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开放型 TDLAS-WMS 技术 CO₂ 痕量气体检测

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摘要: 采用窄线宽、边模抑制高的 DFB 激光器研制一套开放型 TDLAS 波长调制技术气体检测装置。选取 2 004 nm 处 CO₂ 分子吸收峰作为吸收谱线, 采用锁相放大器进行调制、解调后的二次谐波信号幅值检测气体浓度大小。设计基于开放环境中的 Herriott 型气体吸收池, 使用 ZEMAX 非序列模式进行吸收池仿真, 光线追迹后理论光程可达到 1 350 mm, 实际光程由 50 mm 增加到 300 mm, 检测浓度下限数值由原先的 1 300 ppmv 降低到 214.28 ppmv, 有效提高了系统的检测下限能力。配置不同浓度的 CO₂ 气体检测, 得到二次谐波信号幅值与浓度之间呈现很好的线性关系, 其拟合系数为 0.998 39, 可通过拟合直线方程计算得出待测气体的浓度。配置 300 ppmv 的 CO₂ 进行 Allan 方差分析, 积分时间到 101.6 s 时, Allan 方差处于平稳状态, 检测系统的灵敏度为 1.512×10^{-5} 。检测结果表明检测装置实现了对 CO₂ 气体浓度准确测量。该装置可进行结核分枝杆菌呼吸产生的 CO₂ 气体浓度进行检测, 为肺结核病诊断提供依据。

关键词: TDLAS-WMS; 谐波信号; 痕量气体检测; DFB 激光器; CO₂

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0 引言

可调谐半导体激光吸收光谱技术(Tunable Diode Laser Absorption Spectroscopy, TDLAS)具有非接触、选择性强、灵敏度高、响应速度快等优点^[1]。20世纪70年代,美国科学家HINKLEY E D和REID J首次提出TDLAS用于汽车尾气浓度检测^[2]。BOLSHOV M A等提出TDLAS技术用于快速燃烧气体诊断^[3]。PARKER R设计了TDLAS气体传感器应用在太空发射系统中^[4]。陈文亮等基于TDLAS技术设计逃逸氨检测系统^[5]。信丰鑫等采用开放光路TDLAS测量20 m和110 m垂直路径上的CO₂柱浓度,证明了开放光路TDLAS测量CO₂柱浓度和监测碳排放的可行性^[6]。TDLAS波长调制技术在微生物呼出气体检测、皮肤移植成活率痕量气体检测、特定疾病诊断和监测人体代谢状态等生物医疗诊断领域发挥着重要的作用^[7-8]。TDLAS-WMS技术可实现对微生物如结核分枝杆菌、大肠杆菌呼出气体浓度检测判断其生长情况,用于诊断病因及药敏检测系统测试。被测气体为结核分枝杆菌呼吸产生的CO₂气体,其CO₂分子占总被测样品的百分比很小,因此采用TDLAS系统进行CO₂痕量气体浓度检测。

TDLAS技术主要有直接吸收光谱技术(Direct Absorption Spectroscopy, DAS)和波长调制光谱吸收技术(Wavelength Modulation Spectroscopy, WMS)^[9],在WMS技术中,采用低频的扫描锯齿波和高频的正弦波共同调谐,使激光器发出波长在待测气体吸收峰附近^[10]。WMS技术可消除激光器本身和检测时温度、电流带来的低频噪声干扰,相比DAS技术易于提取丰富的谐波信息,提高检测系统的信噪比。因此,采用TDLAS-WMS技术进行CO₂痕量气体浓度检测。TDLAS气体检测装置常用的是分布式反馈激光器(Distributed Feedback Laser, DFB)和垂直腔面发射激光器(Vertical Cavity Surface Emitting Laser,

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VCSEL)^[11], DFB激光器是内置布拉格光栅实现激光器的模式筛选工作,具有边模抑制比较高,线宽窄等优点^[12],但主要还是用于密闭吸收池系统。在开放环境气体检测实验中,VCSEL激光器在稳定性、光纤耦合、信噪比、波长覆盖范围等方面表现不如DFB激光器。因此选择DFB激光器作为信号发生光源。现有的TDLAS-WMS密闭型气体检测装置进行气体检测时需先润洗气体吸收池再通入待测气体,致使检测过程时间长、操作过程繁琐。采用开放型气室精简操作流程、提高检测效率,可实时监测微生物生长情况,降低对检测环境的要求。检测装置率先应用TDLAS-WMS技术进行结核分枝杆菌呼吸产生的CO₂气体浓度检测,现有的CO₂气体浓度检测系统下限最低只能检测到1 300 ppmv (1 ppmv=1×10⁻⁶)以上,导致检测下限达不到气体浓度检测标准,设计一种基于开放环境中的Herriott型吸收池,增加吸收池光程,使得系统检测下限达到300 ppmv,实现CO₂浓度痕量气体检测,为医生诊断肺结核病状况提供依据,满足实际应用需求。

1 TDLAS技术检测原理及仿真

1.1 Beer-Lambert定律

TDLAS技术是以比尔—朗伯定律^[13](Beer-Lambert)为检测原理,当一束频率为 ν 、强度为 I_0 的单色光透过待测气体分子,待测气体分子对单色光吸收后,透射光强和入射光强的关系为

$$I(\nu)=I_0(\nu)e^{-S(T)\phi(\nu-\nu_0,T)PL} \quad (1)$$

式中,S为吸收线强度,只与温度有关;φ为归一化后的吸收线型函数,与频率和温度有关, $\int\phi(\nu)d\nu=1$;P为压强;C为待测气体体积浓度;L为吸收光程。

1.2 波长调制技术原理仿真

基于Beer-Lambert定律,首先确定气体吸收线型,在痕量气体检测技术中,吸收线型主要有Gaussian线型或Lorentz线型^[14]。当温度对气体浓度检测的影响比压强大时,采用Gaussian线型,当压强对气体浓度的影响比温度大时,采用Lorentz线型,本文系统装置在室温下运行,检测瓶内气体压强占主导作用,因此选择Lorentz吸收线型进行CO₂气体检测。**图1**所示为通过MATLAB仿真得到的Lorentz线型气体吸收谱线信号。

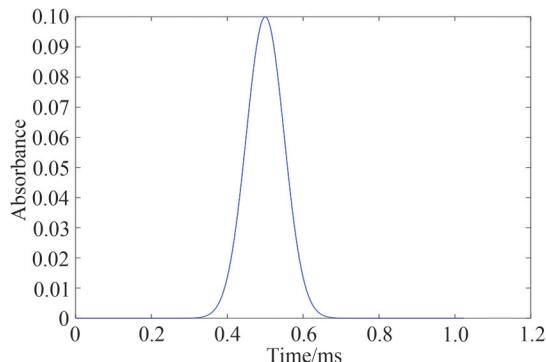


图1 气体吸收谱线
Fig.1 Gas absorption lines

激光工作波长由式(2)线性表示,调试三角锯齿波强度模拟电流驱动激光器,激光器稳定工作。在一个周期内,激光强度调制呈线性,用式(3)表示调制,光束未检测气体称式(3)为基线方程^[15]。

$$I(t)=I_0+k_s \cdot t \quad (2)$$

$$I(t)=(I_0+k_s \cdot t) \exp(-\varphi(\lambda)) \quad (3)$$

式中, k_s 为线性调制斜率, $\varphi(\lambda)$ 为气体吸收的线型函数。

由式(2)、式(3)结合Beer-Lambert定律可知基线的信噪特性决定了系统检测下限^[16]。

WMS技术是在波长扫描基线上加一个频率为fs的正弦波,以此模拟气体分子和吸收谱线发生相互作用时的运动效果。吸收线型函数由式(4)表示为

$$\varphi(\lambda)=\varphi(\lambda_c+a \cdot \cos(2\pi f_s t)) \quad (4)$$

WMS技术调制后,气体吸收谱线信号强度随注入电流变化规律由式(5)表示为

$$I(t) = [I_0 + i \cdot \cos(2\pi f_s t)] \exp[-\varphi(\lambda_c + a \cdot \cos(2\pi f_s t))] \quad (5)$$

式中, λ_c 为扫描范围的中心波长, i 为光强强度调制深度, a 为光强相位调制深度。

高頻正弦波信号调制气体吸收谱线^[17],模拟锁相放大器对信号调制、解调过程,得到一次谐波信号和二次谐波信号,如图2、图3所示。由于偶次谐波信号强度在谱线中心位置最大且信号强度随谐波次数的增大而快速减弱,因此采用二次谐波信号检测待测气体浓度。

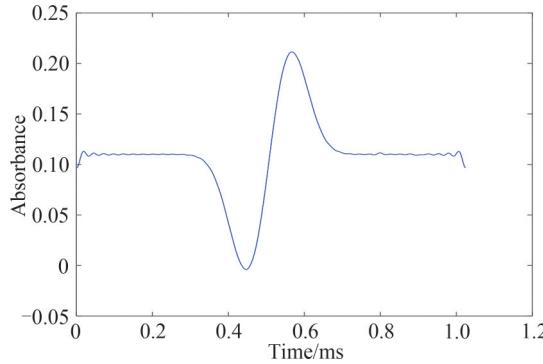


图2 一次谐波谱图

Fig.2 Primary harmonic spectrum diagram

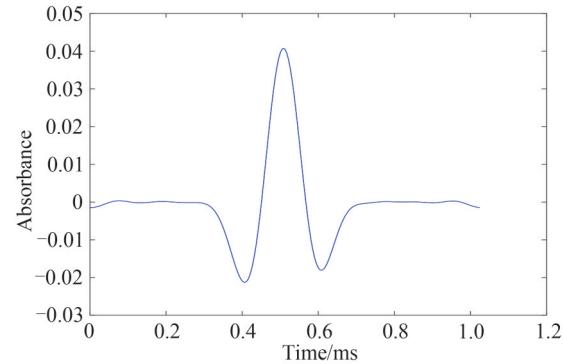


图3 二次谐波谱图

Fig.3 Secondary harmonic spectrum diagram

1.3 CO₂吸收谱线的选取

在CO₂气体浓度检测时,选择较强吸收峰值处的气体吸收谱线,避免其他气体干扰,有利于提高系统检测精度。根据 HITRAN 数据库,CO₂分子在1 333.33~2 222.22 nm范围内吸收谱线如图4所示。由图4可直观看出在2 004 nm(4 990.019 9 cm⁻¹)处,CO₂分子吸收谱线强度最强,比其他位置吸收强度高出一个数量级。其中空气中常见的如氧气(O₂)、水蒸气(H₂O)、甲烷(CH₄)等气体在2 004 nm(4 990.019 9 cm⁻¹)处对CO₂吸收谱线干扰较小。因此,选取CO₂在2 004 nm处吸收谱线进行气体浓度检测,吸收线强度为1.3×10⁻²¹ cm⁻¹·mol⁻¹·cm⁻²。

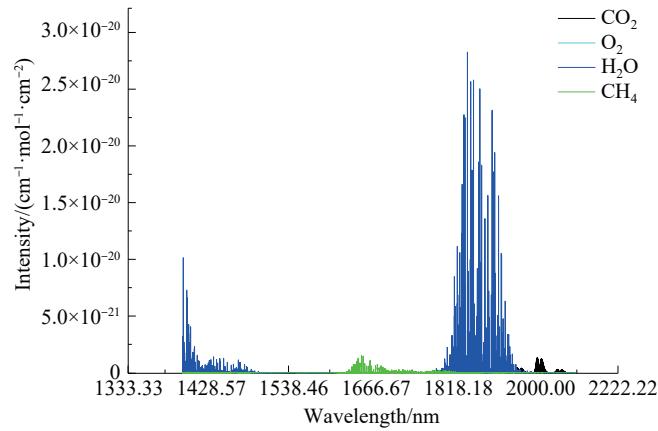


图4 CO₂、O₂、H₂O、CH₄分子在1 333.33~2 222.22 nm范围内吸收谱线

Fig.4 The absorption lines of CO₂、O₂、H₂O、CH₄ molecules in the range of 1 333.33~2 222.22 nm

2 检测系统设计

2.1 检测装置

激光器发射端采用德国 NANOPLUS 公司 DFB 蝶形激光器,激光器的工作中心波长为 2 004 nm,激光线宽为 3 MHz,温度调制系数为 0.19 nm/K,波长的电流调谐系数为 0.025 nm/mA,边模抑制比(SMSR)>35 dB,所选 DFB 激光器满足实验需求;接收端采用 THORLABS 公司 FD05D 光电二极管,其波长检测范围

为900~2 600 nm, 2 004 nm处近红外光可以获得极强响应。

TDLAS气体检测系统整体结构如图5所示,采用WMS技术对CO₂浓度进行检测。系统装置采用STM32F103VET6主控器,STM32主控器控制DDS芯片AD9834产生高频正弦波信号和12bit D/A产生低频锯齿波信号,两种信号滤波后经过加法器叠加,叠加信号经压控恒流源电路转换成电流信号驱动DFB激光器,同时温度控制单元调节激光器温度稳定;激光光束进入开放型气体吸收池,衰减后激光信号由光电探测器检测、TLC2543芯片模数转换采集信号,信号采集后传回微控器进行数据处理。处理结果存储到32F205RGT6芯片中,在上位机端进行显示。检测装置实物图如图6所示。

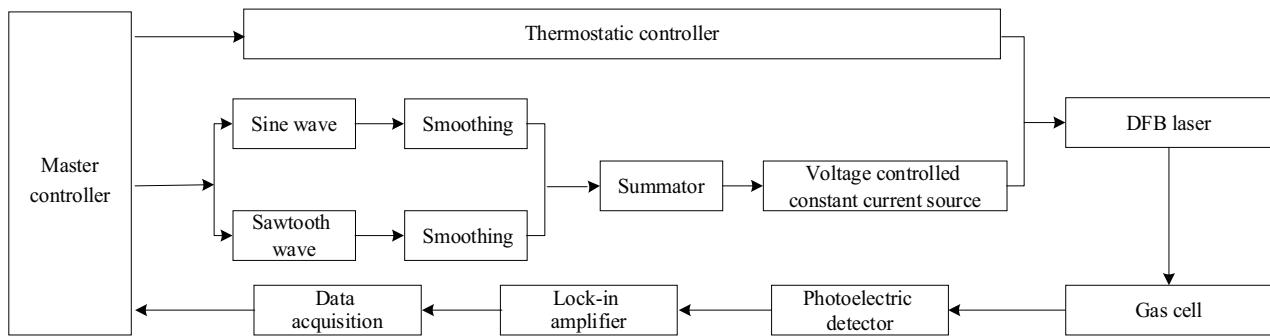


图5 检测系统框图
Fig.5 Test system block diagram

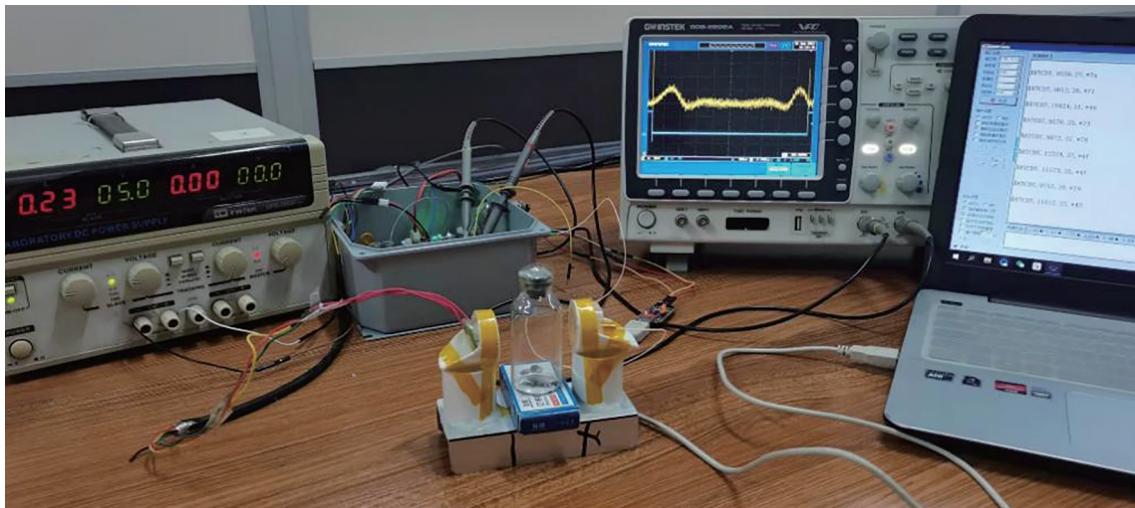


图6 检测装置实物图
Fig.6 Test system block diagram

2.2 气体吸收池设计

ZEMAX光学仿真软件非序列模式进行Herriott型气体吸收池仿真设计。设计两个直径为25 mm,焦距为50 mm的平凹球面反射镜组成一个腔长为50 mm的Herriott吸收池,两个平凹球面透镜分别在透镜中心打2.9 mm和5.1 mm圆孔用于放置光纤准直器和光电探测器。透镜凹球面镀有高反介质膜提高反射率,用于减少光损失和增加光学吸收池光程。气体吸收池仿真如图7所示,吸收池仿真光线追迹如图8所示,仿真结果表明可通过此设计增加吸收池光程,光程从50 mm增加到1 350 mm,但实际操作中由于考虑到光束的光强损失以及光在反射过程中发生的光学干涉条纹影响,在调整光路时控制激光光束只发生了6次反射。光程实际增加到300 mm,相比之前的50 mm的光程,增加了TDLAS系统Herriott型吸收池光程。气体吸收池实物图如图9所示。

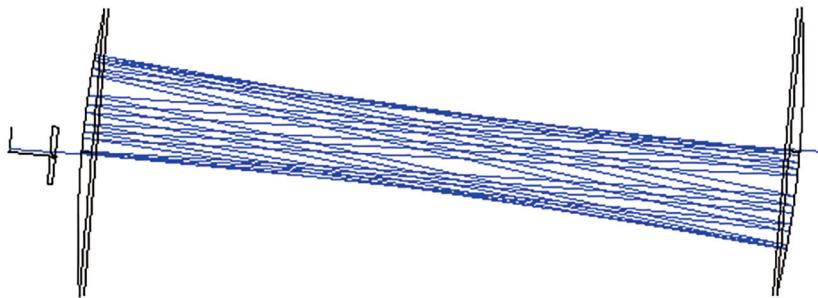


图 7 气体吸收池仿真图
Fig.7 Gas absorption pool simulation diagram

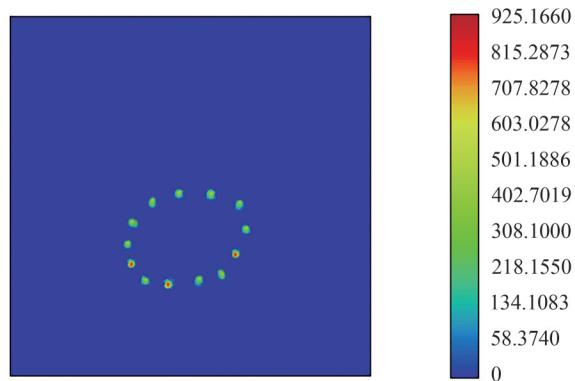


图 8 吸收池仿真光线追迹图
Fig.8 Gas absorption pool simulation ray trace diagram

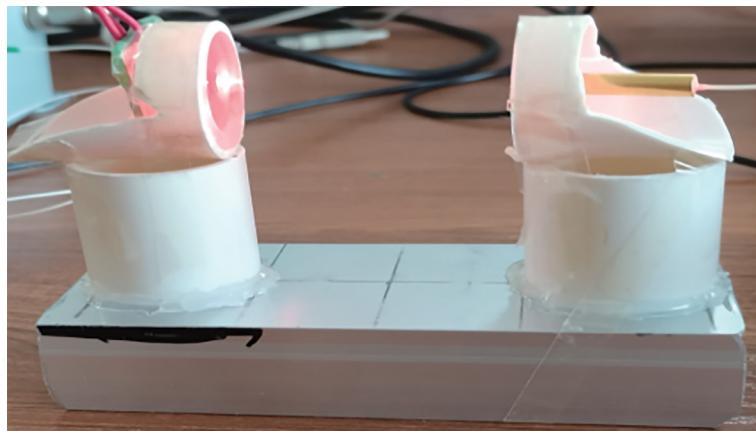


图 9 气体吸收池实物图
Fig.9 Physical picture of gas absorption tank

3 实验结果与分析

3.1 系统检测下限分析

为了验证检测装置检测下限,配置不同浓度的CO₂进行检测,研究发现配置300 ppmv时得到系统最低的检测下限能力,采集的谱线波形图如图10所示。由图10可知,300 ppmv下CO₂气体二次谐波峰峰值为0.07 V。0 ppmv时基线噪声波动为0.05 V,可得系统检测下限为 $300 \times 0.05 / 0.07 = 214.28$ ppmv。检测下限由原来的1 300 ppmv提高到214.28 ppmv,实际应用中检测需求是最低可检测300 ppm CO₂气体浓度。检测时得知检测环境、开放式吸收池光强损失和电路中电流调谐不稳等影响引起基线噪声特性波动大,为了进一步评测系统的检测下限,对300 ppmv浓度的CO₂气体进行30 min连续检测,测得结果在285~315 ppmv,如图11所示。由图可知系统装置满足设计方案预期目标。

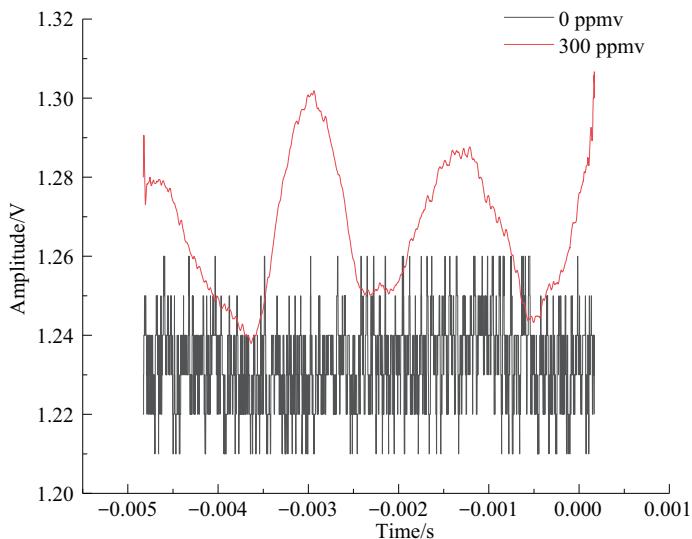


图 10 CO_2 0 ppmv 和 300 ppmv 波形图
Fig.10 CO_2 0 ppmv and 300 ppmv waveforms

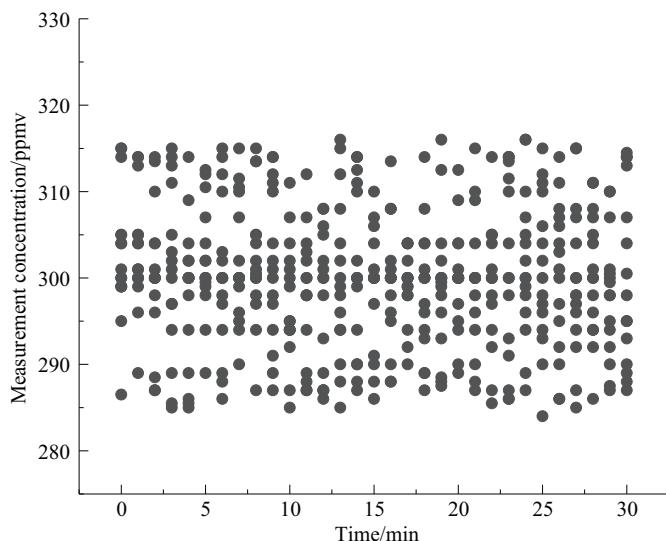


图 11 30 min 连续检测结果
Fig.11 Successive measurements within 30 min

3.2 检测结果分析

实验采用 WMS 技术进行波长调谐, 锁相放大器调制、解调后携带频率信息的谐波信号进行浓度分析。在光谱数据采集时, 进行二次谐波谱线信号采集。其中选取 0、500、1 000、2 000、3 000、4 000、5 000、6 000、7 000、8 000、9 000 ppmv 这 11 组不同浓度, 先检测空气中的 CO_2 浓度, 上位机程序控制进行零点校准后得到如图 12 所示的二次谐波谱线波形图。二次谐波信号峰值与气体浓度气体存在明显的线性关系。证明二次谐波信号进行浓度检测的可靠性, 也一定程度验证了此检测装置的稳定性。

如图 13 所示为选取二次谐波谱线峰值进行拟合的结果, 得到二次谐波谱线峰值信号与气体浓度之间拟合系数为 0.998 39, 呈现很好的线性关系, CO_2 气体浓度与二次谐波信号峰值之间关系为

$$y = 3.664 \times 10^{-6}x + 0.12446 \quad (6)$$

因此, 可通过式(6)计算得出待测 CO_2 气体浓度。

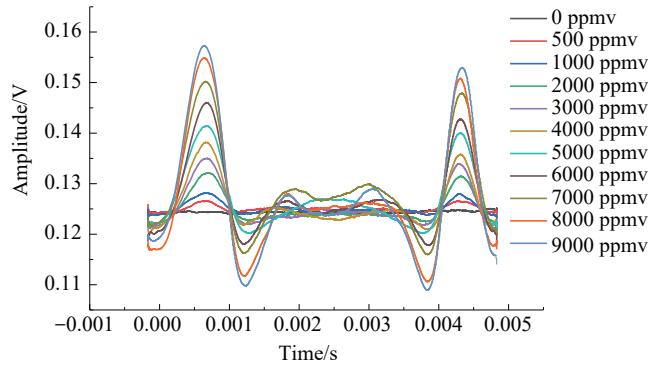


图 12 CO₂ 11 组不同浓度气体波形处理图
Fig.12 Waveform processing images of 11 groups of CO₂ with different concentrations

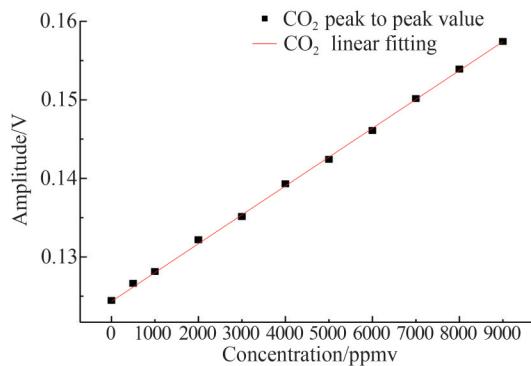


图 13 二次谐波峰值与浓度的关系图
Fig.13 The relationship between the peak-to-peak value and concentration of the second harmonic wave

3.3 系统灵敏度分析

引入 Allan 方差对检测装置存在的各种噪声进行量化分析,通过 Allan 方差可直观观测噪声随积分时间的变化规律,评估系统的稳定性和灵敏度^[18]。通过 300 ppmv 的 CO₂ 在 300 s 内的 Allan 方差积分结果如图 14 所示,随着积分时间的增加,Allan 方差呈先减小后平稳再增大的趋势。当积分时间到 101.6 s 时,Allan 方差处于平稳状态,此时标准差为 1.512×10^{-5} ,因此可知本检测系统的探测灵敏度为 1.512×10^{-5} 。

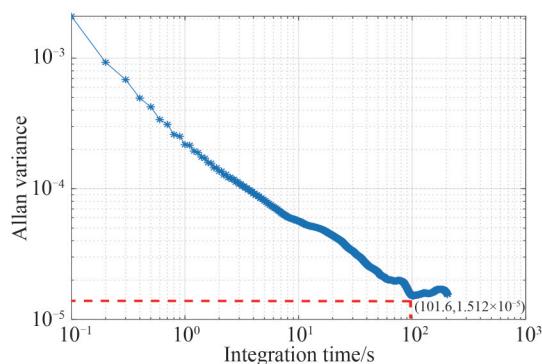


图 14 检测系统 Allan 方差分析
Fig.14 Allan variance analysis of the detection system

4 结论

实验设计了一套基于 TDLAS-WMS 技术开放型的 CO₂ 气体检测系统。选取 2 004 nm 处 CO₂ 光谱吸收峰进行浓度检测,通过设计一组基于开放环境中镀有高反介质膜的平凹透镜增加吸收池光程,光程由原来的 30 mm 增加到 300 mm,这种基于开放环境中的 Herriott 气体吸收池极大地提高了装置的检测下限能力,

检测气体浓度下限由原先 1 300 ppmv 提高到 214.28 ppmv。选取不同浓度 CO₂ 验证二次谐波峰峰值信号与浓度成较强的线性关系, 其拟合系数为 0.998 39。引入 Allan 方差进行系统灵敏度分析, 积分时间到 101.6 s 时, 检测系统的灵敏度为 1.512×10^{-5} 。检测装置对培养瓶中的微生物如结核分枝杆菌、大肠杆菌呼吸产生的 CO₂ 痕量气体浓度进行检测, 在微生物医学呼吸气体检测领域中实现了快速、准确、稳定的检测, 且本系统可普遍应用于其他开放环境气体浓度的应用测量。

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Measurement of Trace CO₂ Concentration with Open-path TDLAS-WMS Technology

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Abstract: The DFB laser with narrow linewidth and high side-mode suppression is used to develop a set of open TDLAS-WMS CO₂ gas detection device. At present, most of the CO₂ absorption spectra at 1 570 nm are still used. According to the query in HITRAN database, CO₂ absorption intensity at 2 004 nm is stronger than that at 1 570 nm. The CO₂ molecular absorption peak at 2 004 nm was selected as the absorption spectrum.

Based on the detection principle of TDLAS technology, the Lorentz linear gas absorption spectrum was obtained through MATLAB simulation. Gas absorption spectrum wavelength modulation technique to obtain a second harmonic and harmonic signals, because even order harmonic signal strength down line center and the largest signal strength weakened along with the increase of harmonic times fast, odd harmonic signals in the spectrum of gas absorption peak amplitude getting minimum value is zero, so generally choose accidentally time, low harmonic detection of gas concentration, Odd harmonic is used to stabilize the frequency of the laser. In the experiment, the amplitude of the second harmonic signal after modulation and demodulation by a phase-locked amplifier is used to detect the gas concentration.

The Herriott type gas absorption tank was designed based on the open environment because of the limitation of the widely used Herriott absorption tank to the detection method of microbial exhaled gas. Compared with the closed absorption cell, the open absorption cell reduces the detection time and operation complexity. The optical structure of absorption cell was simulated by using ZEMAX non-sequence mode. After ray tracing, the theoretical optical path could reach 1 350 mm, the actual optical path increased from 50 mm to 300 mm, and the lower limit value of detection concentration was reduced from 1 300 ppmv to 214.28 ppmv, which effectively improved the detection lower limit ability of the system.

The experimental device uses STM32F103VET6 master controller, which controls the DDS chip AD9834 to generate high frequency sine wave signal and 12 bit D/A to generate low frequency sawtooth wave signal. The two signals are filtered and superimposed by the adder. The superimposed signals are converted into current signals to drive the DFB laser through the voltage controlled constant current source circuit. At the same time, the temperature control unit adjusts the temperature stability of the laser. The laser beam enters the open gas absorption cell, and the attenuated laser signal is detected by photodetector and collected by TLC2543 chip analog-to-digital conversion. After the signal is collected, it is sent back to the microcontroller for data processing. The processing results are stored in 32F205RGT6 chip and displayed on the upper computer.

Through the configuration of CO₂ gas detection of different concentrations, the amplitude of the second harmonic signal shows a good linear relationship with the concentration, and its fitting coefficient is 0.998 39. The concentration of the gas to be measured can be calculated by fitting the linear equation. CO₂ gas at the concentration of 300 ppmv was continuously detected for 30 min, and the measured results ranged from 285 to 315 ppmv, indicating that the experimental device could continuously and stably detect CO₂ gas. It proves that the second harmonic signal is reliable for concentration detection, and also verifies the stability of the detection device to a certain extent. Allan variance analysis was conducted within 300 s

with CO₂ of 300 ppmv. With the increase of integration time, Allan variance showed a trend of decreasing first, then stabilizing and then increasing. When the integration time reaches 101.6 s, Allan variance is in a stable state, and the sensitivity of the detection system is 1.512×10^{-5} .

The test results show that the detection device can accurately measure the concentration of CO₂ gas. The detection device was used to study the concentration of CO₂ gas produced by the respiration of Mycobacterium tuberculosis to provide a basis for the diagnosis of tuberculosis. In the field of microbial medical respiratory gas detection, rapid, accurate and stable detection is realized, and the system can be widely used in other open environment gas concentration measurement.

Key words: TDLAS-WMS; Harmonic signal; Trace gas detection; DFB laser; CO₂

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