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膜片式带温补结构的光纤光栅压力传感器

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摘 要:用栅区仅为1mm、间隔仅为20mm的超短光纤光栅串,借助激光焊接工艺制作出长度约为40mm, 直径约为20mm的基于弹性膜片增敏的带温补结构的光纤光栅压力传感器,用于海洋深度探测。在 0.6 MPa测量范围内,传感器的理论压力灵敏度为一1.218nm/MPa,利用有限元分析法仿真得到的压力 灵敏度为一1.364nm/MPa,通过温度及压力测试实验消除温度对测压光纤光栅的影响后得到传感器实 际平均压力灵敏度达一1.728nm/MPa,升降压曲线的线性度达99.9%。与激光密封尾纤方式相比,采 用环氧胶密封尾纤不必考虑瞬时高温对光纤造成的损伤,且更容易保持对光纤所施加的预应力。结合 仿真分析发现双光纤光栅温度响应趋势存在差异是由结构设计的缺陷所致,后续可对此进行改进。在 传感器的制作过程中增设了温度及压力老化步骤,可有效提高传感器升降压曲线的线性度及重合度。 尾纤抖动会对传感器稳定性造成影响,建议使用切趾光纤光栅或设置缓冲区的方法解决。环氧胶固化 时流动导致光纤光栅有效长度减小以及预应力增加使光纤光栅压力灵敏度提高,是实测传感器压力灵 敏度偏高的主要原因。

关键词:光纤光栅;压力传感器;有限元分析法;弹性膜片;海洋

中图分类号:TP212 文献标识码:A

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0 引言

光纤布拉格光栅(Fiber Bragg Grating,FBG)压力传感器具有寿命长、精度高、损耗小、抗电磁干扰能力 强、可靠性和稳定性高、能实现多点分布检测等优点。但FBG本身的理论压力灵敏度仅为8 pm/Mpa^[1],通 常需要利用波纹管^[2]、悬臂梁^[3]、薄壁圆筒^[4-5]和弹性膜片^[6-9]等弹性结构进行增敏。波纹管式FBG压力传感 器的压力灵敏度高,但量程有限。悬臂梁式FBG压力传感器虽不受限于量程,但当非均匀力作用到悬臂梁 一端后易引起振动从而使FBG的波长发生啁啾。薄壁圆筒式FBG压力传感器可以兼顾压力灵敏度和量 程,但该结构不易串连。与上述结构相比,膜片式FBG压力传感器具有更多优点,其结构稳定易串连,合理 选择膜片参数可灵活改变传感器的量程和压力灵敏度。若用环氧胶直接固定膜片与光纤,传感器受压会加 速环氧胶的老化和蠕变,但借助激光焊接工艺,采用金属化^[10]光纤或金属管封装后的光纤可以解决这一问 题。HUANG Jun等^[11]将FBG1、FBG2分别沿径向粘贴在膜片边缘及中央(1 MPa,1.57 nm/MPa),膜片式 FBG压力传感器的直径约为60 mm。LIANG Minfu等^[12]将温补FBG平行粘贴在与测压FBG(栅区长度为 33 mm)相连的外壳上消除温度对膜片式FBG压力传感器的影响(50 MPa, -40.43 pm/MPa)。WANG Li

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等^[13]使用金属化光纤制作膜片式压力传感器(1 MPa,1.611 nm/MPa),其直径约为10 mm,长度约为60 mm, 但无温补结构。上述膜片式FBG压力传感器中皆采用紫外准分子激光相位掩膜法写制的FBG,栅区长度 至少为10 mm,因此制作完成后的传感器体积偏大。

此次实验采用飞秒激光直写法制作的超短FBG串(栅区长度为1mm,FBG间隔为20mm)得到长度约为40mm,直径约为20mm的带有温补结构的膜片式FBG压力传感器。在0.6 MPa压力范围内,传感器压力灵敏度的理论值为-1.218nm/MPa,利用有限元分析法仿真得到压力灵敏度为-1.364nm/MPa,而实测传感器升、降压曲线的压力灵敏度分别为-1.76557nm/MPa和-1.69045nm/MPa,线性度分别达99.9967%和99.928%,可满足黄海、渤海等海域的实际探测需求。

1 膜片式光纤光栅压力传感器的理论与仿真

1.1 测压原理

在膜片式 FBG 压力传感器中,对 FBG1 施加预应力 F 后,其波长漂移量 $\Delta \lambda_1 > 0$ 范围内, FBG1 的波长 λ_1 会随膜片所受均布压力 P 的线性增大而线性减小。F 引起的膜片中心最大挠度变化量为^[14]

$$\omega_{\rm F} = \frac{3FR^2(1-\mu^2)}{4\pi EH^3} \tag{1}$$

式中,R、H分别为膜片的半径、厚度,E、μ分别是膜片材料的杨氏模量、泊松比。

P使膜片中心产生最大的挠度变化量为[14]

$$\omega_{\rm P} = \frac{3PR^4 (1 - \mu^2)}{16EH^3} \tag{2}$$

 ω_{P} 与P、R、H的关系详见图1。 膜片中心挠度变化总量为

$$\omega_{\rm max} = \omega_{\rm F} + \omega_{\rm P} \tag{3}$$



图 1 $\omega_{\rm P}$ 与R、H的关系 Fig.1 The relationship between $\omega_{\rm P}$ and R, H

测压时,膜片的ω_P传递到与其中心相连的光纤上,导致光纤上刻写的FBG1长度变化量为

$$\Delta L = \frac{L}{x} \omega_{\rm P} \tag{4}$$

式中,L、x分别是FBG的长度、有效长度,长度变化使FBG1发生应变,即

$$\Delta \varepsilon = \frac{\Delta L}{L} = \frac{\omega_{\rm P}}{x} \tag{5}$$

则FBG1的波长漂移量为^[2]

$$\Delta \lambda = \lambda_1 (1 - P_e) \Delta \varepsilon = \left[(1 - P_e) \frac{\omega_P}{x} \right] \lambda_1$$
(6)

式中,P。是SiO2光纤的有效弹光系数,膜片式FBG压力传感器的压力灵敏度为[15]

$$K_{\rm P} = \frac{\Delta\lambda}{P} = \frac{\left[\left(1 - P_{\rm e}\right)\frac{\omega_{\rm P}}{x}\right]\lambda_{\rm 1}}{P}$$
⁽⁷⁾

为减小金属膜片的弹性迟滞效应,保证 ω_{\max} 在小挠度理论范围内得到精确的解析解, ω_{\max} 要小于 $H/3^{[14]}$ 。 另外, ω_{\max} 也受制于FBG的波长漂移量极限 $\Delta\lambda_{\max}$,即 $\omega_{\max} \ll \frac{x\Delta\lambda_{\max}}{\lambda(1-P_{*})}$ 。

1.2 温补原理

由于FBG1的波长λ₁会随温度的线性升高发生线性红移,因此增设中心波长为λ₂、只受温度影响的温补 FBG2,当对传感器进行温度测试实验时,有

$$\Delta \lambda_1 = K_{\rm T1} \Delta T \tag{8}$$

$$\Delta \lambda_2 = K_{\rm T2} \Delta T \tag{9}$$

式中, K_{T1} 是FBG1的温度灵敏度, $\Delta\lambda_2$ 、 K_{T2} 分别是FBG2的波长漂移量、温度灵敏度。通过温度测试实验可 知 K_{T1} 、 K_{T2} ,对传感器进行压力测试实验,得

$$\Delta \lambda_1 = K_{\rm Pl} P + K_{\rm Tl} \Delta T \tag{10}$$

通过式(9)可求得ΔT,将ΔT代入式(10)得到因均布压力P导致FBG1的波长漂移量

$$\Delta \lambda_{\rm P} = K_{\rm P1} P = \Delta \lambda_1 - \frac{\Delta \lambda_2 \times K_{\rm T1}}{K_{\rm T2}} \tag{11}$$

设计的膜片式带温补结构的FBG压力传感器具体参数见表1。

表1 膜片式带温补结构的 FBG 压力传感器的具体参数

Table 1	The specifi	c paramete	ers of diaph	ragm-type F	BG pressure senso	or with ter	nperature co	ompensating	structure
Parameter	P_{e}	<i>x</i> /mm	λ_1/nm	λ_2 / nm	$E/(imes 10^{11} \mathrm{Pa})$	μ	R/mm	H/mm	P/MPa
Value	0.216	12	1 550	1 563.6	1.28	0.35	6.7	0.6	0.6

1.3 设计仿真

通过式(2)计算得到的 $ω_P$ 为7.195 μm,则膜片式FBG压力传感器的理论压力灵敏度为-1.218 nm/MPa, 借助有限元分析软件仿真得到铍青铜膜片受压后的结果见图2,其中心的最大位移量 $ω_P$ 为7.407 6 μm,与理 论值相差不大,但实际上, $ω_P$ 还会受预应力F和光纤封装结构的影响。



图 2 膜片表面受压位移图 Fig.2 Displacement diagram of diaphragm surface under compression

用金属管1(外径为0.8 mm,长度为4.5 mm)封装SiO₂光纤(半径为0.062 5 mm,长度为16.5 mm)并固定在膜片上,膜片受压的同时对光纤施加预应力(当施加不同的F使FBG1的 $\Delta\lambda_1$ 从0 nm等间隔地增大到3.5 nm时,仿真发现在FBG1的有效长度x范围内,FBG1的应变逐渐增大),通过多物理场耦合后,得到 ω_P 为8.08 μ m($\Delta\lambda_1$ =2.5 nm),具体结果见图3,将此时的 ω_P 代入式(7),得膜片式FBG压力传感器的仿真压力灵

敏度为-1.364 nm/MPa。



图 3 不同的 $\Delta\lambda$ 对光纤应变的影响 Fig.3 The influence of different $\Delta\lambda$ on fiber strain

2 膜片式光纤光栅压力传感器的制作与测试实验

2.1 制作工艺

图 4 为带温补结构的膜片式光纤光栅压力传感器简图,制作时首先用超声波清洗仪去除传感器零件表 面残存的油污,烘干后利用波长为1.06 μm的激光焊接机将金属管1点焊在膜片中心。挑选边摸抑制比高、 主峰带宽窄、峰顶陡峭的FBG串(通过飞秒激光直写法制作),将写有FBG1的光纤一端固定在金属管1内, 光纤的另一端封装于金属管2并穿出,金属管2底端距金属管1顶端的距离即*x*。膜片固定在压力外壳凹台 内,借助激光密封膜片与压力外壳。对FBG1(*L*=1 mm)施加较大的预应力,同时用环氧胶密封金属管2与 压力外壳,与FBG1间隔20 mm的FBG2(*L*=1 mm)置于温度外壳。压力外壳与温度外壳交界处用激光密 封,对FBG2施加较小的预应力,然后用环氧胶密封尾纤与温度外壳。



图4 带温补结构的膜片式光纤光栅压力传感器简图

Fig.4 Schematic diagram of diaphragm-type fiber grating pressure sensor with temperature compensating structure

2.2 测试实验

2.2.1 超短光纤光栅拉断实验

由于Δλ受限于FBG的可拉伸极限,于是对超短FBG进行了拉断实验,实验结果见图 5。从FBG 被拉断时的数据记录表2可知,光纤可承受的最大预应力 F_{max} 为 2.646 N,FBG 的波长最大漂移量 Δλ_{max}约 3.4 nm,为防止 FBG 断裂,F 控制在 F_{max} 的 90% 以下最佳。



图 5 FBG 拉断实验结果 Fig.5 FBG pull-off test results

衣		G饭土	卫的门	1月 日月 ラ	大迎到	议店	
Table 2	Data	when	the	FBG	was	pulled	off

Number	1#	2#	3#	4#	5#
λ_{o}/nm	1 542.205	1 542.523	1 542.06	1 542.866	1 542.615
$F_{ m max}/ m N$	2.646	2.646	2.744	3.038	2.842
$\Delta\lambda_{\rm max}/nm$	3.432	3.453	3.59	3.936	3.643

2.2.2 传感器温度测试实验

将一等标准铂电阻温度计的温度探头同膜片式带温补结构的FBG 压力传感器捆绑在一起沉入恒温水 槽,恒温水槽的初始温度设为35℃,然后以每5℃递减至0℃,温度稳定后再以每5℃递增至35℃,期间通过 MOI-SI155光纤光栅解调仪记录FBG1、FBG2的波长及温度计所测的温度。利用一次线性拟合可计算出 FBG1、FBG2的波长与升温、降温的关系,结果见图6,求均值得 K_{T1}、K_{T2}分别为0.038 47、0.013 06。然后将 FBG1、FBG2升降温曲线的平均关系式写入光纤光栅解调仪以实时监测传感器从室温快速放入恒温水槽 (35℃)后的温度,整理数据绘制FBG1、FBG2的温度响应曲线如图7。



2.2.3 传感器压力测试实验

膜片式带温补结构的FBG 压力传感器通过特制的转接头密封在活塞式压力计(0.04~0.6 MPa)中,打 开压力计的表座截止阀,旋转十字手轮,使活塞位移指示器稳定在0mm,借助 MOI-SI155光纤光栅解调仪 记录压力为0.04 MPa时 FBG1、FBG2的波长值。后续测试从0.1 MPa开始,间隔0.1 MPa,逐渐递增至0.6 MPa,然后进行降压实验。整理实验数据得图8,据式(11)得 FBG1升降压曲线的平均压力灵敏度约为 -1.728 nm/MPa,线性度为99.9%。



2.3 结果分析

2.3.1 尾纤密封方式探讨

实验发现若用激光焊接密封上管与外壳,最终得到的Δλ₁在-0.2~0.6 nm之间,经分析Δλ₁较小的原因 为:1)在激光焊接过程中,传感器转动使作用到光纤上的预应力方向改变并减小,微调传感器的位置同时监 测波长可以增大预应力;2)激光产生的高温透过管壁向内传递达到了光纤涂覆层的熔化温度150℃,甚至超 过了环氧胶的分解温度412℃,封装在管内的光纤松动,预应力去除后FBG的波长逐渐回缩,对此增加壁厚 至0.325 mm,但仍不能紧固光纤;3)上管与外壳间的焊接应力使上管倾斜并向膜片方向移动,导致预应力方 向改变后减小和FBG的压缩。

换用环氧胶密封尾纤实际得到的Δλ₁在1.5~2 nm之间,但波长回缩量约为1.5 nm,导致波长回缩的原因及改进措施包括:1)环氧胶难以紧固施加预应力后的光纤,可通过增加环氧胶的粘贴面积来提高黏力;2) 传感器内部压强随温度升高逐渐增大,部分空气在环氧胶固化前逸出,待传感器彻底密封后,传感器的内外 差(约17 kPa)会使FBG被压缩,降低环氧胶的固化温度可降低压差。

2.3.2 温度响应曲线的趋势分析

从图 7 可看出,FBG1测量的温度明显高于 FBG2 且更接近通过温度计测量的温度,这是因为铍青铜膜 片比 316L 不锈钢外壳薄且热导率更高,从而使 FBG1 所处压力腔的温度稳定后更接近环境温度。但 FBG2 的时间常数(49 s)明显高于 FBG1(69 s),通过仿真分析,经图 9 可以看出(Time=50 s)是由于压力外壳(下 端)与温度外壳(上端)连接的位置较厚导致压力腔的顶端形成瞬态低温区,而 FBG1恰好处于该位置,但若 将压力腔与温度腔导通可提高 FBG1、FBG2温度响应曲线的重合度。





Fig.9 The two-dimensional cross-section temperature change of the pressure sensor (time=50 s)

2.3.3 升降压曲线的线性度及重合度研究

图 10 (a)、(b)分别是结构参数相同的传感器 1、传感器 2(传感器 2即膜片式带温补结构的 FBG 压力传 感器)置于 120℃的鼓风恒温干燥箱内保温 5 h、6 h 后的两次升、降压测试曲线(不考虑温补),可见通过一次 压力老化实验后,延长加热时间有利于提高升、降压曲线的线性度和重合度。但是传感器 2 经温度补偿后, 如图 8 所示,升、降压曲线的重合度变差,这是由于 FBG2 对 FBG1 提供的温度补偿不精确导致,实验开始是 在上午 9:00 左右,当进行到降压实验时,室内温度逐渐升高,压力外壳内的膜片接触测压油,所以压力外壳 内的温度较为稳定,但是温度外壳内的温度随周围气温的升高而逐渐升高,因此通过 FBG2 的波长换算得到 的温度略高于 FBG1 的温度,最终计算得到均布压力导致 FBG1 的波长漂移量偏小。



图 10 压力测试曲线(无温补) Fig.10 Pressure test curve without temperature compensation

2.3.4 传感器稳定性研究

尾纤抖动改变了光纤的曲率半径进而造成弯曲损耗,使部分光溢出光纤包层,FBG光谱的强度分布发 生变化,若主峰峰顶平滑,光纤光栅解调仪通过波长寻峰法监测到的波长会不断地向左或向右平移。弯曲 损耗也会导致波峰带宽的变化,光纤光栅解调仪监测到的主峰峰值可能消失,转而探测被展宽的次峰峰值。 选用边模抑制比在35dB以上,主峰带宽约3dB且峰顶尖锐,次峰带宽较窄且分布均匀的切趾光纤光栅制作 的传感器稳定性较好。此外实验中发现FBG1因波长抖动引起的波长变化量远小于FBG2,因此可通过增 设过渡区,阻止外界力向内传递从而减小光纤抖动对FBG光谱的影响。

2.3.5 传感器灵敏度提高的原因分析

膜片式带温补结构的压力传感器实测平均压力灵敏度约为-1.728 nm/MPa,明显高于理论及仿真计算 得到的压力灵敏度。经分析原因为:1)为了提高焊接质量,对膜片表面进行了打磨处理,但厚度减小在0.02 mm 以内;2)超短FBG的写制工艺不稳定,所使用的超短FBG本身应变灵敏度较高,当对FBG1施加2.45 N的 预应力后, $\Delta\lambda$ =3.5 nm,则其应变灵敏度约为1.23 nm/mε,而普通FBG的应变灵敏度约为1.2 nm/mε^[16];3) 涂抹环氧胶时用量较多或固化时流动导致金属管1上端及金属管2底端附近的光纤硬化,FBG的有效长度*x* 减小;4)通过仿真发现F造成的 $\Delta\lambda_1$ 越大,光纤光栅的压力灵敏度越高,实际实验如图10所示,传感器1中的 测压FBG本身应变灵敏度比传感器2中的测压FBG本身应变灵敏度略高,但预应力造成的 $\Delta\lambda$ 仅为1.5 nm, 第二次升降压测试后得到的平均压力灵敏度只有1.545 nm/MPa。此外,如图6所示,FBG1($\Delta\lambda_1$ =2.5 nm) 的平均温度灵敏度(38.47 pm/°)明显高于FBG2($\Delta\lambda_2$ =0.1 nm)的平均温度灵敏度(13.06 pm/°),结合统计 结果分析,由F增加使 $\Delta\lambda$ 增大,从而使FBG温度灵敏度提高的可能性较大。

3 结论

本文制作的膜片式带温补结构 FBG 压力传感器量程为 0.6 MPa,理论压力灵敏度为-1.218 nm/MPa, 通过仿真计算得到的压力灵敏度为-1.364 nm/MPa,消除温度影响后,实测平均压力灵敏度达-1.728 nm/ MPa,升降压曲线的线性度分别为 99.996% 和 99.928%,可满足在渤海和黄海等海域的深度探测需求。目 前限制 FBG 压力传感器量程和压力灵敏度的主要因素是 FBG 的可拉伸极限,这需要从光纤的材质和结构 等方面进行研究,同时改进尾纤密封工艺,使施加预应力后产生的Δλ能够基本保持不变。后续可通过改善 传感器结构提高 FBG1、FBG2 温度响应的一致性,改进传感器的温度老化参数或换用弹性迟滞效应小的膜 片材料如铁基高弹性合金,提高传感器升、降压曲线的线性度和重合度,优化 FBG 的光谱质量或利用过渡结 构提高传感器的稳定性。

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Diaphragm-type Fiber Bragg Grating Pressure Sensor with a Temperature Compensation Structure

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Abstract: For the field of ocean depth detection, a small volume diaphragm-type fiber Bragg grating pressure sensor with a temperature compensation structure is made. The length and diameter of the fiber Bragg grating pressure sensor are approximately 40 mm and 20 mm, respectively. The diaphragm-type fiber Bragg grating pressure sensor with a temperature compensation structure uses an ultrashort fiber

Bragg grating string. There are two fiber Bragg gratings on the ultrashort fiber Bragg grating string. The length of the two fiber Bragg gratings is 1 mm, and the interval between them is 20 mm. One fiber Bragg grating is used to measure pressure, and the other fiber Bragg grating is only affected by temperature, which can eliminate the influence of temperature on the pressure measuring fiber Bragg grating. The optical fiber is encapsulated in a metal tube a short distance away from the measuring pressure fiber Bragg grating. The end of the metal tube is fixed on the elastic metal diaphragm by a laser welding process. In this way, the optical fiber and metal diaphragm are not fixed by epoxy adhesive directly, which can avoid the influence of aging and creep of epoxy adhesive on the performance of the diaphragm-type fiber Bragg grating pressure sensor with a temperature compensation structure. In the measuring range of 0.6 MPa, the theoretical pressure sensitivity of the diaphragm-type fiber Bragg grating pressure sensor with a temperature compensation structure is -1.214 nm/MPa, and the pressure sensitivity of the diaphragmtype fiber Bragg grating pressure sensor with a temperature compensation structure obtained by the finite element analysis method is -1.364 nm/MPa. After the diaphragm-type fiber Bragg grating pressure sensor with a temperature compensation structure is fabricated, the pressure and temperature characteristics of the sensor are tested. With the help of a fiber Bragg grating only affected by temperature, the influence of temperature on the pressure measuring fiber Bragg grating is eliminated through calculation. The actual average pressure sensitivity of the diaphragm-type fiber Bragg grating pressure sensor with a temperature compensation structure is -1.728 nm/MPa. Moreover, the linearity of the boost and buck curves of the diaphragm-type fiber Bragg grating pressure sensor with a temperature compensation structure is more than 99.9%, and the boost and buck curves of the diaphragm-type fiber Bragg grating pressure sensor with a temperature compensation structure also coincide well. In addition, the best way of the tail fiber seal, the reason of the different temperature response characteristics of the double fiber grating, the method of improving the linearity and coincidence degree of the pressure curve, the reason and solution of affecting the stability of the sensor, and the reason of improving the sensitivity of the measured pressure are discussed. First, when the thickness of the metal tube that encapsulates the optical fiber is relatively thin, comparative experiments show that the method of sealing the fiber tail with epoxy glue is better than laser welding. By sealing the fiber tail with epoxy glue, the wavelength shift of the fiber Bragg grating can reach 2 nm. It can be seen that sealing the tail of the optical fiber with epoxy glue more easily maintains the prestress applied to the optical fiber. Second, a temperature response test experiment of a diaphragm-type fiber Bragg grating pressure sensor with a temperature compensation structure is carried out. The experimental results show that the temperature response of the fiber Bragg grating and pressure response of the fiber Bragg grating are slightly different. Combined with the simulation analysis, it is found that the main reason for the difference in the temperature response trend of dual fiber Bragg gratings is the defect of the structural design. Third, to improve the linearity and coincidence of the boost and buck curves of the sensor, temperature and pressure aging processes are added to the sensor manufacturing process. The experimental results show that these methods are effective. Next, considering the influence of an optical fiber tail wobble on the stability of a diaphragm-type fiber Bragg grating pressure sensor with a temperature compensation structure, it is suggested to use apodisated linearly chirped fiber gratings or set up a region to isolate external forces to solve the problem. Finally, the problem that the actual pressure sensitivity of a diaphragm-type fiber Bragg grating pressure sensor with a temperature compensation structure is higher than the theoretical value is discussed from several angles. The main reasons are that the effective length of the fiber Bragg grating decreases due to the flow of epoxy glue and the pressure sensitivity of the fiber Bragg grating increases due to the increase in prestress.

Key words: Fiber Bragg grating; Pressure sensor; Finite element analysis method; Elastic diaphragm; Ocean

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