GEOSYSTEMS

digi-Micro

Geosystems ***digi*-Micro** technology is a high precision digital strain-gauge that can monitor either discrete displacements (*i.e.* crack dilation) or distributed strains (i.e. stretch of a steel reinforcing element) to μm resolution.
The sensor is extremely thin (<7mm OD) and can easily be recessed down boreholes, attached to cables and bolts or embedded in shotcrete pillars The ***digi*-Micro** is easy to install by attaching to the #8-32 threaded rods at both ends of the sensor.

The RS485 output signal is an ASCII encoded message that includes the unique Sensor_ID, the Sensor_Type as well as the temperature and displacement values. This eliminates the necessity for expensive analog-to-digital conversion so that the low-cost readout unit outputs data in real world units (μm and ^{o}C). Readings can also be made using the USB port of a PC or web-book computer (SensorViewer). A Real-time *Plug 'n Play* network of ***digi*-Micro** sensors (or any other Geosystems Instrument) can be built in minutes using **GATEWAY**. Long term, low power, data logging is possible using the low cost ***digi*-LOGGER** solution.

These features make solutions based on d-micro instruments significantly more cost effective than those of competing products in the same marketplace.

Features:

- *10mm (0.4inch) stroke length*
- *High accuracy (0.25% FS) & resolution(0.01% FS)*
- *ASCII encoded RS485 Output signal*
- *Microcontroller provides output in real world units (μm and ^{o}C)*
- *Microcontroller stores Sensor_ID & Calibration Coeffs.*
- *Digital temperature sensor for accurate compensation*
- *Immunity to hostile environment*
- *High survivability to shock and vibration*
- *Easy to install and maintain and re-zero*
- *Low cost readout unit*
- *Plug 'n Play digi-LOGGER*
- *Easy to interface with Ethernet*

  and WiFi networks running TCP/IP
- *Competitively priced*

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Technology

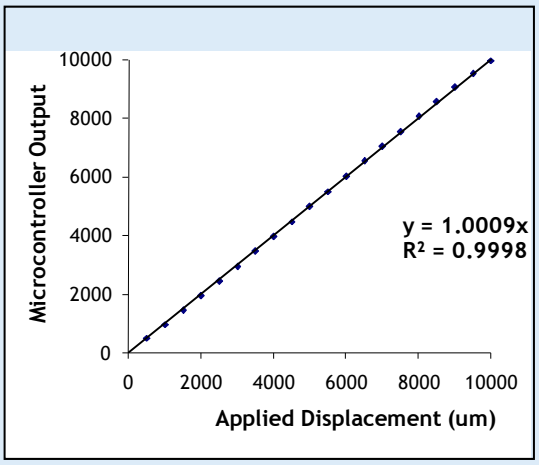
The ***digi*-Micro** strain gauge is capable of 1µm resolution over a range of 10mm. The gauge is attached to the structure using the #8-32 threaded rod at either end. The length of the sensor is 250mm and the diameter of the body is 7mm.

Signal Conditioning

An on-board microcontroller provides temperature compensation, applies a 10-point calibration algorithm, and outputs an ASCII encoded RS485 (9600,8,N,1) signal.

Output Signal

The output signal includes the instrument's unique Sensor_ID, the Sensor_Type as well as the temperature and displacement data. A balanced differential RS485 output signal is widely recognized for reliability in harsh environments. The signal can be routinely transmitted over 1000ft of lead-wire.



*The relation between displacement and microcontroller output for **digi-Micro** (@ 20.3°C)*

Telemetry

Manual Readout

Readout can be made using Geosystems low cost manual interrogation unit (MIU), with a backlit LCD. The unit displays the Sensor_Type and Sensor_ID and outputs the displacement and temperature data directly in mm and °C.

The SensorViewer Module provides USB connectivity so that the ***digi*-Micro** can be read with using a LapTop or NetBook PC.

Automated Data Retrieval

The digi-LOGGER (32Mb of memory) can collect up to 30000 readings from the ***digi*-Micro** over a period up to 1 year. Download to a PC is with a USB download cable (order separately). *Plug 'n Play* networks of instruments can be created using Geosystems **GATEWAY.**

A low-cost GATEWAY slave can connect 4 instruments to a TCP/IP network over Ethernet or WiFi. This solution saves time and money by transmitting data directly to an engineer's desktop computer.

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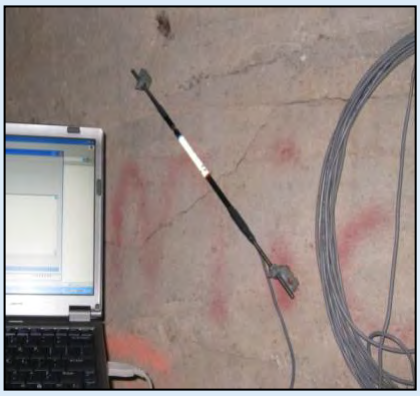
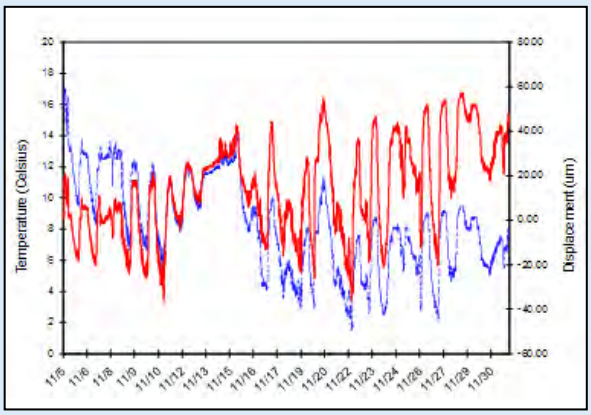
Applications

- Monitoring crack opening in buildings and structures.
- Monitoring crack opening in underground excavations.
- Monitoring concrete fracturing
- Monitoring the loading of structural elements such as posts and pillars
- Monitoring the loading of concrete columns or pillars
- Determining load in steel reinforcing elements.



Measuring deformation across pre-existing fracture in a concrete access tunnel of a dam.



*Measured displacements (red) for a d-micro on an external concrete wall exposed to diurnal temperature cycles (Blue). Recorded with **digi-LOGGER** data-logger.*

Specification

Range (F.S.): 10mm, Temp: -40 to 125°C

Core Technology: Eddy current transducer Digital temperature sensor

Output Signal: RS485 (9600,8,N,1) ASCII encoded signal comprising: Unique Instrument _ID, Sensor_Type, Temp and Displacement data

Displ. Resolution: 1μm with hand held readout.

Displ.Linearity: typically 0.5% F.S

Displ. Accuracy: - better than +/- 100μm absolute or 50μm relative.

Temp. Range -40 - 125°C
Temp. Accuracy **+/- 2°C** -Digitally trimmed at 0°c and 25°C
Temp Resolution: 0.1°C

Temp coeff for displacement sensor: <0.02%FS/°C (0-50°C)

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