacing ( $d$ ) - 3 mm  
Coil Lift-off ( $h$ ) - 1 mm  
Flux density ( $B$ ) - 0.3 Tesla



# Input Excitation current



The Input current  $i(t)$  for the EMAT coil is,

$$i(t) = \beta e^{-\alpha(t-\tau)^2} \cos(2\pi f_c(t-\tau) + \phi)$$

Where,  $\beta$  – Amplitude – 50 Amp

$\alpha$  – Bandwidth factor –  $5e-10$

$\tau$  – Arrival time – 10  $\mu$ sec

$f_c$  – Central frequency – 200 kHz

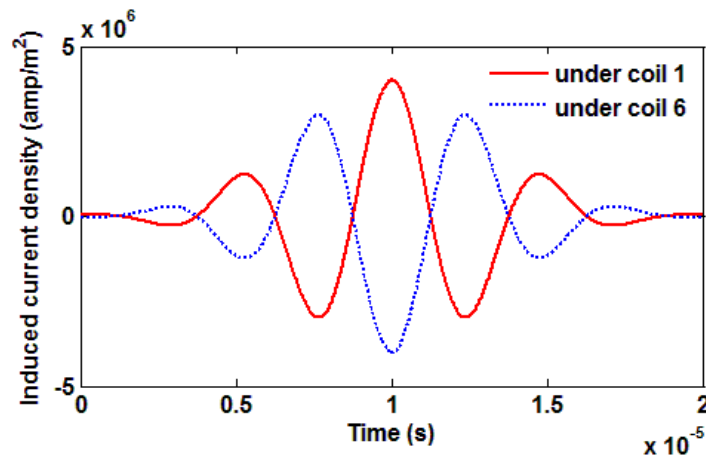
# Lorentz force density Calculation

## Induced Current density

$$\mathbf{j}_e(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{i}(t)/S$$

$\mathbf{i}(t)$  - input current (A)

$S$  - area of the conductor ( $\text{m}^2$ )

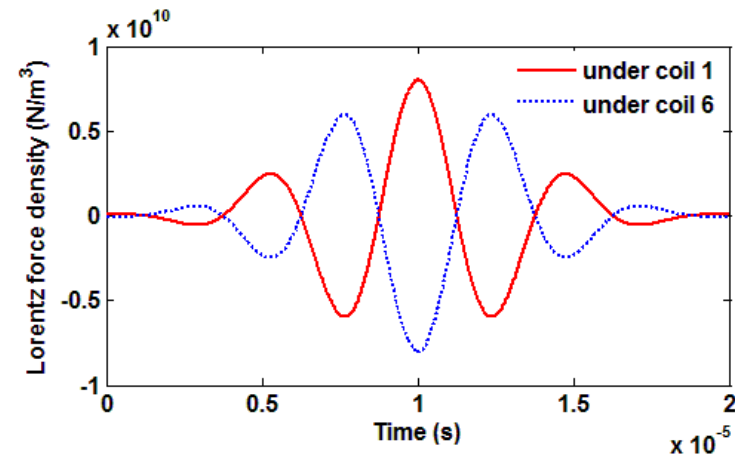


## Lorentz Force density

$$\mathbf{F}_L(\mathbf{z}) = \mathbf{j}_e(\mathbf{x}) \times \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{y})$$

$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{y})$  - applied magnetic field (Tesla)

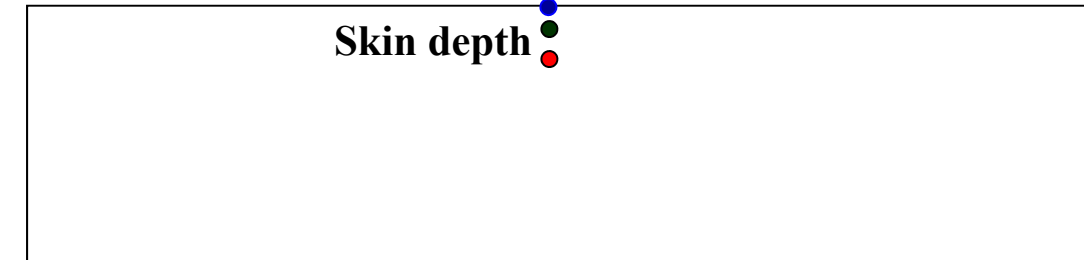
$\mathbf{j}_e(\mathbf{x})$  - input current density ( $\text{amp}/\text{m}^2$ )



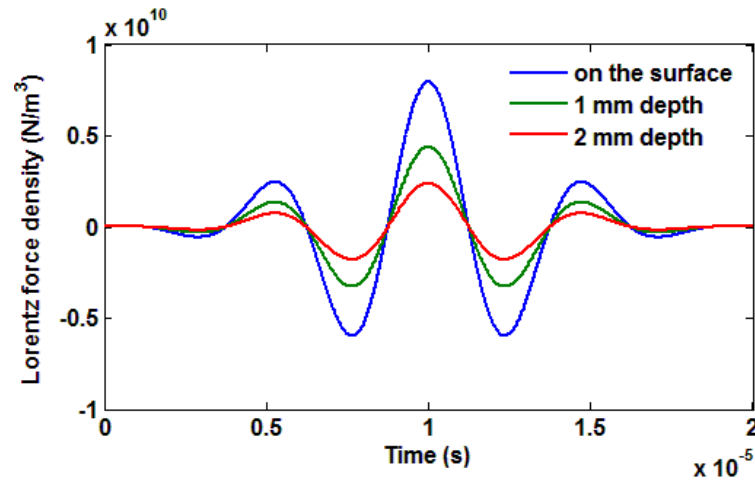
# Effect of depth and lift-off variations

Coil Lift-off

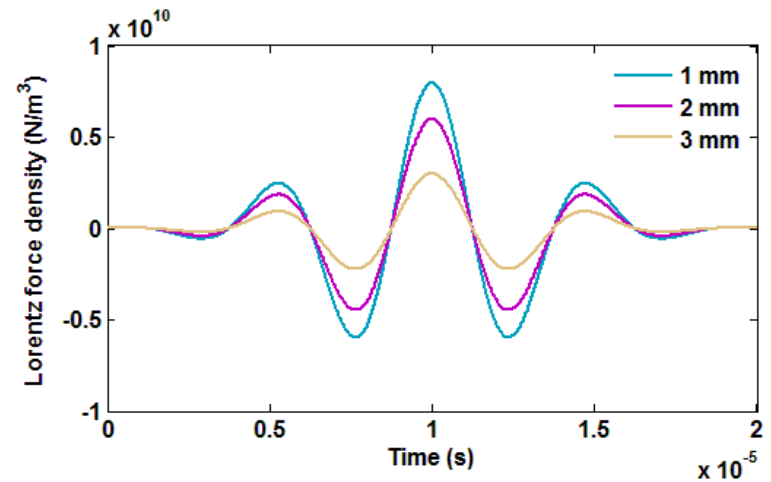
Skin depth



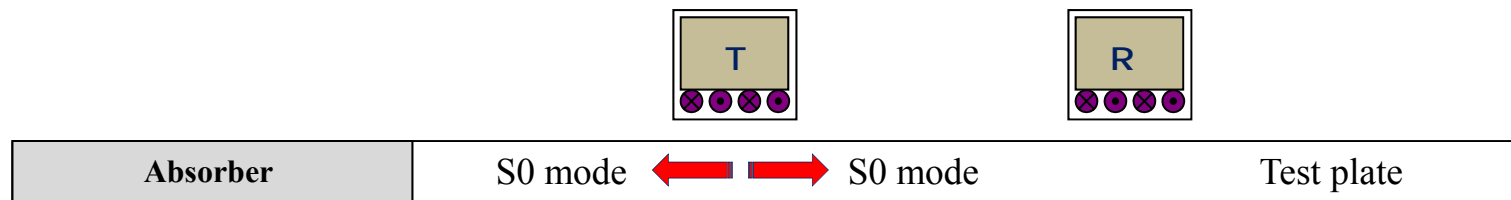
Depth Variation



Lift-off Variation



# Acoustic model for Ultrasonic plate waves



- **Length of the element  $\Delta(x)$**

$$\Delta(x) = \lambda / 15 = 0.0004 \text{ m}$$

- **Time step  $\Delta(t)$**

$$\Delta(t) = \Delta(x) / C_L \sim 5e-8 \text{ s}$$

- **Analysis type**

Transient – plain strain (smpn)

- **Solver type**

Time dependent – Direct (UMFPACK)

Material : Stainless steel

$E = 205 \text{ Gpa}$

$\mu = 0.33$

Density =  $7850 \text{ Kg/m}^3$

$C_L = 5680.183 \text{ m/s}$

$C_T = 3040.923 \text{ m/s}$

Thickness =  $5 \text{ mm}$

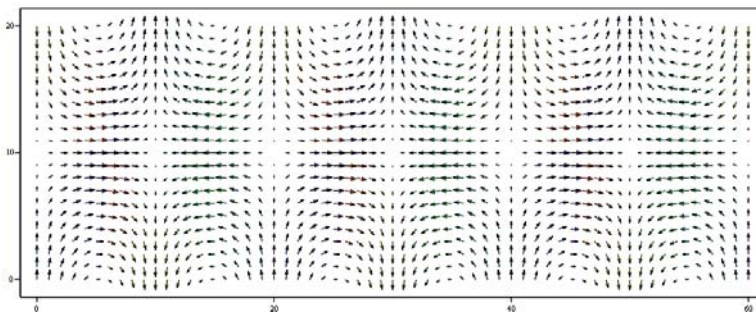
Length =  $1000 \text{ mm}$

Frequency =  $200 \text{ kHz}$

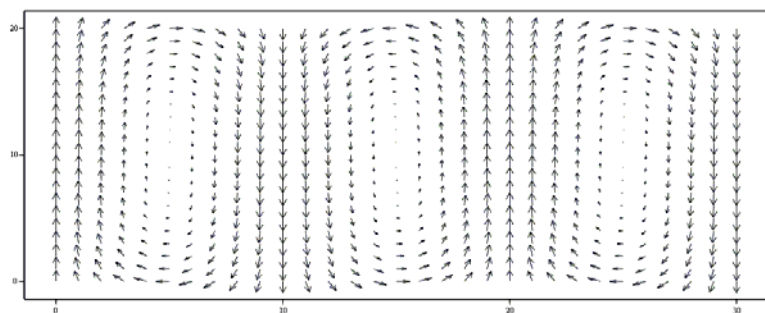
# Plate or Lamb waves

- Plate waves or Lamb waves are elastic perturbations propagating in a solid plate (or layer) with free boundaries, for which displacements occur both in the direction of wave propagation and perpendicularly to the plane of the plate.
- There are two basic forms of lamb waves:  
Symmetrical (Dilatational) and Asymmetrical (Bending)

Symmetric mode Lamb wave



Asymmetric mode Lamb wave



# Rayleigh damping

The Rayleigh (proportional) damping model expresses the damping matrix [C] as a linear combination of the mass [M] and the stiffness [K] matrices, that is

$$[C] = \alpha [M] + \beta [K]$$

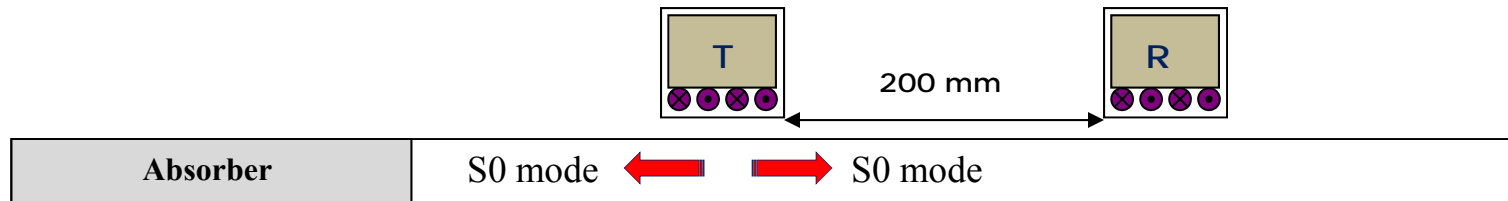
Where  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  the mass and stiffness damping parameters, respectively. At any frequency ( $\omega$ ), this corresponds to a damping factor ( $\xi$ ) given by,

$$\xi = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\alpha}{2\omega} + \beta\omega \right) \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{(2\omega_1)} \frac{\omega_1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{(2\omega_2)} \frac{\omega_2}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \xi_1 \\ \xi_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

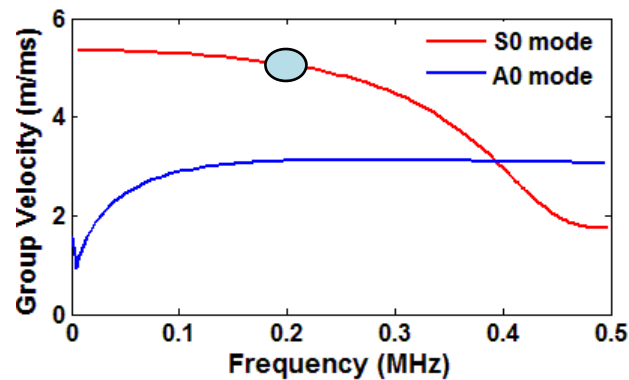
The damping parameters for this model are,

$$\begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 9.4248e4 \\ 0.000000 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Generation of plate wave - S0 mode



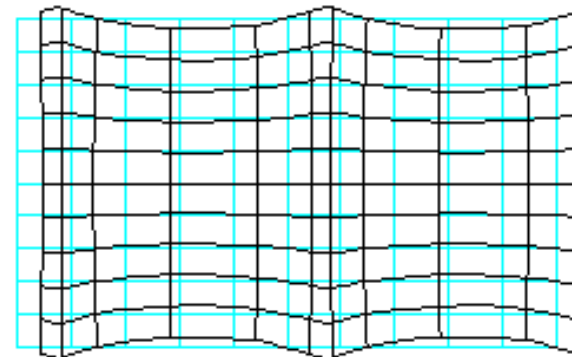
## Dispersion Curve



Frequency – 200 kHz

Group velocity – 5064 m/s

## Mode shape of S0 mode

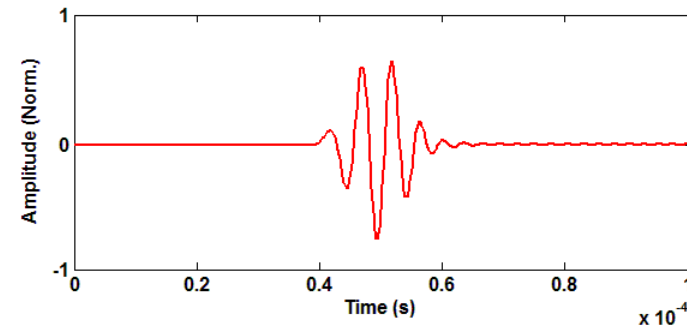
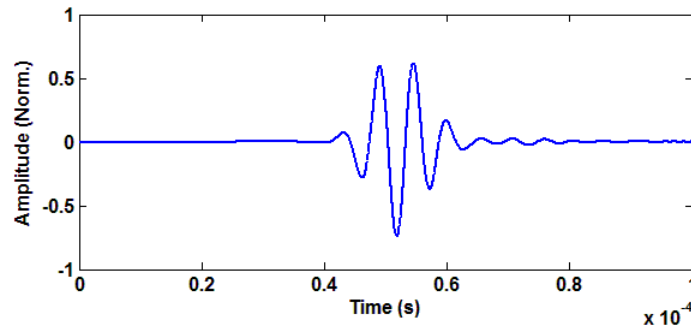


# Analysis of plate wave (S0) mode

COMSOL@3.5a

DISPERSE@2.0

A scan signal (S0 mode)



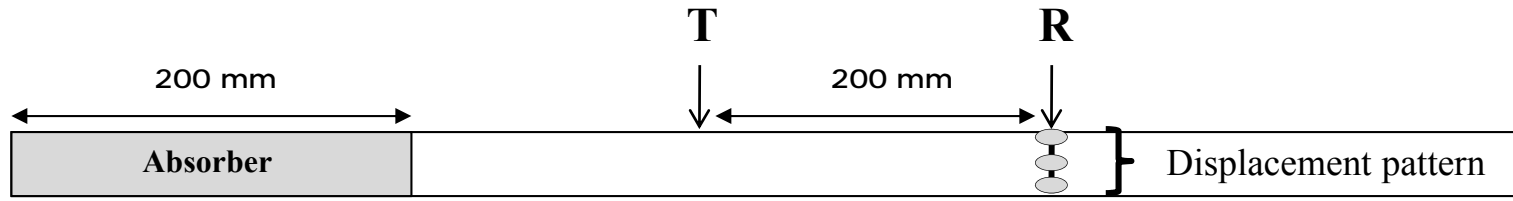
$$\text{Group Velocity (V}_{Gp}\text{)} = \frac{\text{Distance}}{\text{Time of flight (TOF)}}$$

$$\text{Group Velocity (V}_{Gp}\text{)} = 5066 \text{ m/s (COMSOL)}$$

$$\text{Group Velocity (V}_{Gp}\text{)} = 5064 \text{ m/s (DISPERSE)}$$



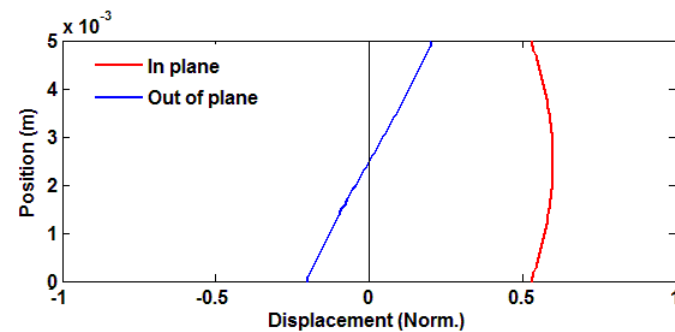
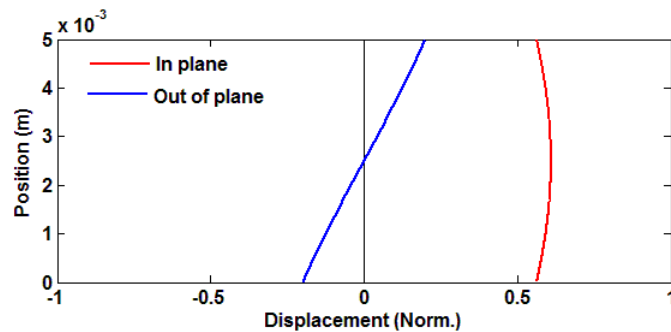
# Comparison with Dispersion curve



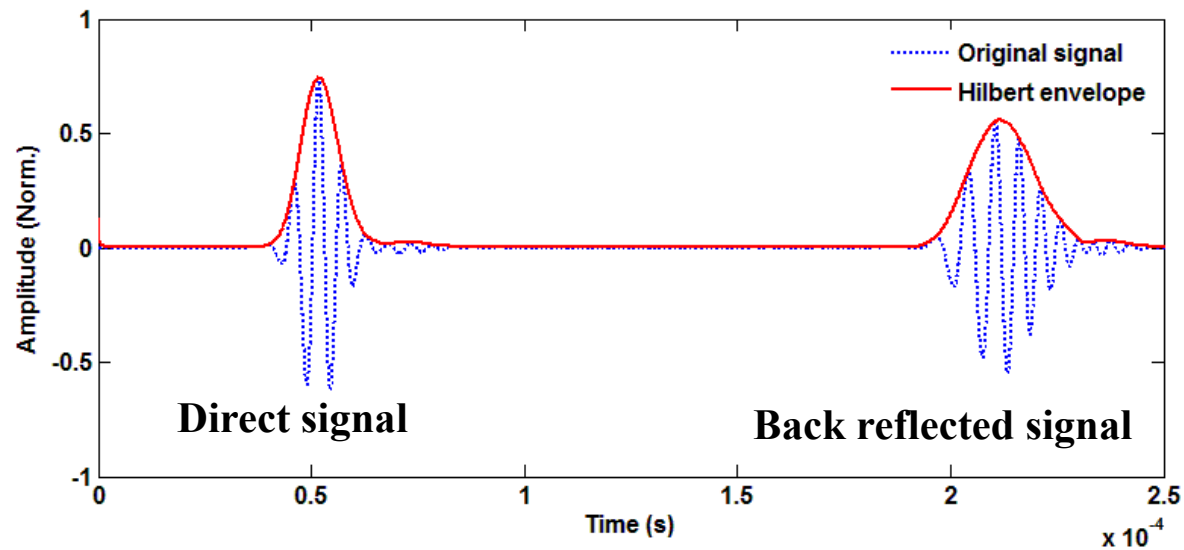
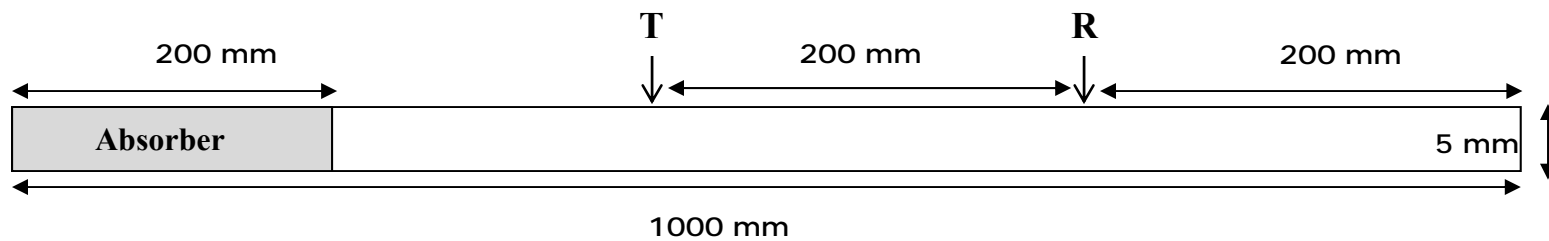
COMSOL@3.5a

DISPERSE@2.0

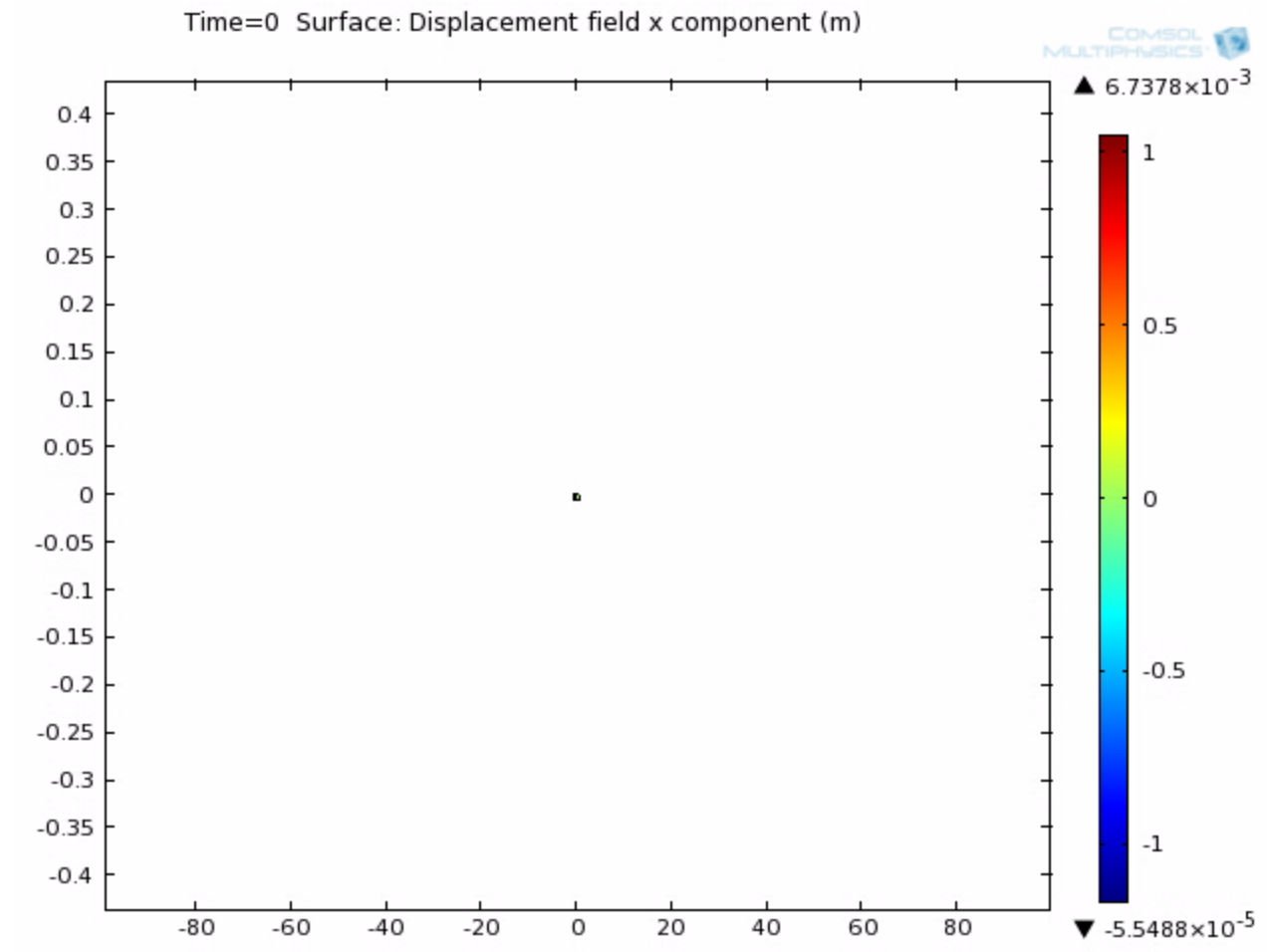
## Displacement profiles



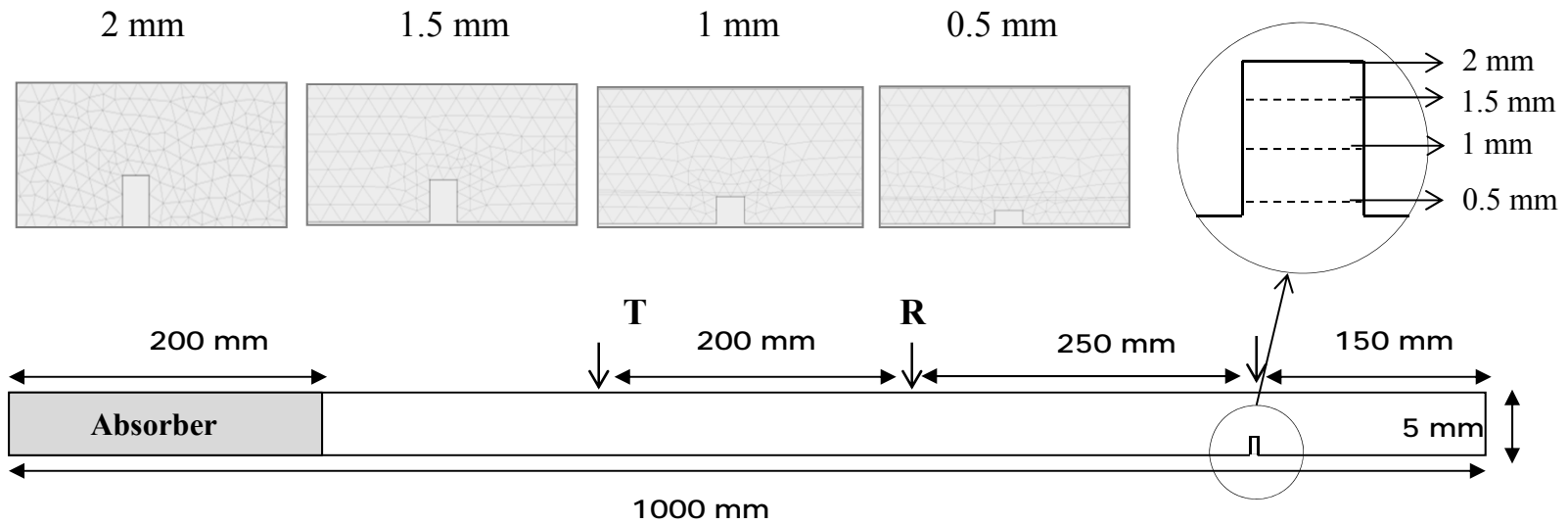
# Plate wave mode with Hilbert envelop



# Animation of plate wave (S0) mode



# Defect detection using S0 mode

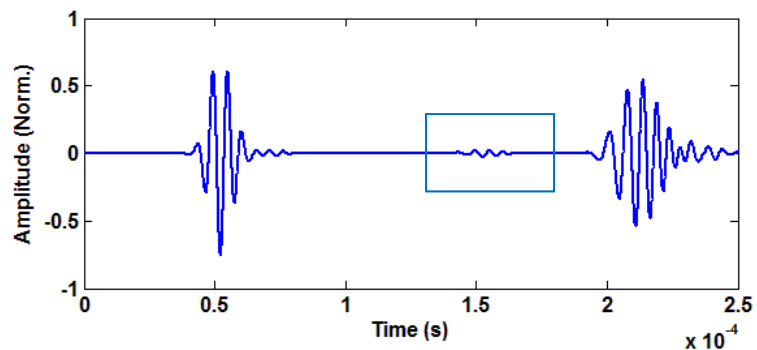


**Defect width - 1 mm**

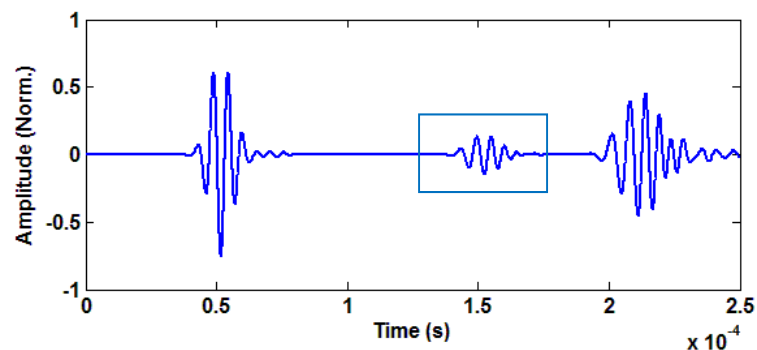
**Defect height – from 0.5 mm to 2 mm**

# Interaction of S0 mode with defects

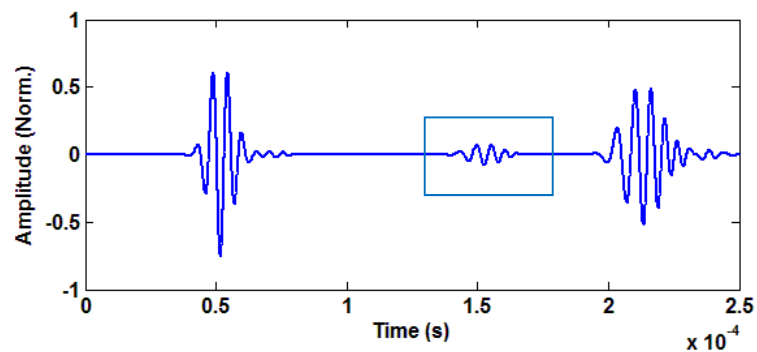
## 0.5 mm defect



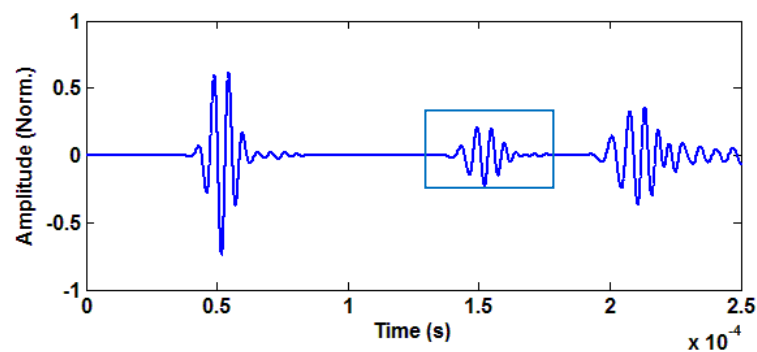
## 1.5 mm defect



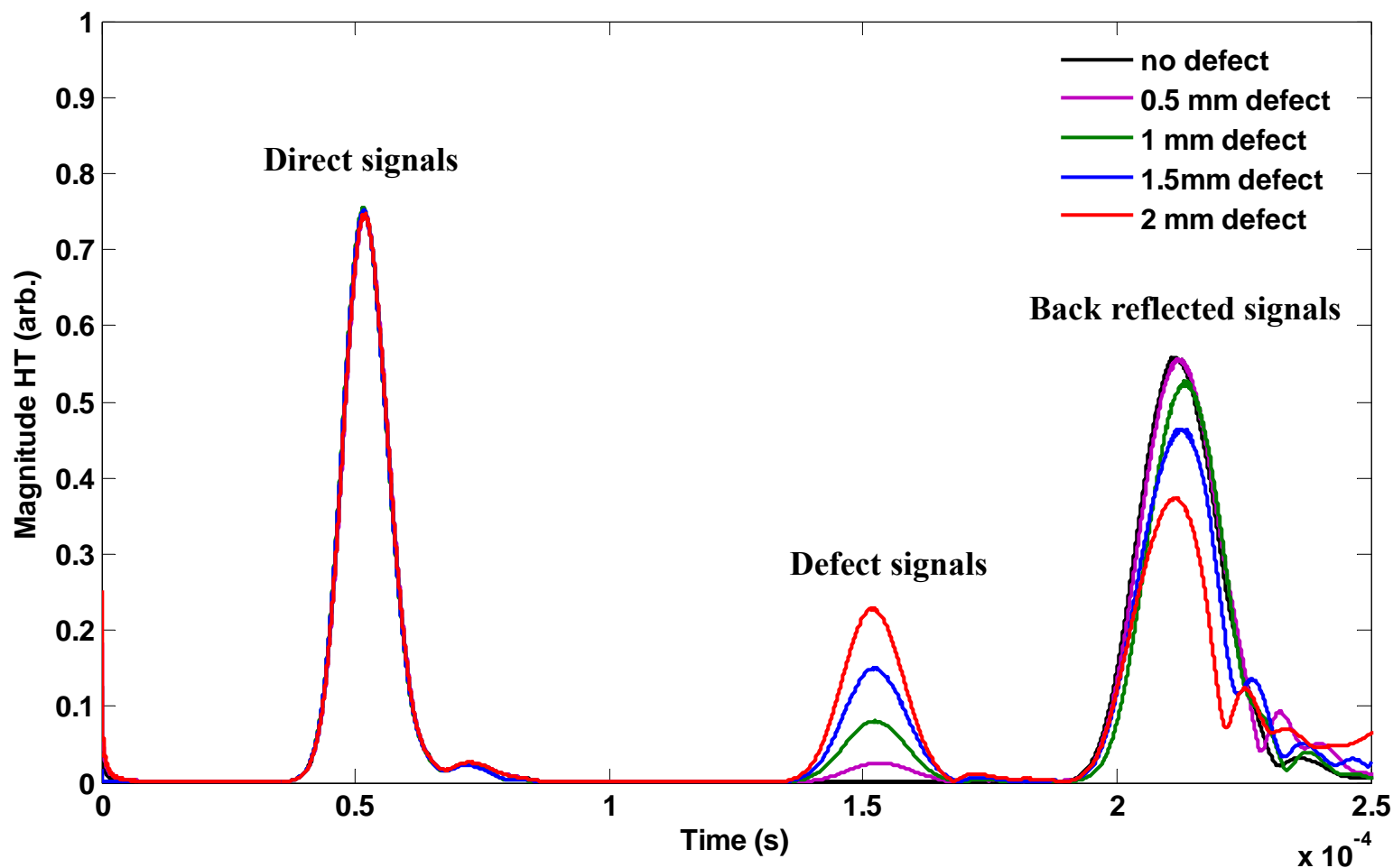
## 1 mm defect



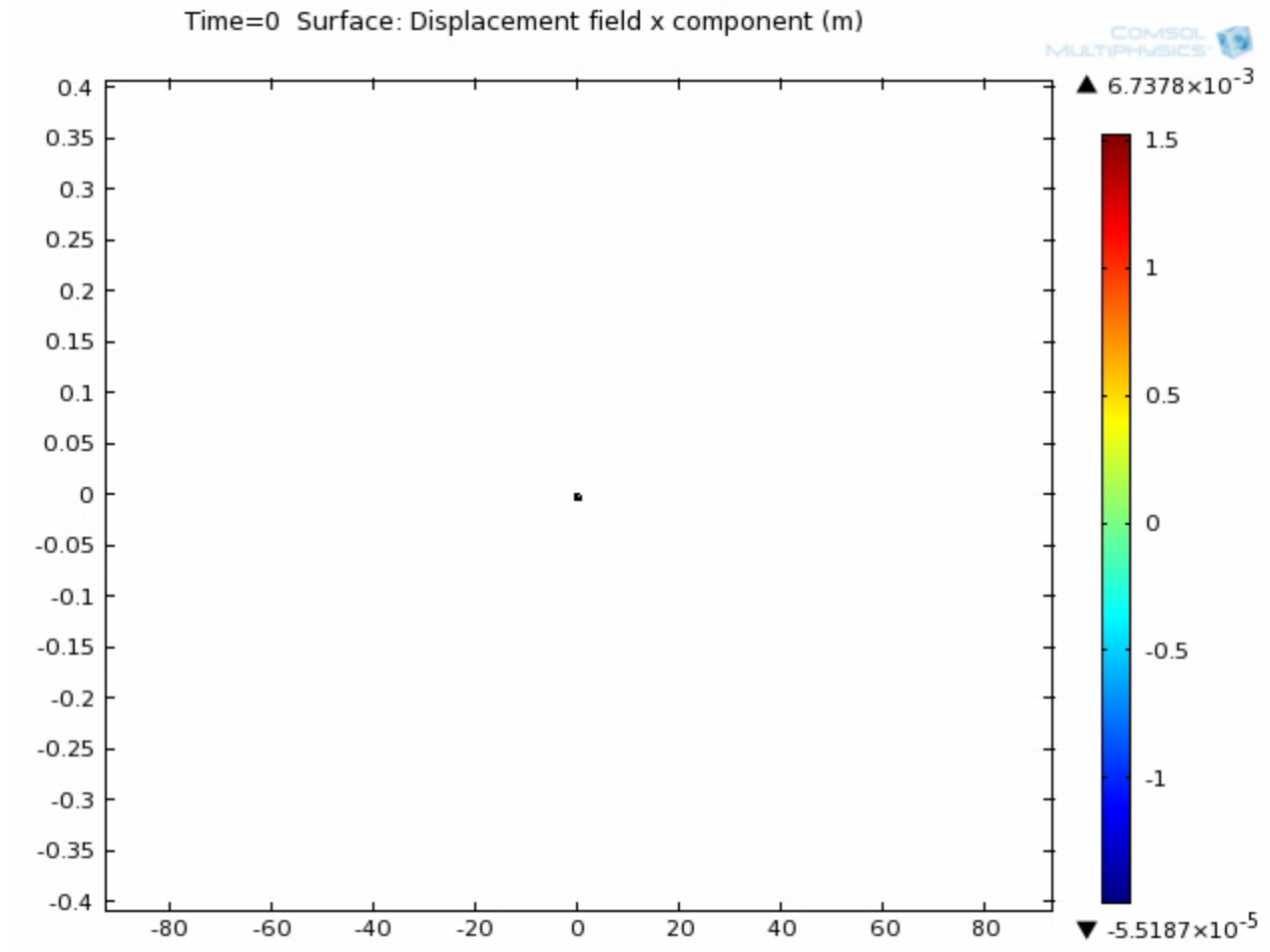
## 2 mm defect



# Defect detection using Hilbert envelope



## Animation of S0 mode interaction with defect (2 mm defect)



# Summary and Conclusion

- A coupled 2D FE modeling system has been designed for a **pulsed spiral coil EMAT** which works under the principle of **Lorentz force mechanism** using the multiphysics software **COMSOL® 3.5a**.
- The electromagnetic model has been designed for the Lorentz force density calculation. The effects of **coil lift-off and skin depth variation** have also been observed for the EMAT example. This results indicate that the force computed inside the specimen is a **nonlinear function of coil lift-off, and the skin depth**.
- The elastodynamic model has been done for the ultrasonic **plate wave (S0 mode)** generation using the plain strain module. The **time of flight (TOF), Group velocity ( $V_{Gp}$ ) and the displacement profiles** of the S0 mode have been analyzed and compared with the Dispersion curves.
- The plate wave (S0) mode has also been used for the **defect detection**. It has been observed that the **defect amplitude increases with the increase in defect height**.



## Self - References

- Thompson RB. “A model for the electromagnetic generation of ultrasonic guided waves in ferromagnetic metal polycrystals”, IEEE Trans Sonics Ultrason 1978;SU-25(1):7–15.
- B. W. Maxfield and C. M. Fortunko, “The design and use of electromagnetic acoustic wave transducers (EMATs),” Mater. Eval., vol.41, pp. 1399-1408, NOV. 1983.
- Dhayalan, R. and K. Balasubramaniam, “A hybrid finite element model for simulation of Electro-magnetic Acoustic transducer (EMAT) based plate waves”, NDT&E International, 43, 519-526, 2010.
- Dhayalan, R., B.W. Maxfield and K. Balasubramaniam, “Generation and detection of Higher Order Mode Clusters of Guided Waves (HOMC-GW) using Meander coil EMATs”, IEEE Transactions on Ultrasonics, Ferroelectrics, and Frequency control, Vol. 59, No. 4, 2012.
- Masahiko Hirao and Hirtsugu Ogi,”*EMATs for Science and Industry- Noncontacting Ultrasonic measurements*”, Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2003.
- X. Jian , S. Dixon , K.T.V. Grattan , R.S. Edwards, "A model for pulsed Rayleigh wave and optimal EMAT design," Sensors and Actuators, A 128 (2006) 296–304.
- R. Jafari Shapoorabadi, A. Konradb and A. N. Sinclair," Computation of current densities in the receiving mode of electromagnetic acoustic transducers," *Journal of Applied Physics*, 97, 106 (2005).



**Thank you**