

Advanced MEMS and Microsystems

Dr. Danick Briand & Prof. Guillermo Villanueva

Course content and schedule

Dates	Topics	Lecturers
18.02	Introduction Transducers review: pre-recorded lectures	D. Briand / G. Villanueva
25.02	Sensors part I Exercices	D. Briand
04.03	Sensors part II Industrial seminar #1	D. Briand
11.03	Students presentations	D. Briand / G. Villanueva
18.03	Actuators and Optical MEMS Industrial seminar #2	D. Briand
25.03	Acoustic and Ultrasonic MEMS Industrial seminar #3	G. Villanueva
01.04	RF-MEMS	G. Villanueva
08.04	NEMS	G. Villanueva
15.04	Interactive session	D. Briand / G. Villanueva
29.04	Thermal and gas sensors Industrial seminar #4	D. Briand
06.05	Packaging	D. Briand
13.05	Packaging Industrial seminar #5	D. Briand
20.05	PowerMEMS Industrial seminar #6	D. Briand
27.05	Quiz + oral exam instructions Evaluation of the course	All

TODAY MARCH 4

- Lecture Sensors Part II: Capacitive accelerometers and gyroscopes
- Seminar 1 – Safran Sensing Technologies at 12h15
- List of questions to answer available on moodle**

NEXT WEEK MARCH 11

- Hand-In Answers to Questions on Industrial Seminar 1 – Safran
Answers form available on moodle
- YOUR Presentation (!Graded - Requires some homework!)
- SIGN UP: [Link](#)

Announcements

TODAY March 4

- Seminar 1 – Safran Sensing Solutions

- Questions related to industrial seminars
- Course requirement: written answers to be handed in (e.g. via the form)
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1D-PPqQGDI9h0Q2hgHyj4xwoY5fkz7jsyR_bP3FzBCWQ/edit
- 8 questions to be answered for each seminar (online on moodle)
- Individual assessment (not a group work)
- Deadline: 1 week after the seminar at the latest. **If not handed in: Grade = 1.0**
- Graded

Evaluation:

- 10% on your answers to the questions for the 6 seminars
- 10% for your presentation on a MEMS device on the 11th of March
- 80% Individual oral examination to happen in June-July 2025

➤ Questions?

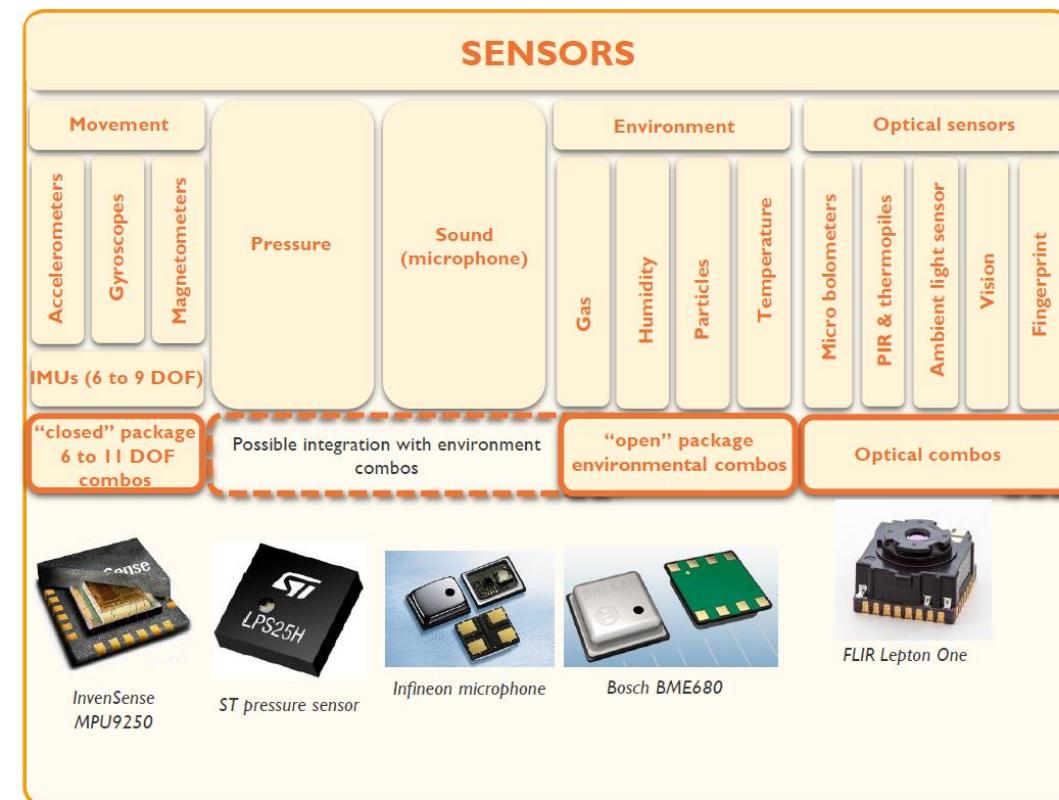
Presentations March 11 – Schedule & Topics

Timing	Team	Topic
10h15	Luciano Calcoen + Tristán Fonquerne Torres	MEMS oscillator for clocks
10h30	Alizée Anna André + Benoit Vignon	MEMS duplexers
10h45	Nicolas Robson + Alexandre Kiss	Thermoelectric energy harvesters
11h15	Adrien Cadet + Paul Krassiakov	Piezoelectric energy harvesters
11h30	Mathieu Dubois	Silicon photonic MEMS switches
11h45	Kilian Pouderoux	Shutter array
12h15	Cyprien Lacassagne	RF Switches
12h30	Maxime Nourry	Surface stress bio-sensors
12h45	Florent Gaspoz	Flow sensor
13h15	Grace Eunhyeong Kim	Pressure sensor
13h30	Alexandre Dao	Metal-oxide gas sensor

7 students are alone and can look at forming teams

3 students have not registered yet

Last week: Lecture Sensors Part 1



Lecture Sensors Part 1: Piezoresistive

➤ Questions?

Sensors Part II: Lecture content

- **Capacitive Sensing**
 - Capacitive MEMS Sensors
 - Commercial Motion Sensors
 - Capacitive MEMS Accelerometers
 - Capacitive MEMS Gyroscopes
 - Capacitive MEMS Microphones in Week 6
- **Comparison transduction principles**
- **Sensor Fusion**
- **Summary Questions**

LECTURE 2

Sensors – Part 2

Danick Briand

Maître d'Enseignement et de Recherche (MER)

MEMS & Printed Microsystems group

EPFL-STI-LMTS

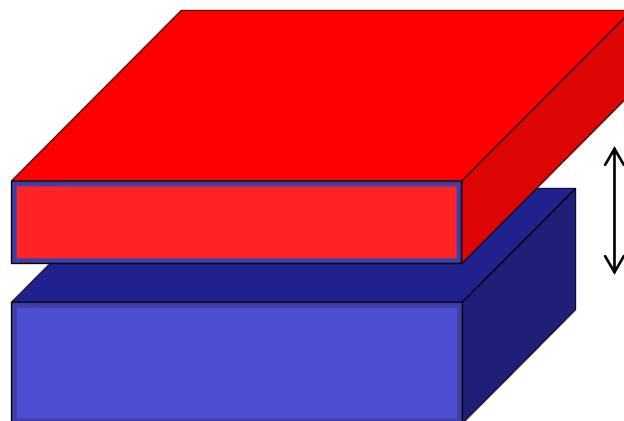
CAPACITIVE SENSING

Capacitive sensing

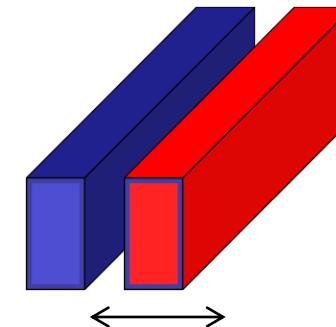
Motion sensing by changing capacity

Capacitors are ...

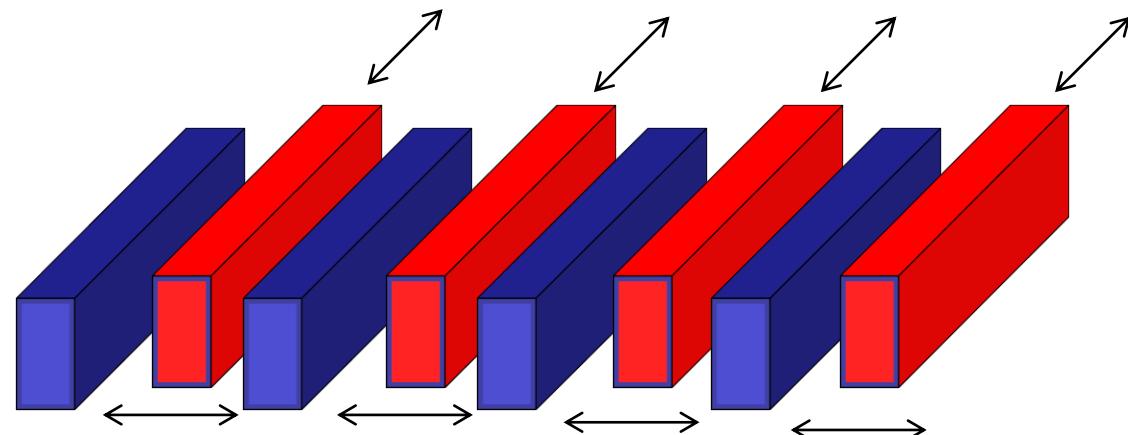
Horizontal parallel plates



Vertical parallel plates



Interdigitated fingers = combs



- Also: Tilting configuration
- Movement Depends on Suspension (Degree of Freedom)

Motion Sensing in MEMS ...

> Single capacitors

- Capacitance is function of gap or area
- Can be nonlinear

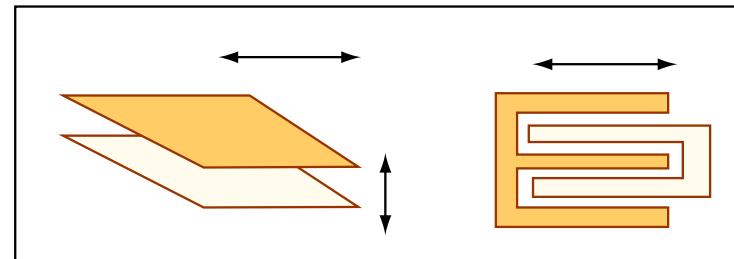


Image by MIT OpenCourseWare.

Adapted from Figure 19.3 in Senturia, Stephen D. *Microsystem Design*. Boston, MA: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2001, p. 501. ISBN: 9780792372462.

> Differential capacitors

- One capacitor increases while the other decreases

$$C = \frac{\epsilon A}{g}$$

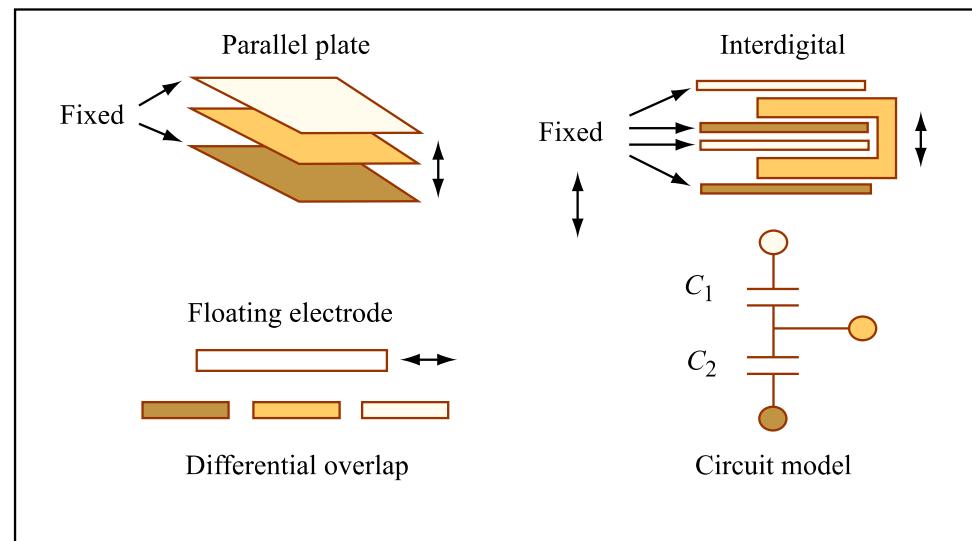


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Adapted from Figure 19.4 in Senturia, Stephen D. *Microsystem Design*. Boston MA: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2001, p. 501. ISBN: 9780792372462.

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Differential Capacitors

- > Differential drive creates sense signal proportional to capacitance difference
- > Gives zero output for zero change
- > Output linear with gap

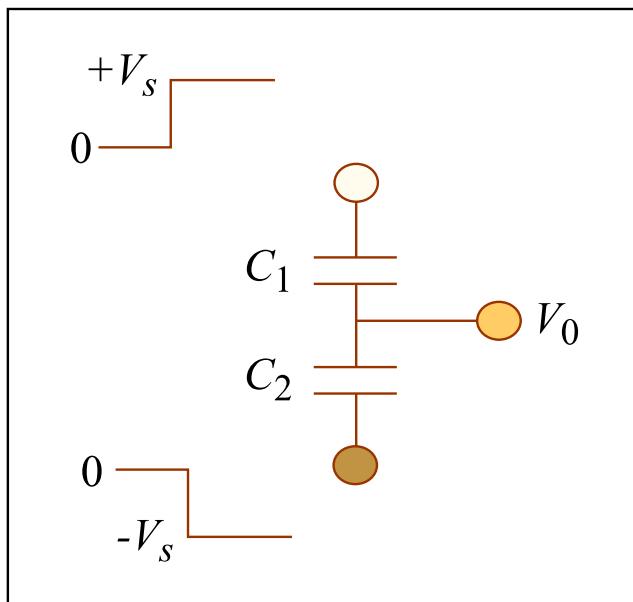


Image by MIT OpenCourseWare.

Adapted from Figure 19.5 in Senturia, Stephen D. *Microsystem Design*.
Boston, MA: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2001, p. 502. ISBN: 9780792372462.

$$V_0 = -V_s + \frac{C_1}{C_1 + C_2} (2V_s) = \frac{C_1 - C_2}{C_1 + C_2} V_s$$

for parallel-plate capacitors where
only g changes, this becomes

$$V_0 = \frac{g_2 - g_1}{g_1 + g_2} V_s$$

Cite as: Joel Voldman, course materials for 6.777J / 2.372J Design and Fabrication of Microelectromechanical Devices, Spring 2007. MIT OpenCourseWare (<http://ocw.mit.edu/>), Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Downloaded on [DD Month YYYY].

Differential Capacitors (Combs)

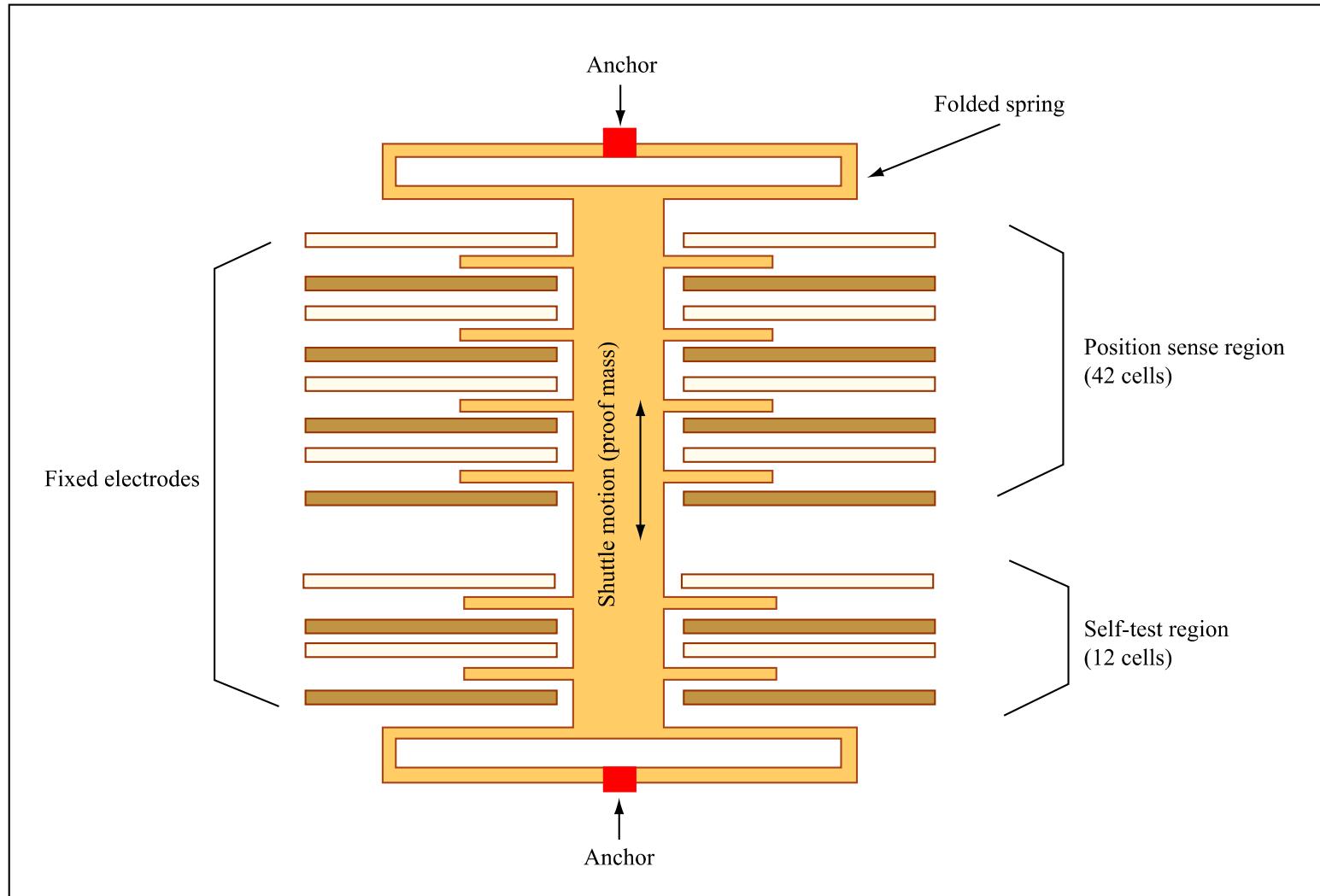
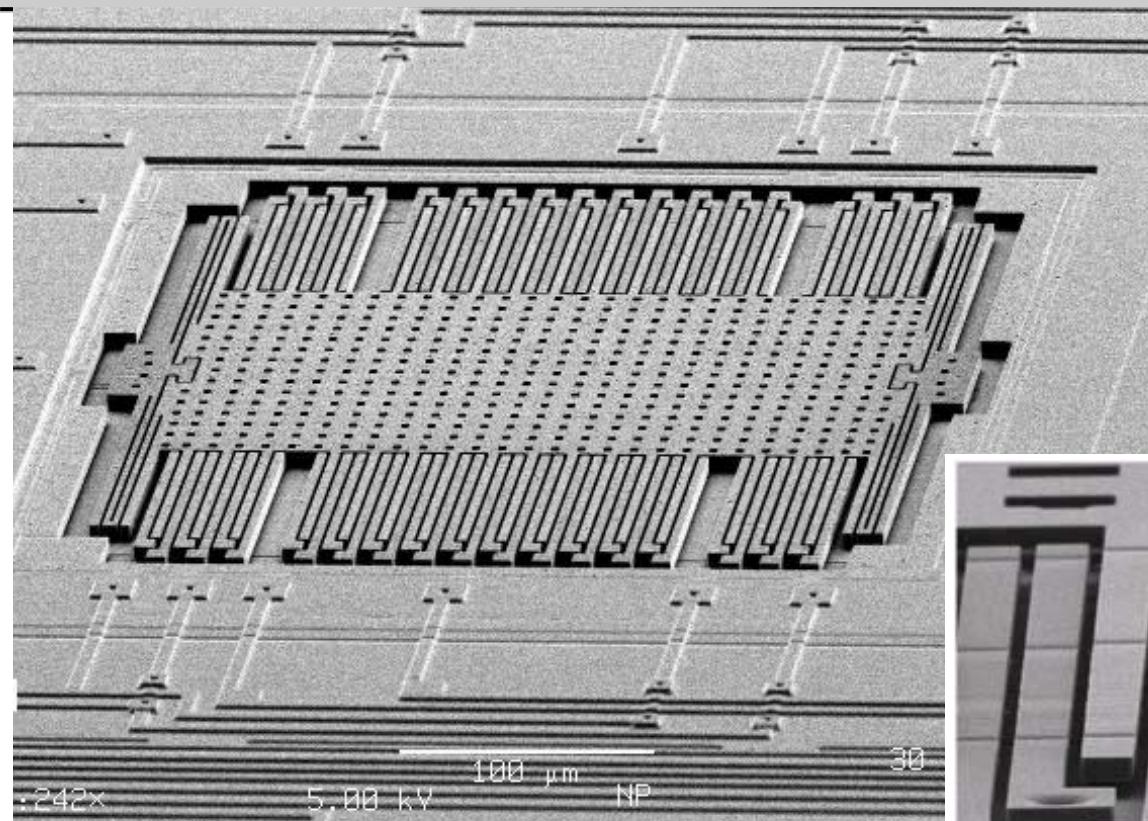


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Adapted from Figure 19.17 in Senturia, Stephen D. *Microsystem Design*. Boston, MA: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2001, p. 514. ISBN: 9780792372462.

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Analog Devices Accelerometer – Differential Capacitors



$$C_1 = \frac{A}{d - x} \quad C_2 = \frac{A}{d + x}$$

$$\Delta C = \frac{Ax}{d}$$

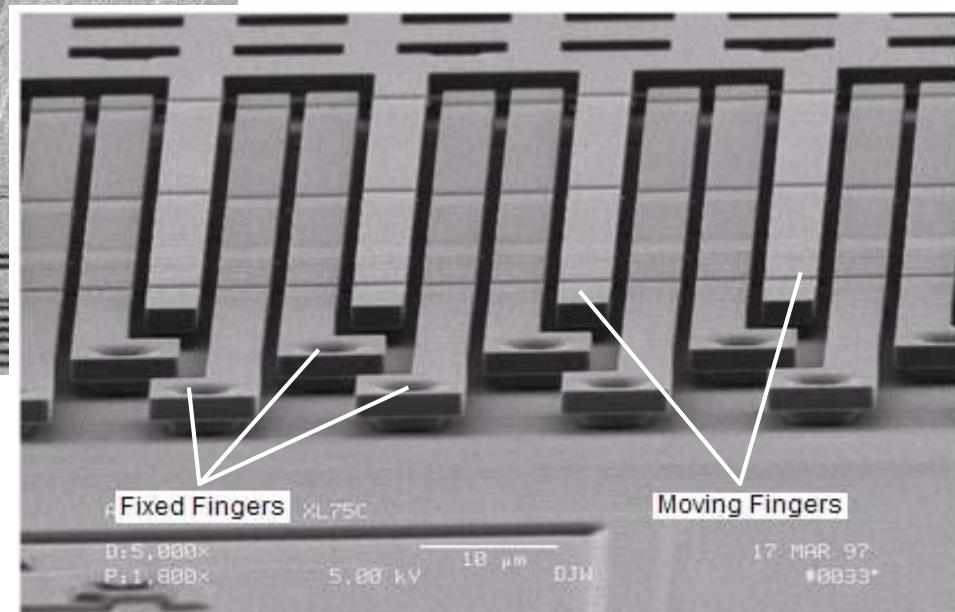


Figure 2. Poly-Silicon beam released after removing sacrificial oxide

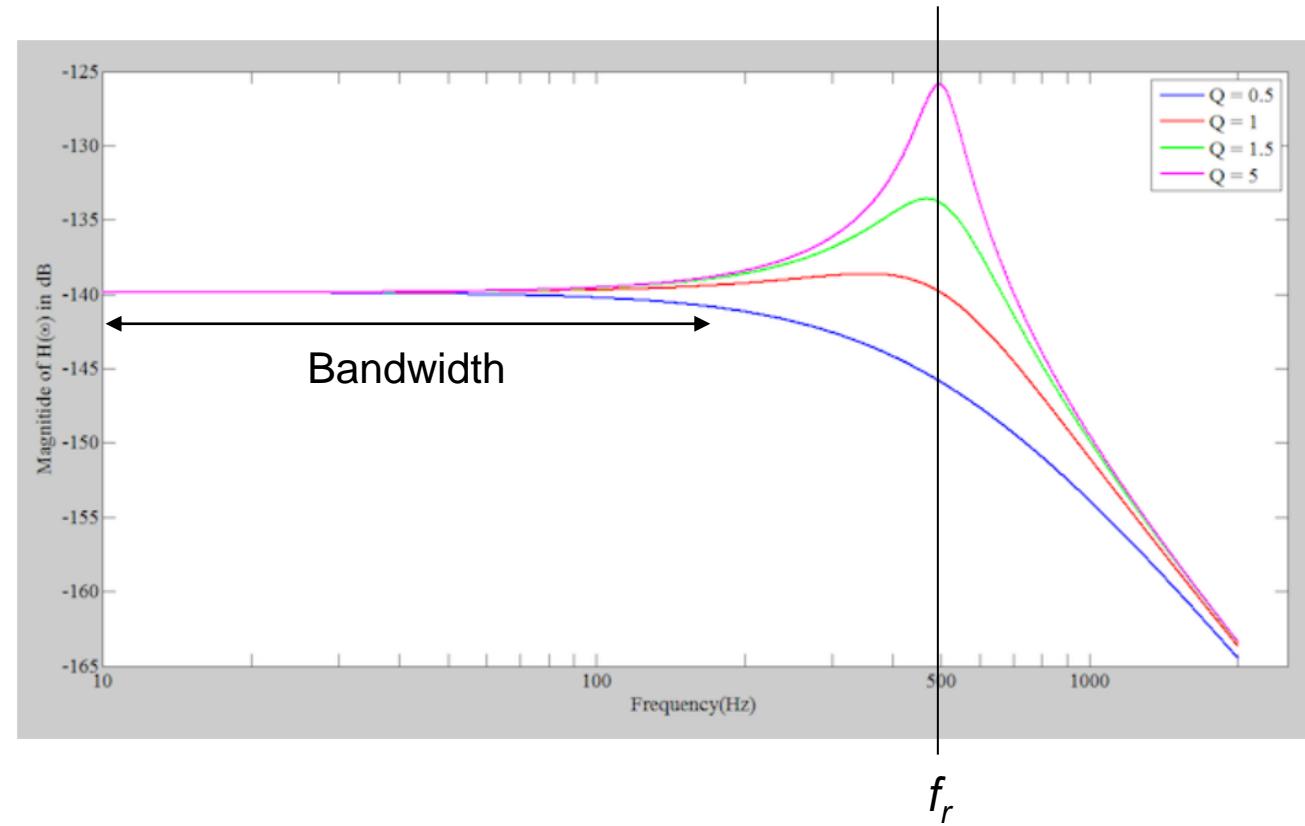
Sources: 1) John A. Yasaitis et al., Vol. 4979, 2003 SPIE, 2) "Comparing process flow of monolithic CMOS-MEMS intergration on SOI wafers with monolithic BiMOS-MEMS integration on Silicon wafer"; Solanki, A et al, 2010 53rd IEEE International Midwest Symposium on Circuits and Systems, p 1189-92, 2010

Bandwidth

- Bandwidth, frequency range of operation, is related to the Quality factor Q , and therefore function of resonance frequency and damping factor (b)

$$\omega_n = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$$

$$Q = \frac{m\omega_n}{b}$$



from allaboutcircuits.com

Sensing and Signal Concept

- > Oscillator provides AC waveform for sensing
- > Waveforms:

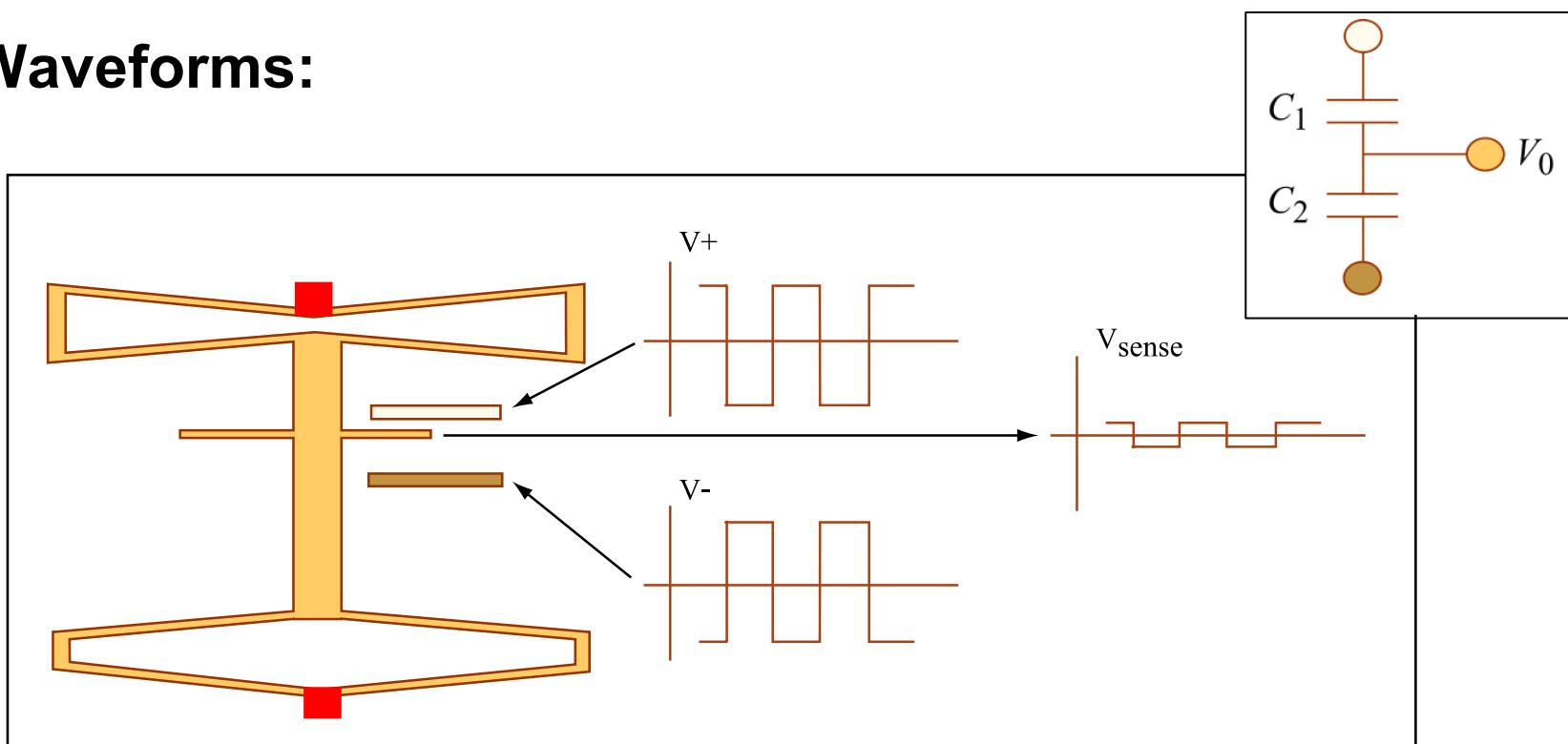
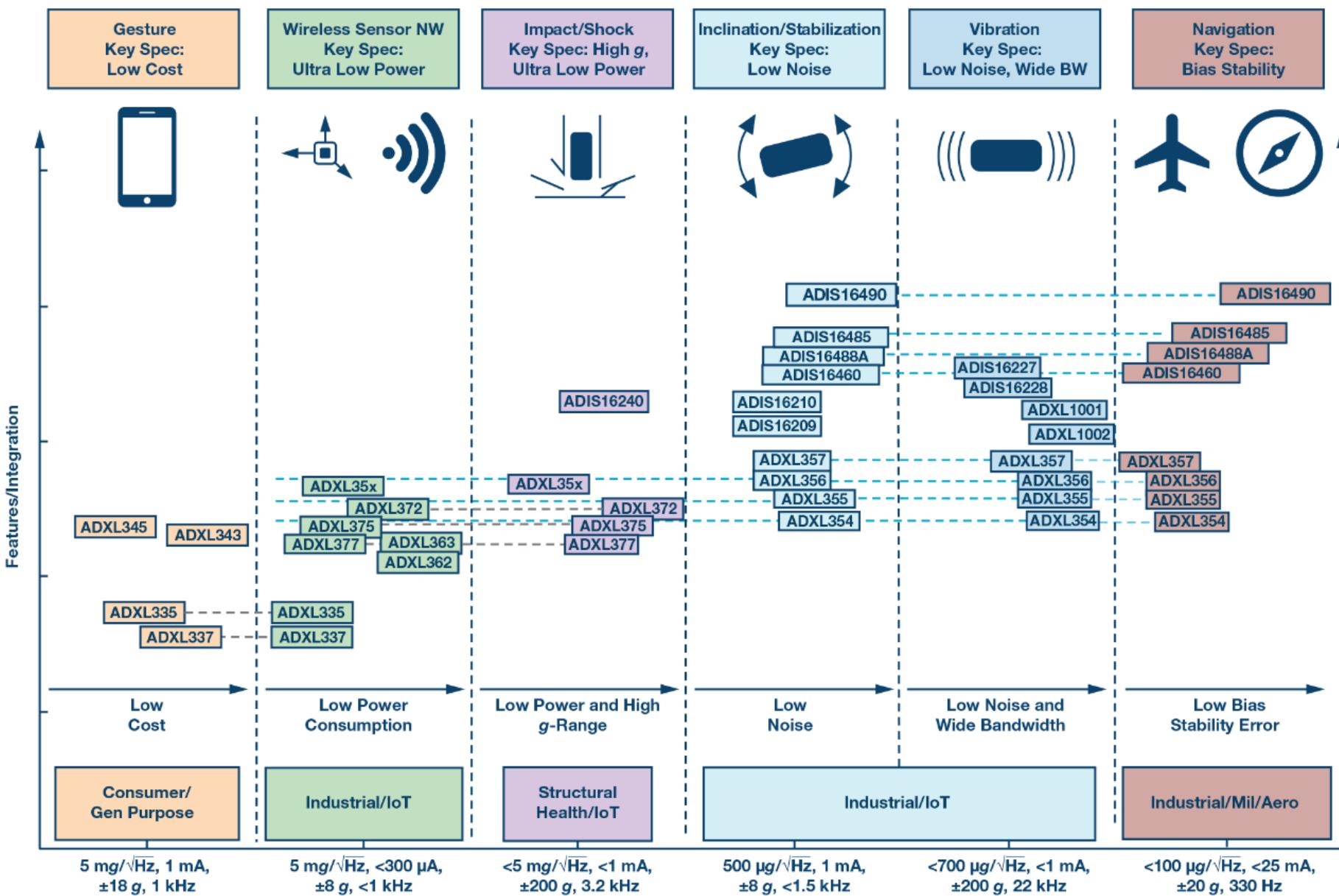


Image by MIT OpenCourseWare.

Adapted from Figure 19.21 in Senturia, Stephen D. *Microsystem Design*. Boston, MA: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2001, p. 516. ISBN: 9780792372462.

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Accelerometer requirements per application



Accelerometer specifications per application

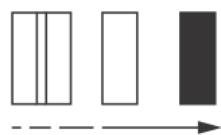
Table 1. Accelerometer Grade and Typical Application Area

Accelerometer Grade	Main Application	Bandwidth	g-Range
Consumer	Motion, static acceleration	0 Hz	1 g
Automotive	Crash/stability	100 Hz	<200 g/2 g
Industrial	Platform stability/tilt	5 Hz to 500 Hz	25 g
Tactical	Weapons/craft navigation	<1 kHz	8 g
Navigation	Submarine/craft navigation	>300 Hz	15 g

Sensing Applications

COMMERCIAL MOTION SENSORS

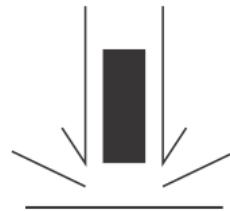
Motion sensors for what ?



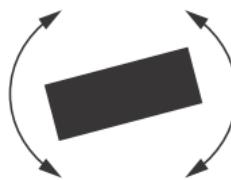
Acceleration



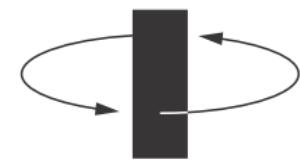
Vibration



Shock



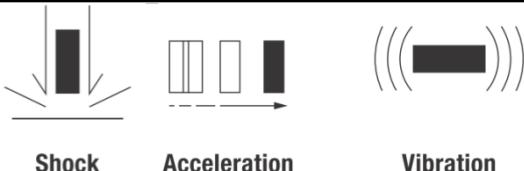
Tilt



Rotation

source: <http://www.findmems.com>

Accelerometers ... Where and What



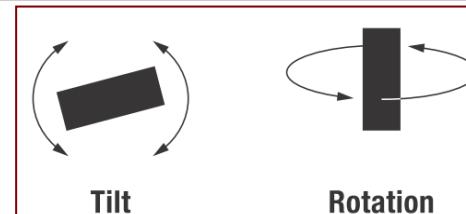
sources: <http://www.findmems.com>, <http://www.st.com/mems>

Gyroscopes ... Where and What

Pointing devices



Full scale 300-500 dps



Gaming



Full scale 500-6000 dps

Dead reckoning/ personal navigation



Full scale 100-300 dps



Image stabilization

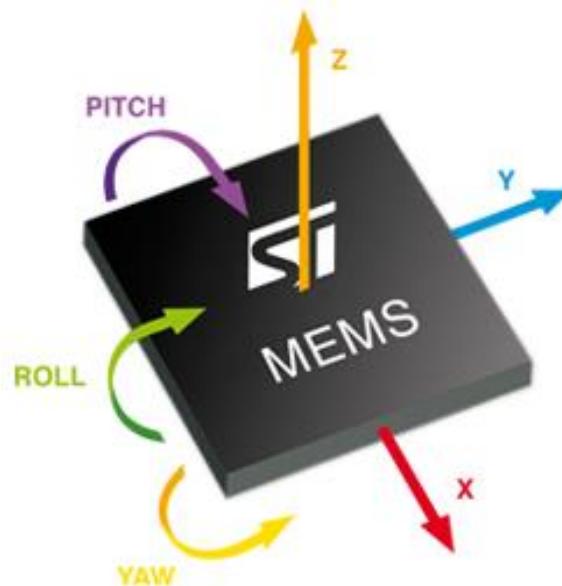


Full scale 30-100 dps

sources: <http://www.findmems.com>, <http://www.st.com/mems>

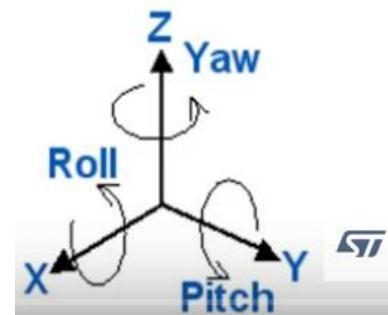
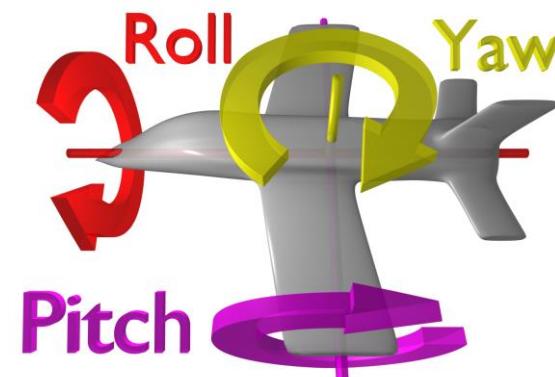
Accelerometers

- Linear acceleration
- “z” is parallel to the gravity vector



Gyroscopes

- Angular rate
- “Pitch”, “roll” and “yaw” are defined by the direction of the motion and by the vertical gravity vector



sources: www.st.com

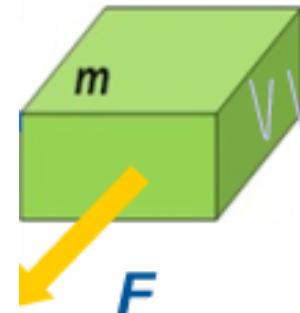
CAPACITIVE MEMS ACCELEROMETERS

Measurement of Acceleration – References in ‘g’

Newton's 2nd law of motion

$$\vec{F}_N = m \vec{a}$$

Force is in same direction as acceleration



Transduction Chain:

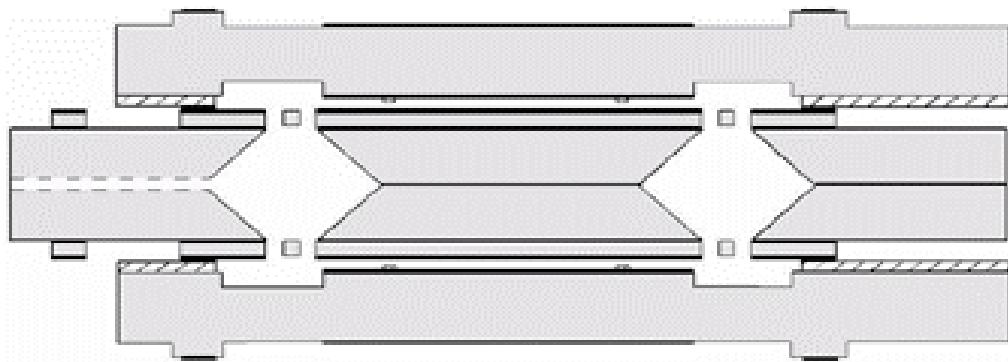
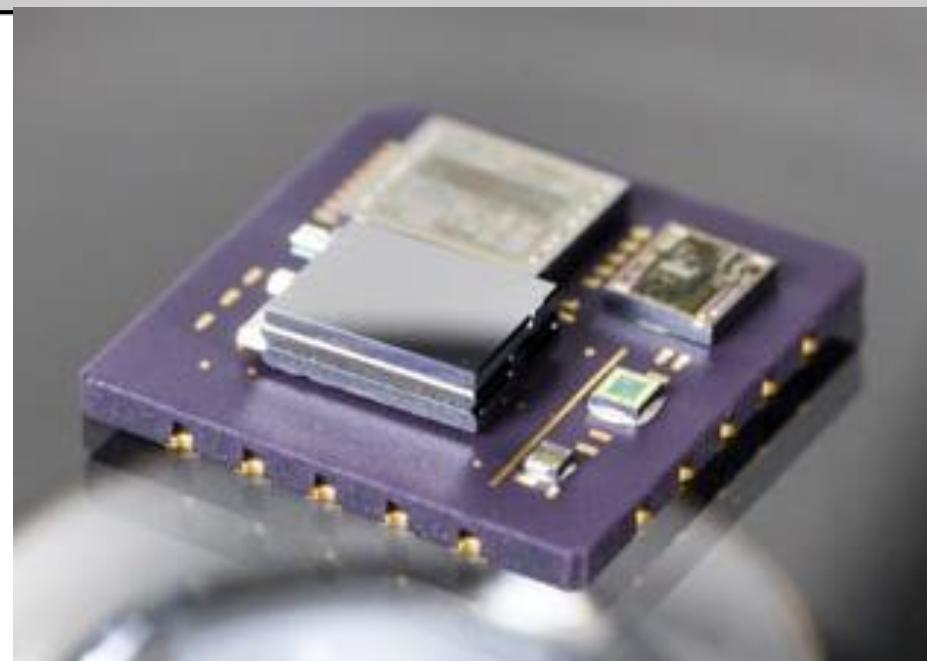
- Acceleration
- Force on Mass
- Mass Movement
- Capacitor Gap
- Capacity
- Voltage

$$C = \frac{\epsilon A}{g}$$

Passenger car acceleration	0.2 / 0.3g
Earth's gravity	1g (by definition)
Emergency braking (Formula 1)	1g
Running	<5g (shock at low back level)
Bobsleigh rider in corner	5g
Human unconsciousness	7g
Walking down/up stairs	7.4/8g (shock at ankle level)
Running	8/12g (shock at ankle level)
Car Frontal choc @15Km/h	10/15g
Car Frontal choc high speed	35g (shock at head level, with Airbag)
Car Frontal choc high speed	40g (for the vehicle)
Car Frontal choc high speed	65g (shock at head level, without Airbag)
Tennis ball	500/700g

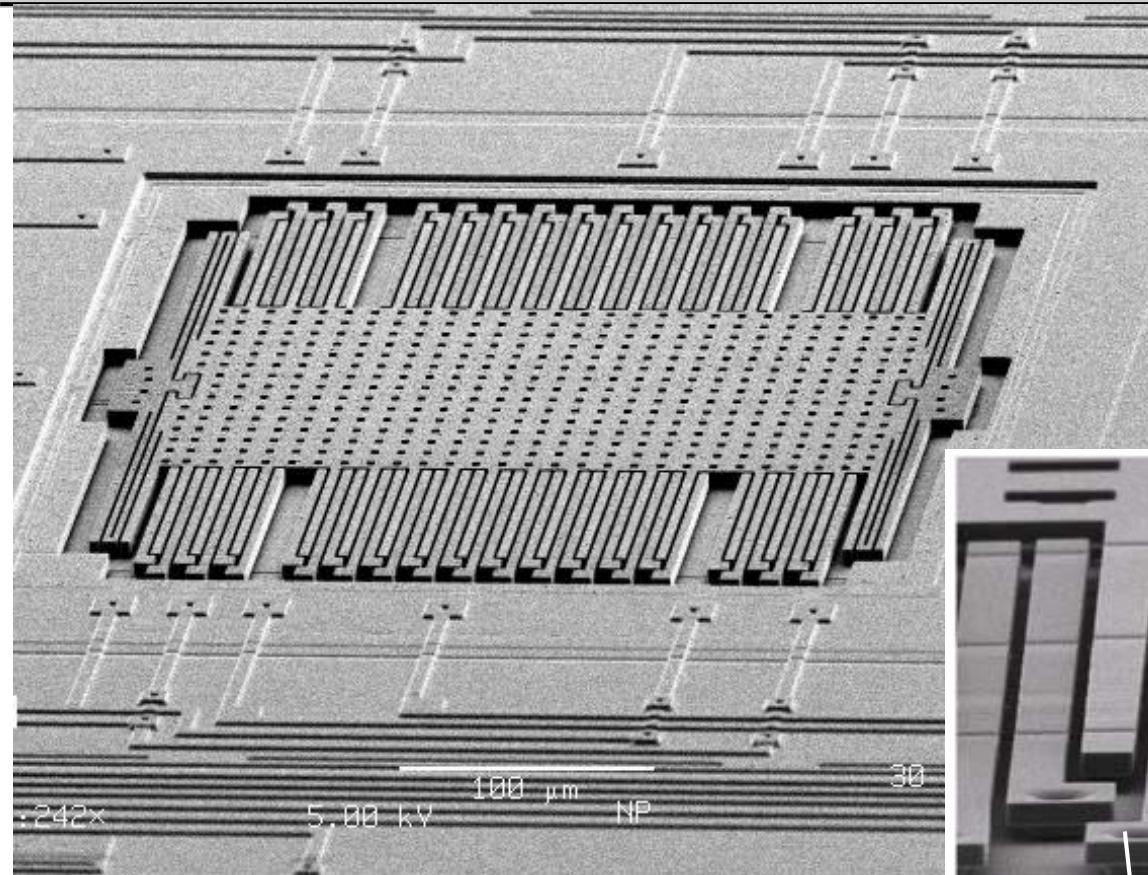
Colibrys Accelerometer (Parallel Plate Capacitor)

- Seismic mass is a bulk silicon piece
- Displacement sensor
- No actuator
- Several levels of micromachining
- KOH etched bulk micromachining
- Fusion bonding at high temperature
- Stoppers to limit shock impact
- Assembly in package with highly sensitive electronics
- Highly temperature independent



Accelerometers from Colibrys, Switzerland

Analog Devices – Differential Capacitors



Polysilicon surface micromachining

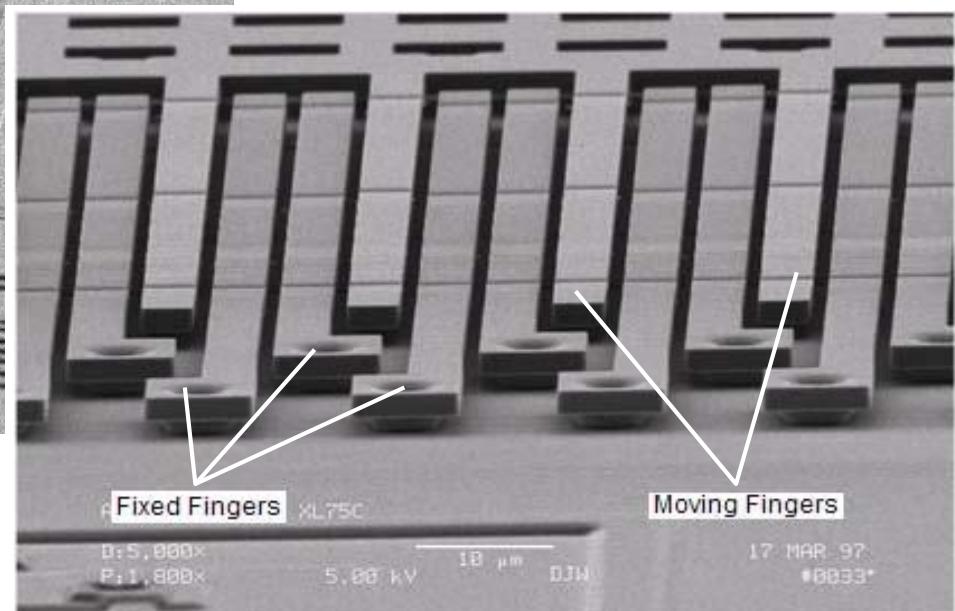
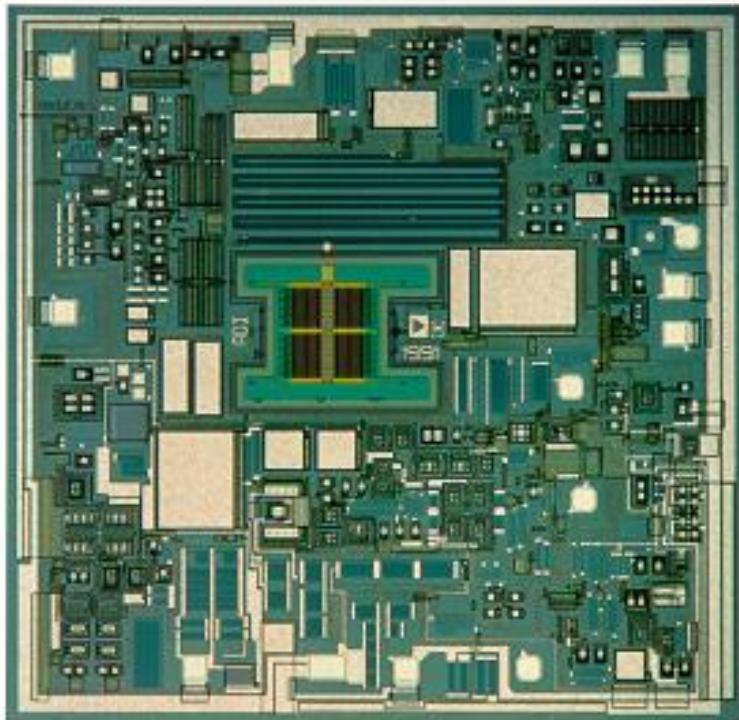


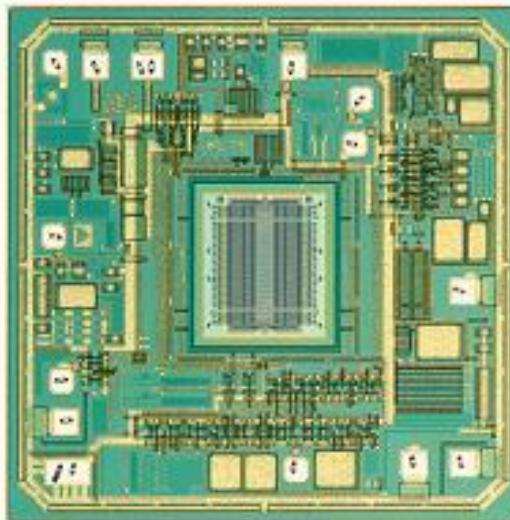
Figure 2. Poly-Silicon beam released after removing sacrificial oxide

Sources: 1) John A. Yasaitis et al., Vol. 4979, 2003 SPIE, 2) "Comparing process flow of monolithic CMOS-MEMS intergration on SOI wafers with monolithic BiMOS-MEMS integration on Silicon wafer"; Solanki, A et al, 2010 53rd IEEE International Midwest Symposium on Circuits and Systems, p 1189-92, 2010

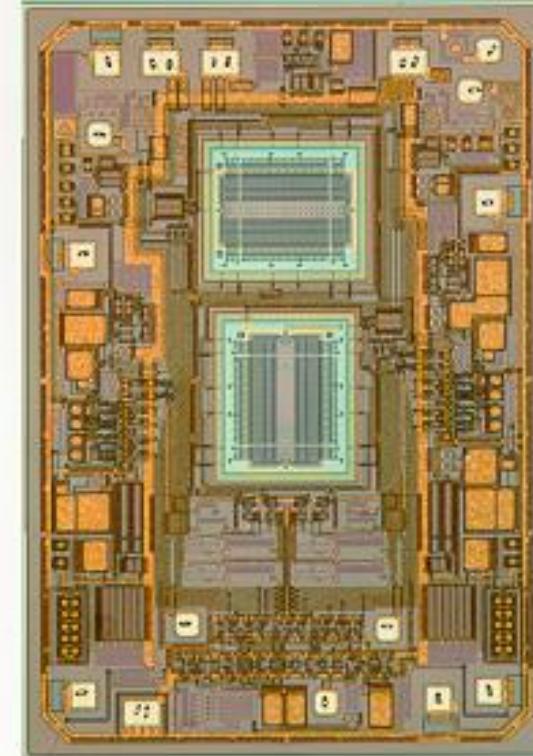
Analog Devices Chips



XL50



XL76



XL276

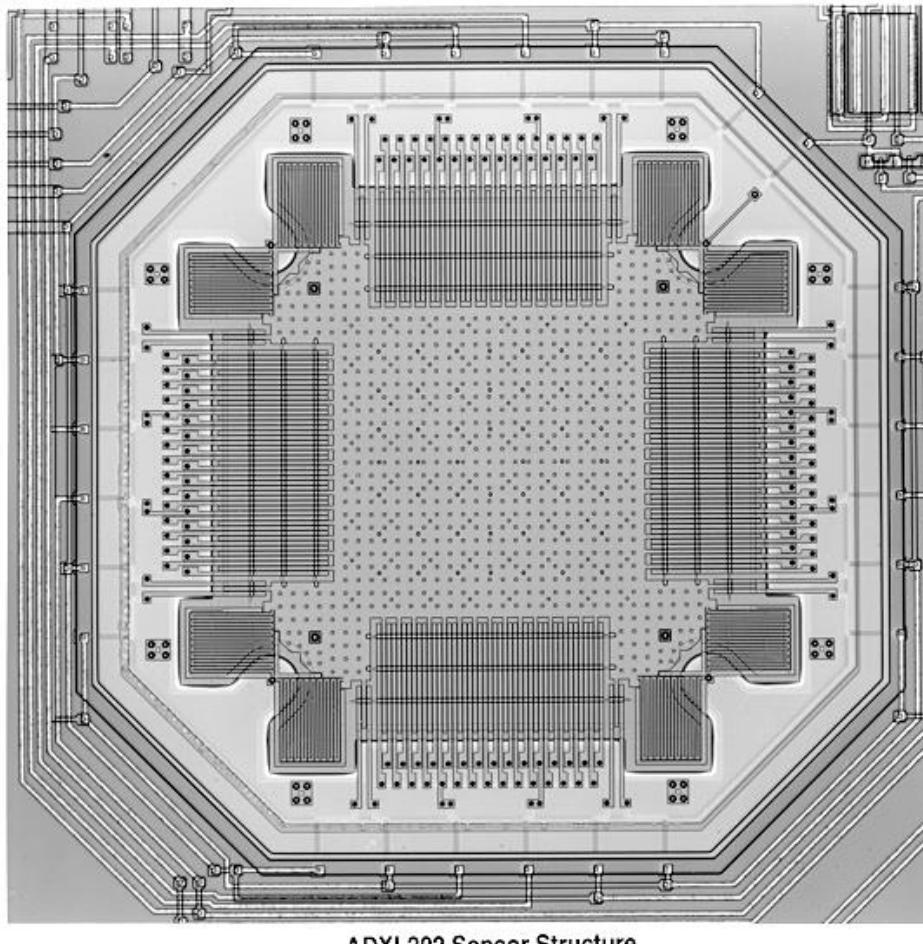
Courtesy of Analog Devices, Inc. Used with permission.

Monolithic Integration on CMOS. 1 MEMS for Each Axis

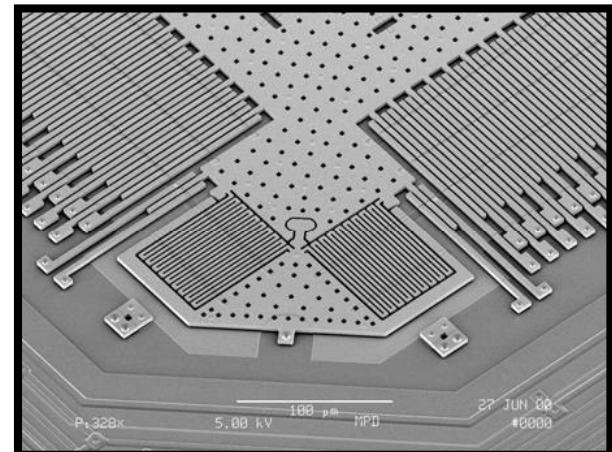
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Analog Devices Chips

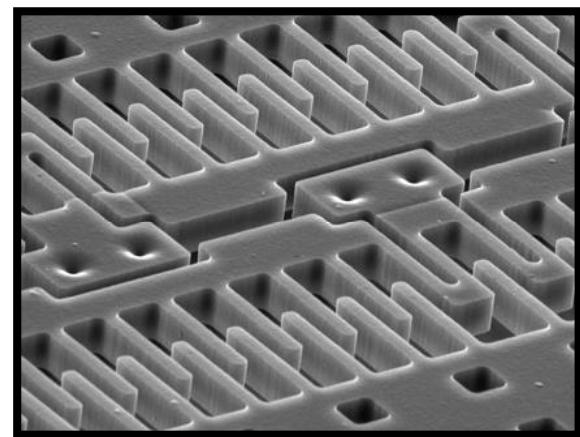
> Then moved from two 1-axis sensors to one 2-axis



Courtesy of Analog Devices, Inc. Used with permission.



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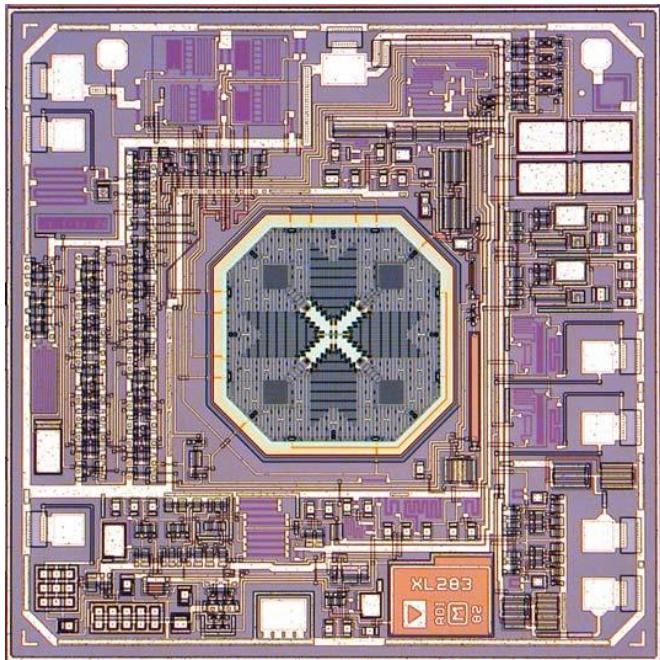
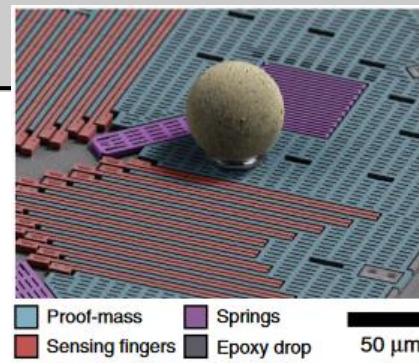


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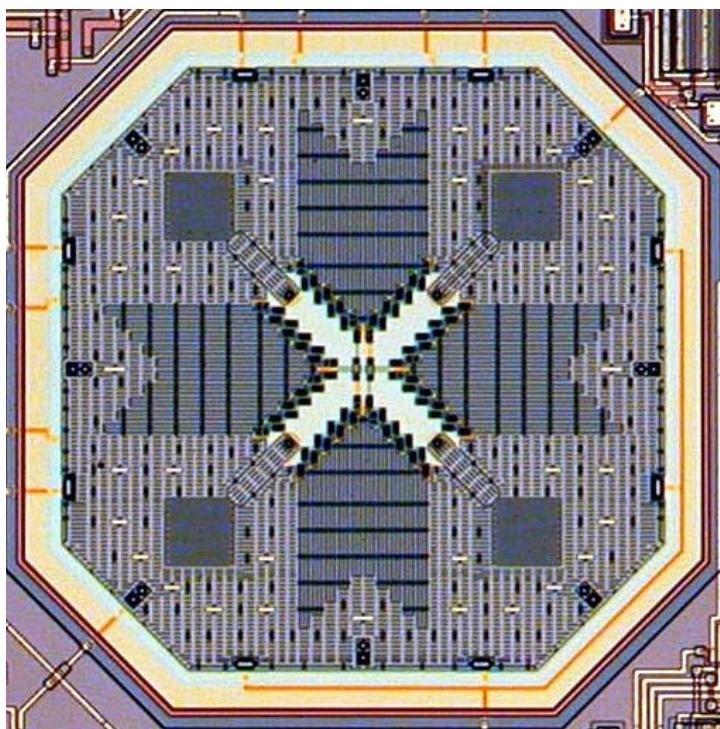
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Analog Devices Chips

- > ADXL203 two-axis accelerometer
- > Supports are in center of die to cancel 1st-order stresses due to packaging



Courtesy of Analog Devices, Inc. Used with permission.

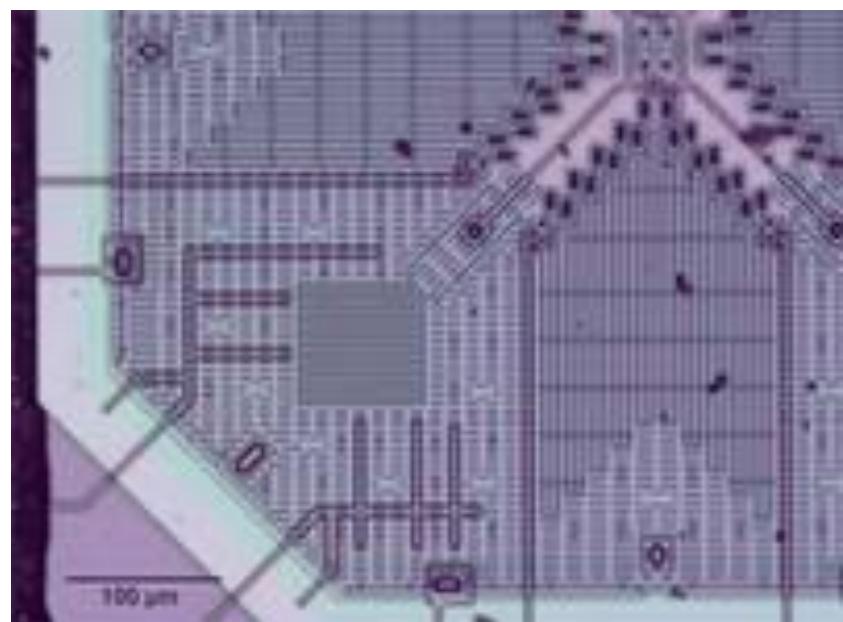
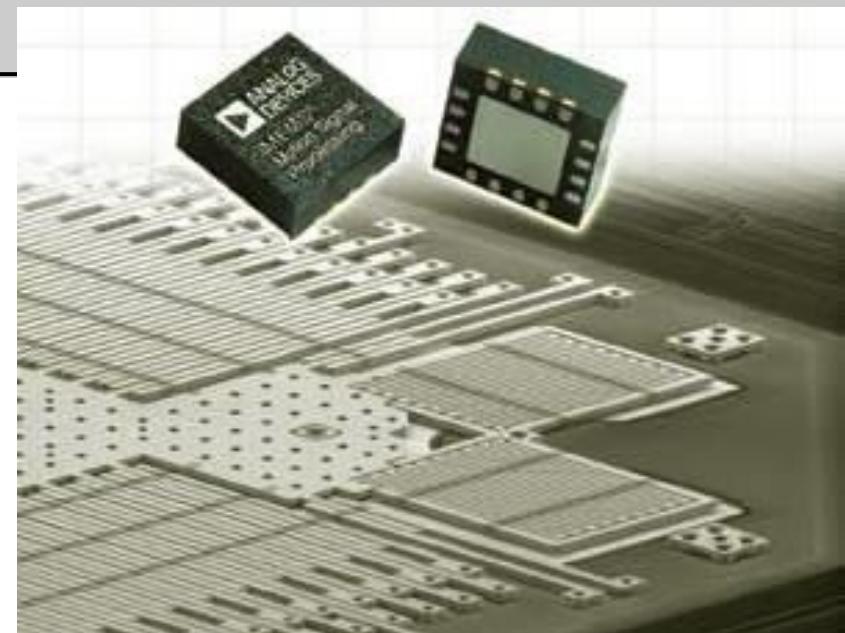
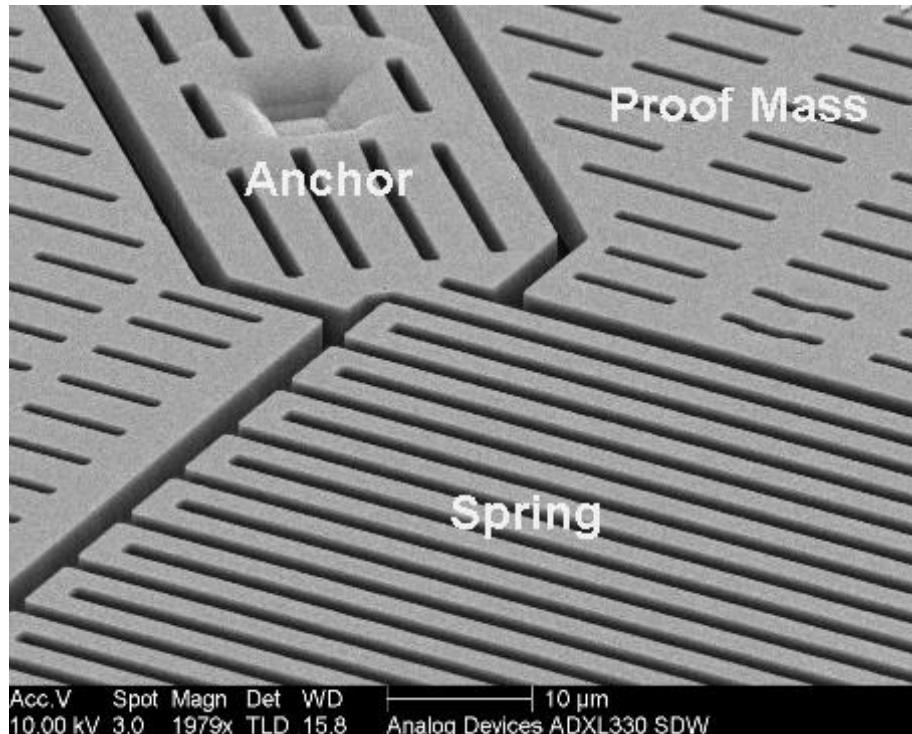


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Analog Devices Chips

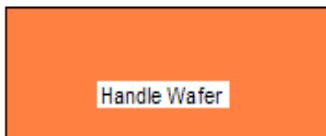
Accelerometers



photos: *Analog Devices*

Analog Devices – Process Comparison

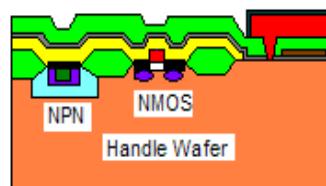
BiMOS



(a) Starting Substrate: Silicon wafer



(b) 3um Bi-MOS Circuit Formation



(c) Polysilicon Sensor Formation

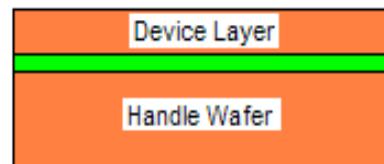


(d) Bi-MOS Circuit Completion



(e) Sensor patterned and released

SOI MEMS



(a) Starting Substrate: 6" bonded SOI wafer



(b) Wafers shipped to CMOS Fab for Circuit Processing



(c) Wafer after 0.6um CMOS Circuitry



(d) Mask open, Beams are patterned and released

BiMOS

- Easier on-chip signal routing
- Lower parasitic capacity than SOI MEMS

SOI MEMS

- Thicker device layer
→ thicker beams &
higher electrodes
→ larger signal!

Source: "Comparing process flow of monolithic CMOS-MEMS integration on SOI wafers with monolithic BiMOS-MEMS integration on Silicon wafer"; Solanki, A; Prasad, K.; Nunan, K.; O'reilly, R. Source: 2010 53rd IEEE International Midwest Symposium on Circuits and Systems, p 1189-92, 2010

3 axis accelerometers

- 3 main ways to integrate z- axis acceleration sensor

Vertical asymmetrical electrodes

- Electrodes with difference in height provides sensitivity along the z-axis:

- Cross sensitivity from other axis to compensate $\Delta C_z = (C_A + C_B) - (C_C + C_D) = 2\epsilon l \left(\frac{1}{d_1} + \frac{1}{d_2} \right) \Delta z$.

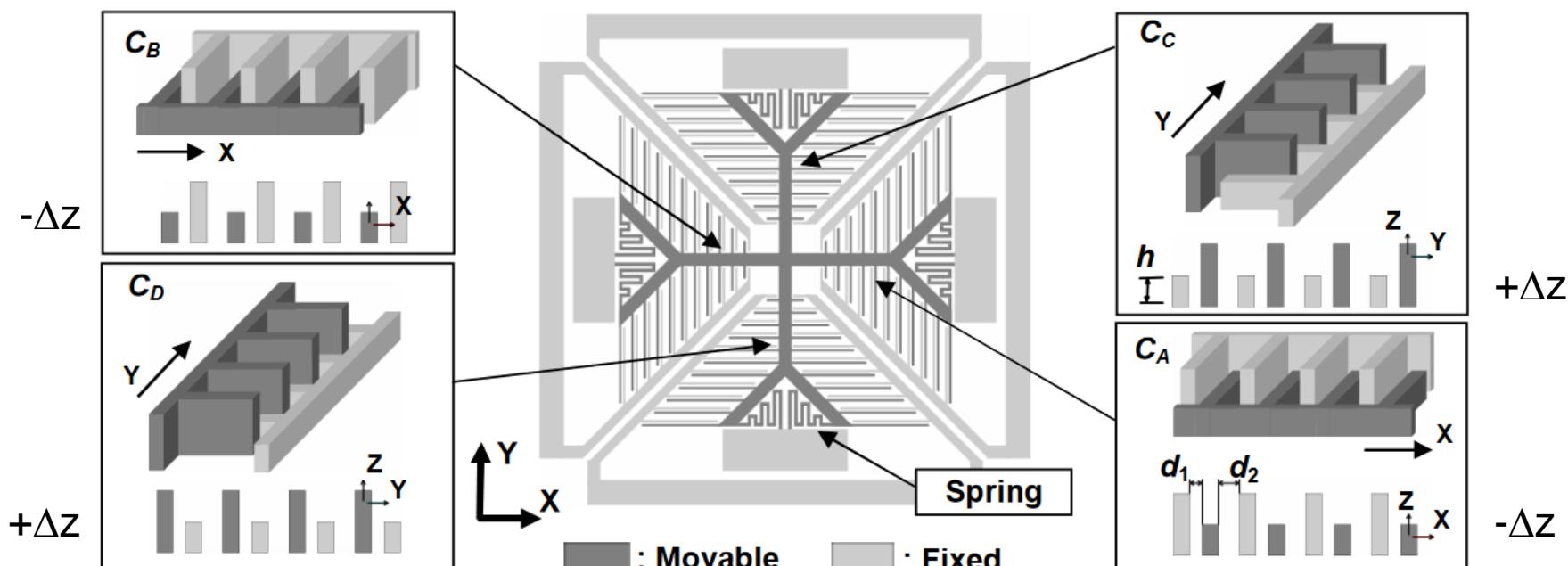
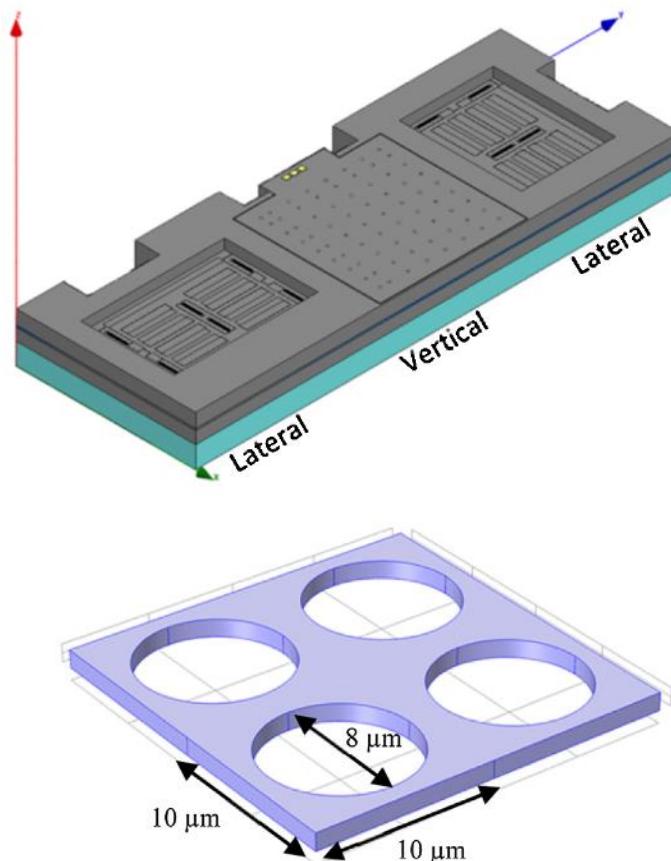


Figure 2 Schematics view of the device and four capacitors:
(center) entire schematic view, (upper left) C_B , (lower left) C_D , (upper right) C_C , (lower right) C_A .

3 axis accelerometers

- 3 main ways to integrate z- axis acceleration sensor

Horizontal parallel plate capacitor



- Proof mass moving between 2 fixed electrodes
- Differential measurement
- Surface micromachining process on a Silicon On Insulator (SOI) wafer bonded to a glass substrate

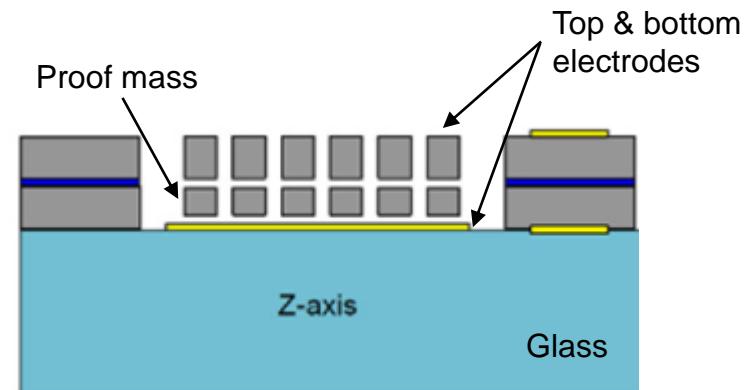


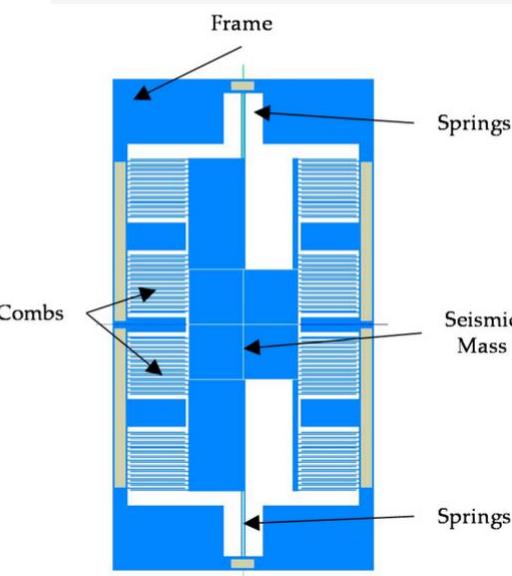
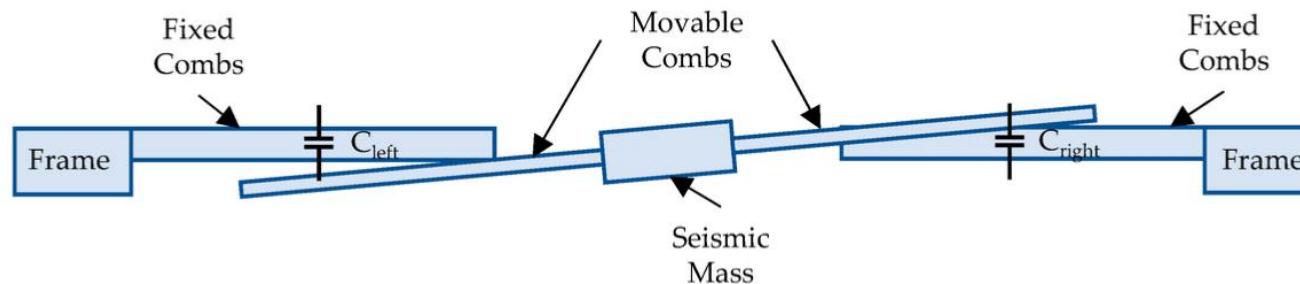
Fig. 3. Proof mass and top electrode structure of the vertical axis accelerometer which is composed of $10 \times 10 \mu\text{m}^2$ unit cells with a $4 \mu\text{m}$ damping hole radius.

Sensors and Actuators A 244 (2016) 324–333

3 axis accelerometers

- 3 main ways to integrate z- axis acceleration sensor

Asymmetric torsional proof mass



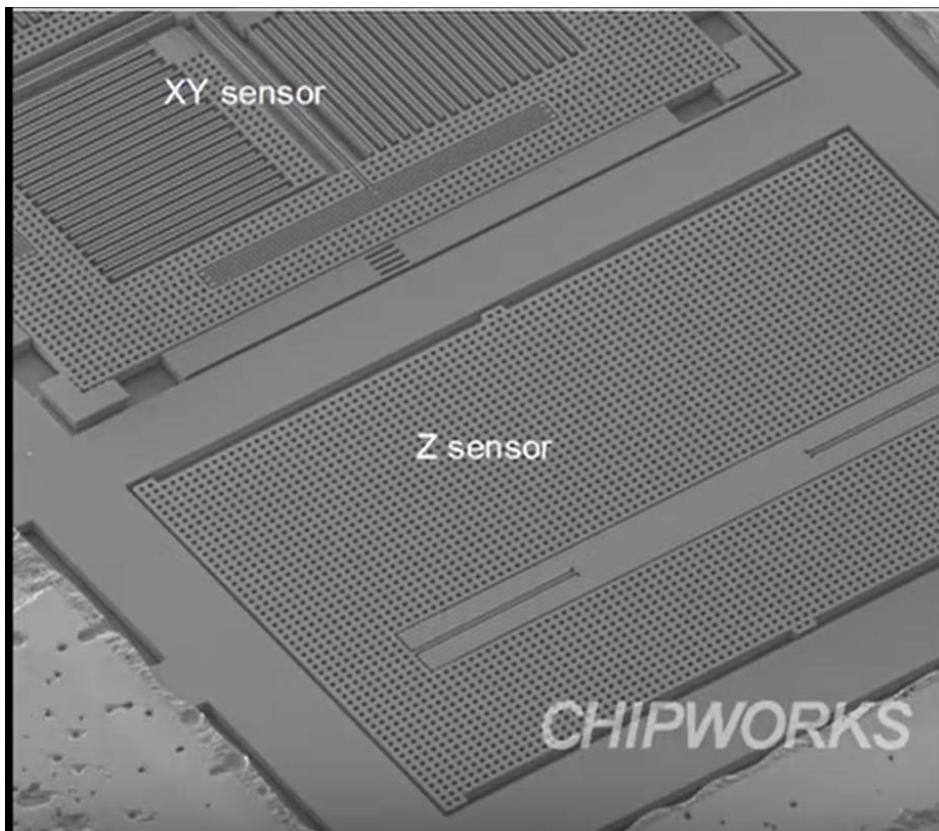
Top view

- Asymmetrical proof mass linked to a torsional bar with unbalanced moments under acceleration
- Comb electrodes for differential capacitance measurement
- Holes in proof mass plate for damping adjustment and surface micromachining process (i.e. etching of sacrificial layer)

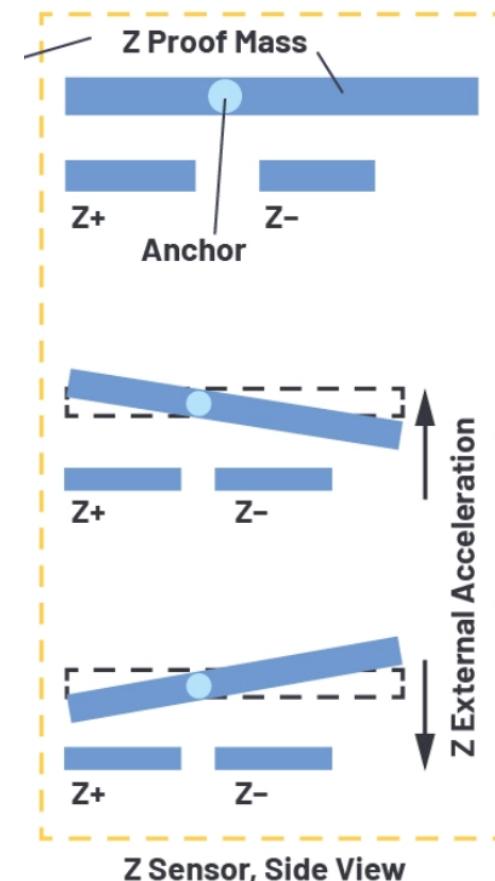
3 axis accelerometers

- 3 main ways to integrate z- axis acceleration sensor

Asymmetric torsional proof mass

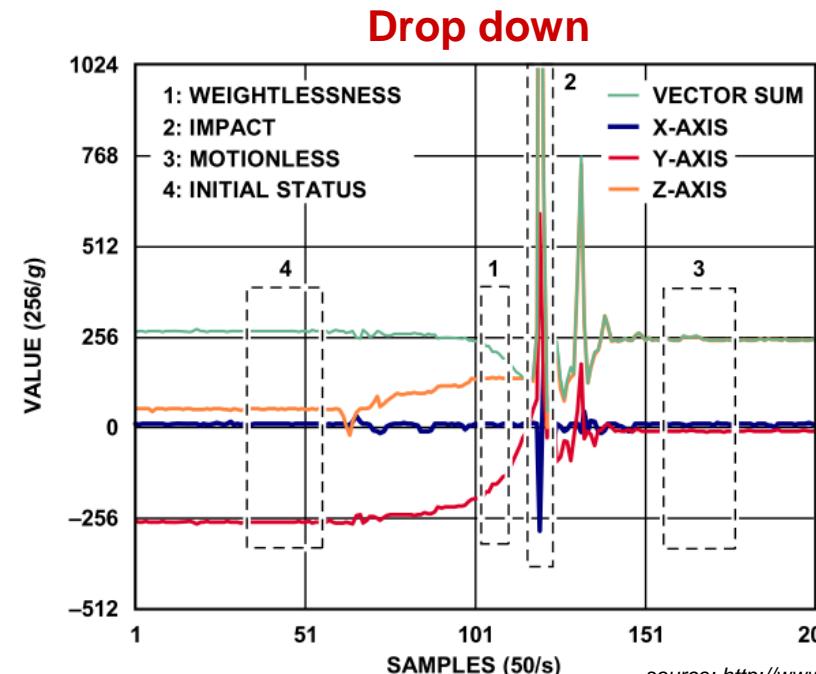
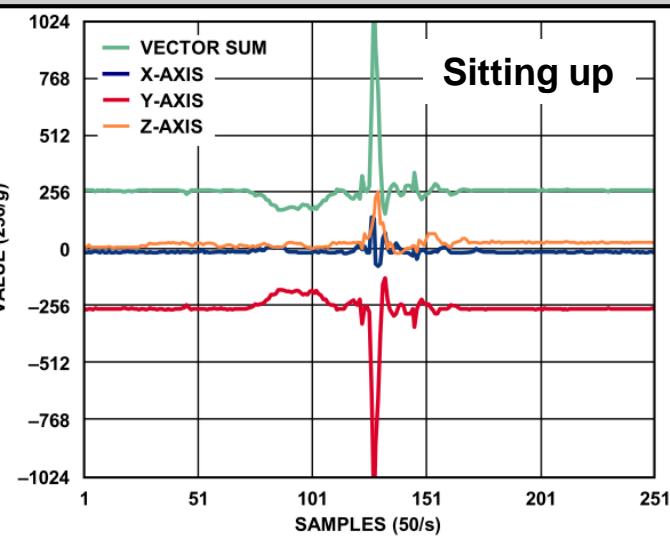
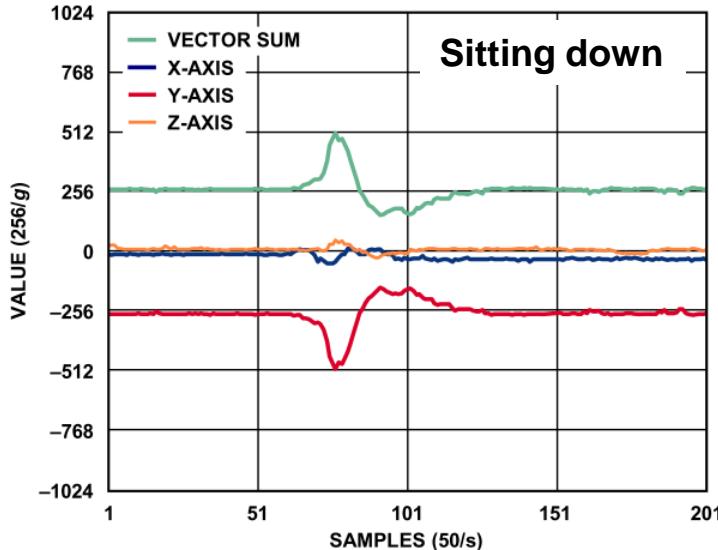
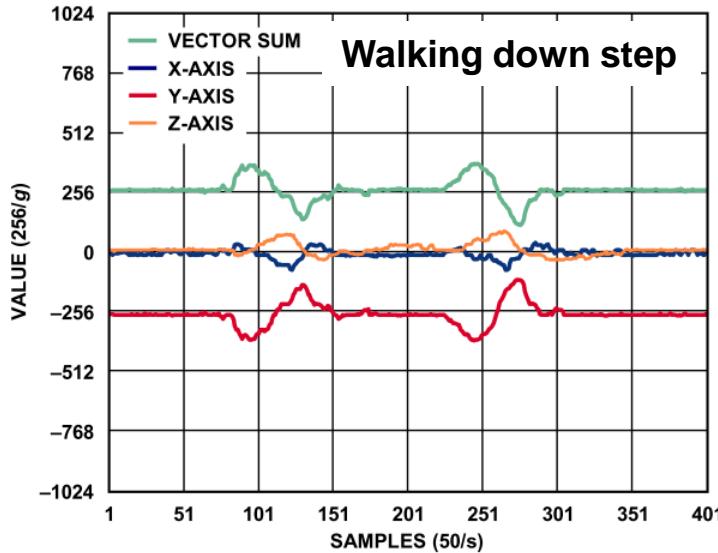


ST Microelectronics 3-axis accelerometer



Hard Disk Protection

Distinguishing events and common motions



source: <http://www.analog.com>

Hard Disk Protection

- Preventing impact shock on HDD
- “Early” detection required
- Change of acceleration!
- Sum of at least two axes

source: <http://www.analog.com/library/analogdialogue/archives/39-11/hdd.html>

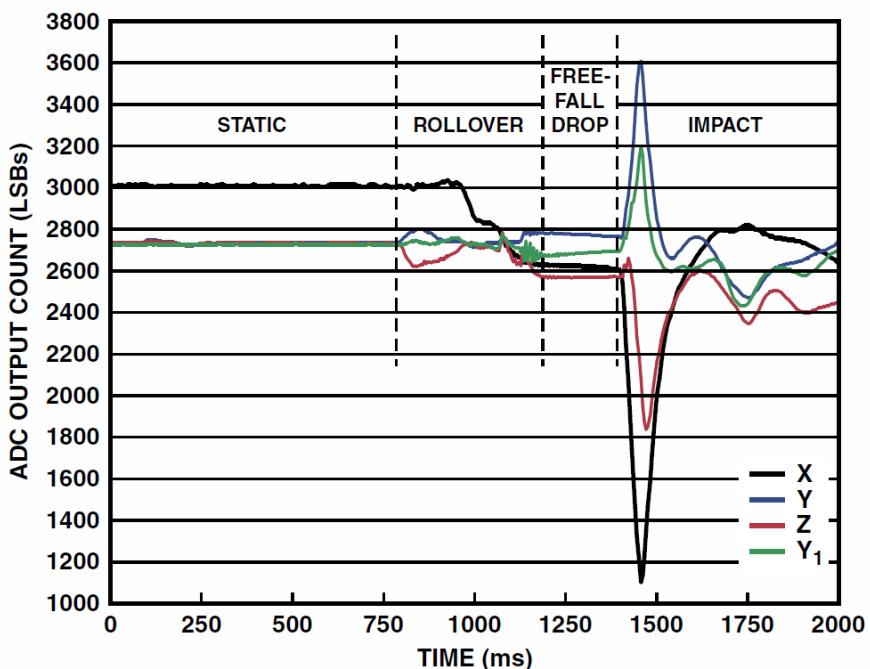
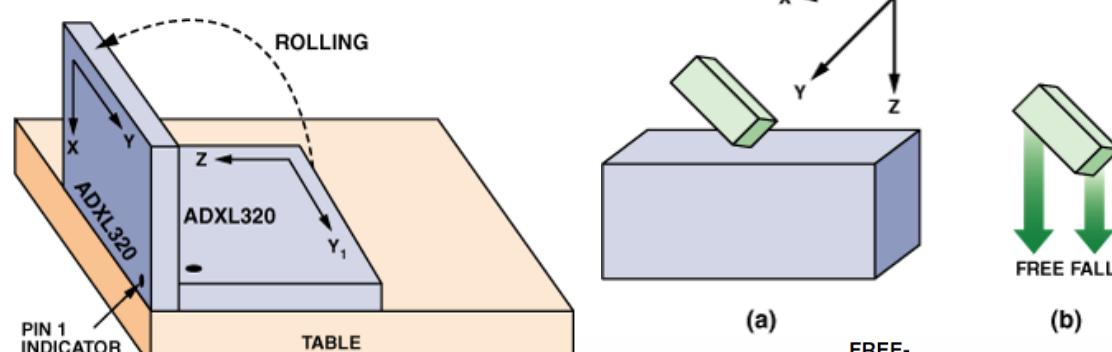


Figure 5. Traditional protection algorithm—sequence of responses sensed by the accelerometers.

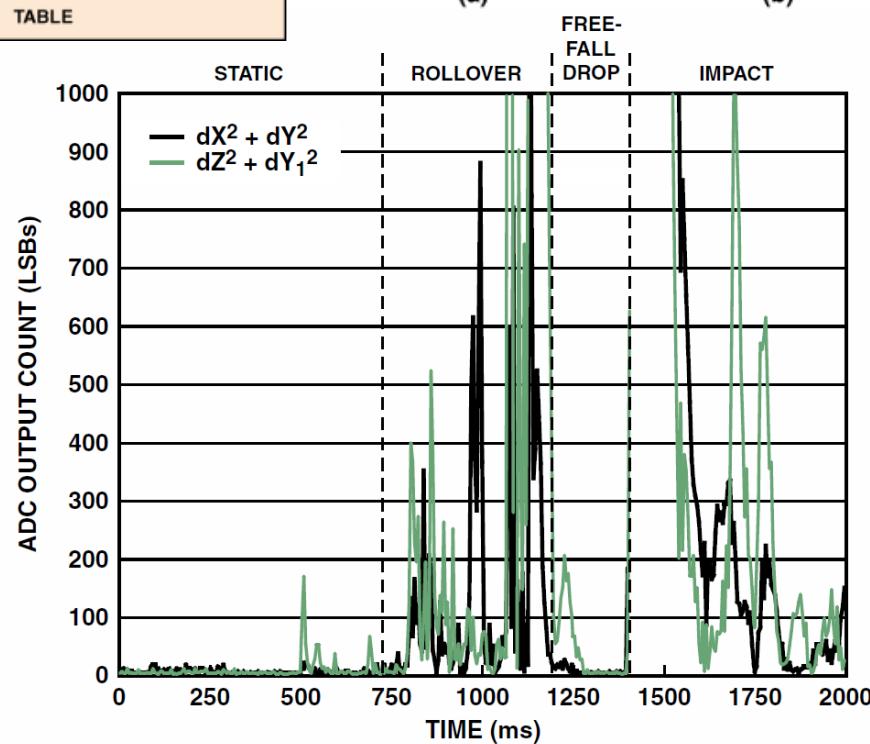


Figure 6. Differential acceleration algorithm-time-derivative plots for $(dX/dt)^2 + (dY/dt)^2$ and $(dZ/dt)^2 + (dY_1/dt)^2$.

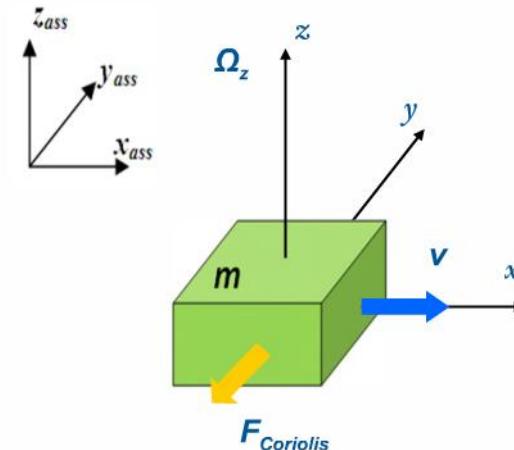
CAPACITIVE MEMS GYROSCOPES

Acceleration versus Angular Rate

Coriolis

Force is *perpendicular* to linear velocity v and angular velocity Ω

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{F}_C &= 2m(\vec{v} \times \vec{\Omega}) \\ &= -2m(\vec{\Omega} \times \vec{v})\end{aligned}$$



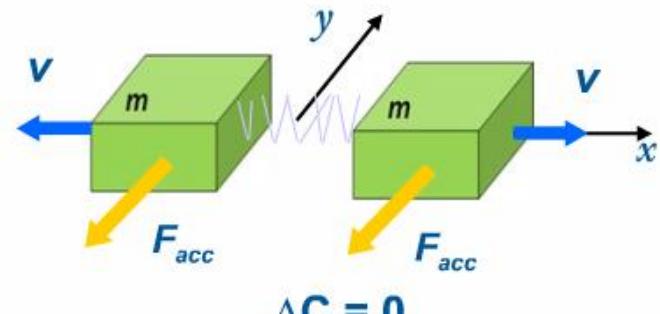
$$F_{Coriolis} = -2m\Omega_z \wedge v$$

Newton

Force is in same direction as acceleration

$$\vec{F}_N = m \vec{a}$$

Acceleration is applied

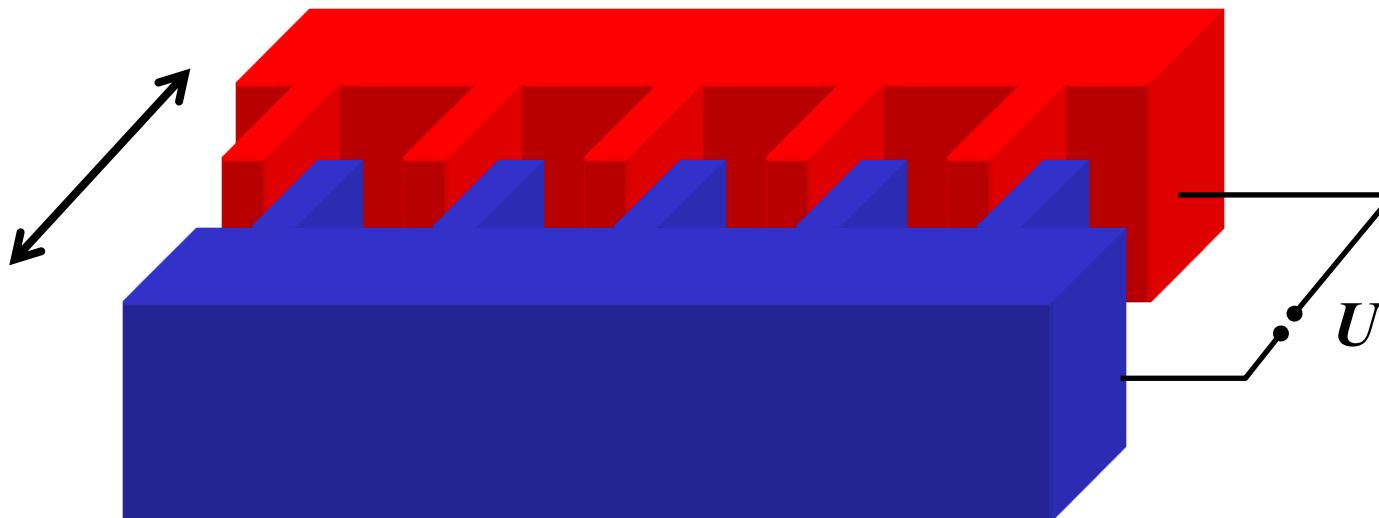
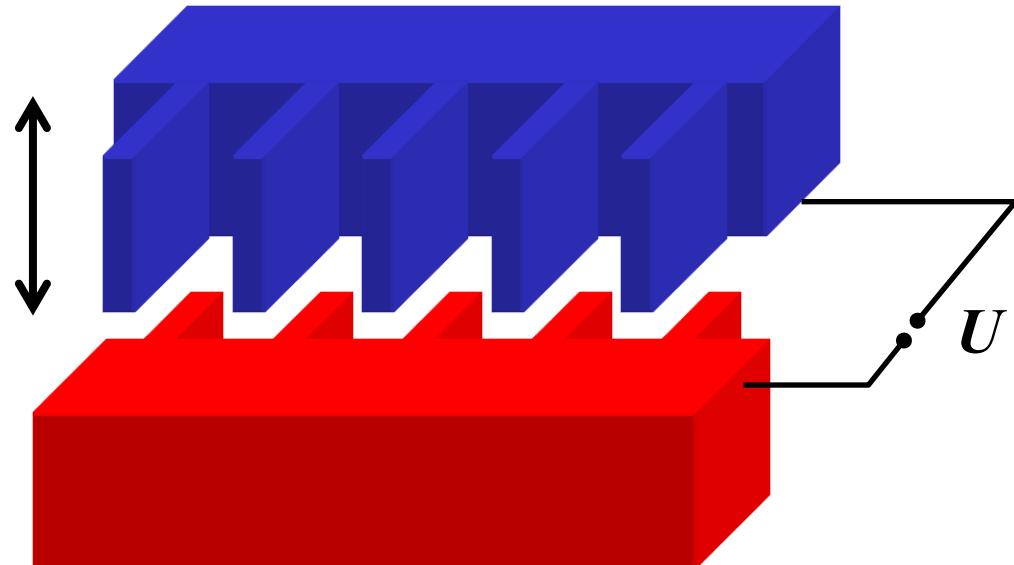


Interesting e-Learning Tutorial:

http://www.st.com/internet/com/MULTIMEDIA_RESOURCES/VIDEO/DEMO_VIDEO/epres_mem_sensors_gyroscope.swf

Electrostatic Comb-Drive Actuators for the Oscillating Masses

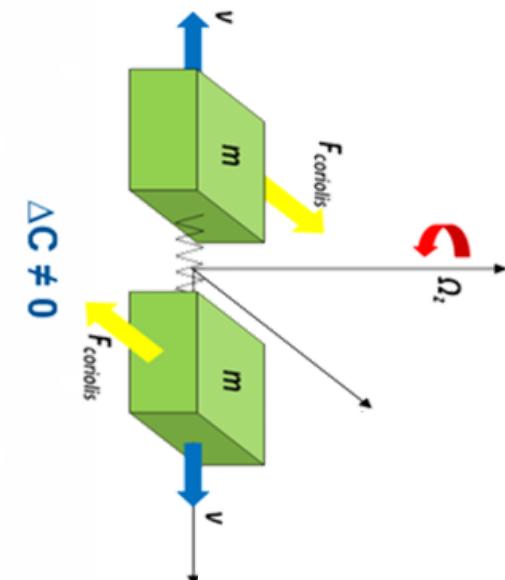
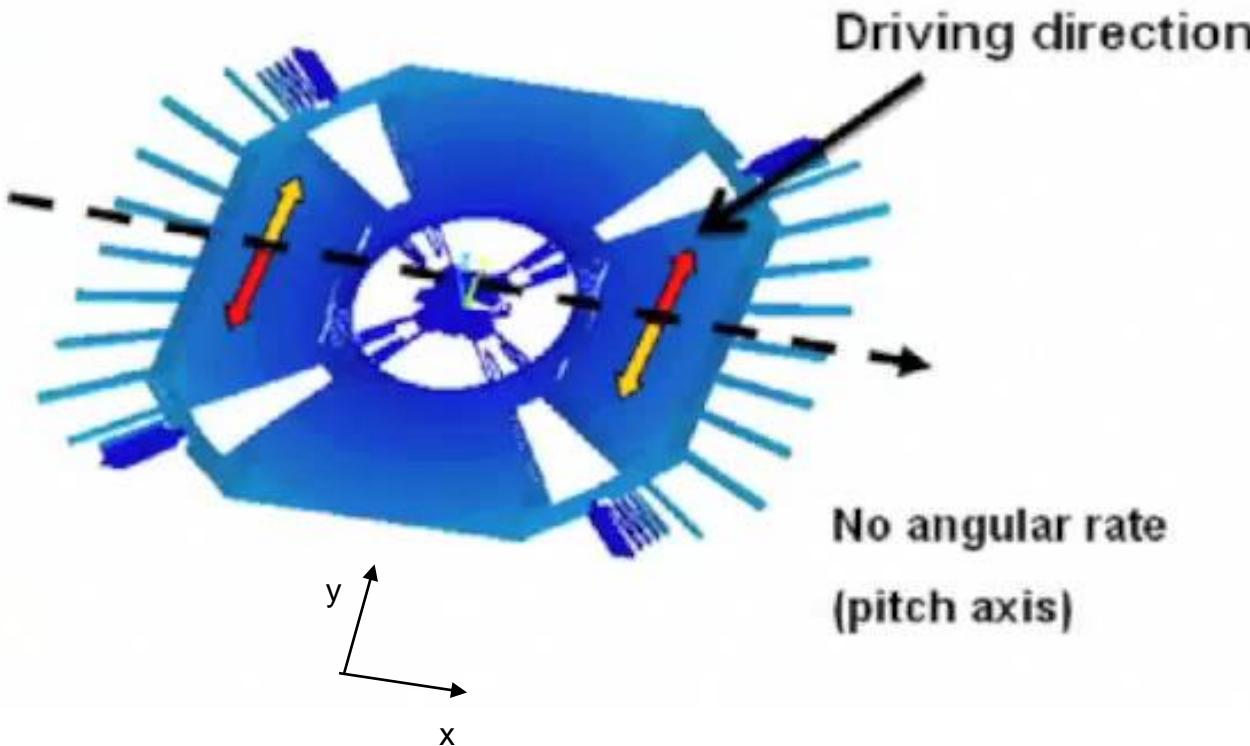
- Low power
- Lateral actuation
 - In-plane motion
- Vertical actuation
 - Out-of-plane
- Movement depends on degree of freedom
- Vary accurate movement



Gyroscope working principle

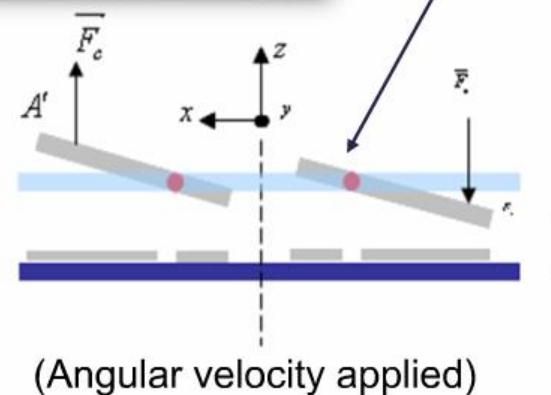
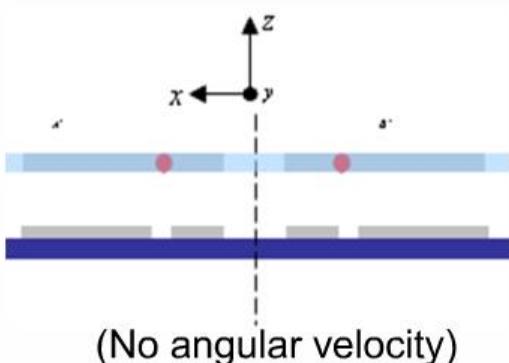
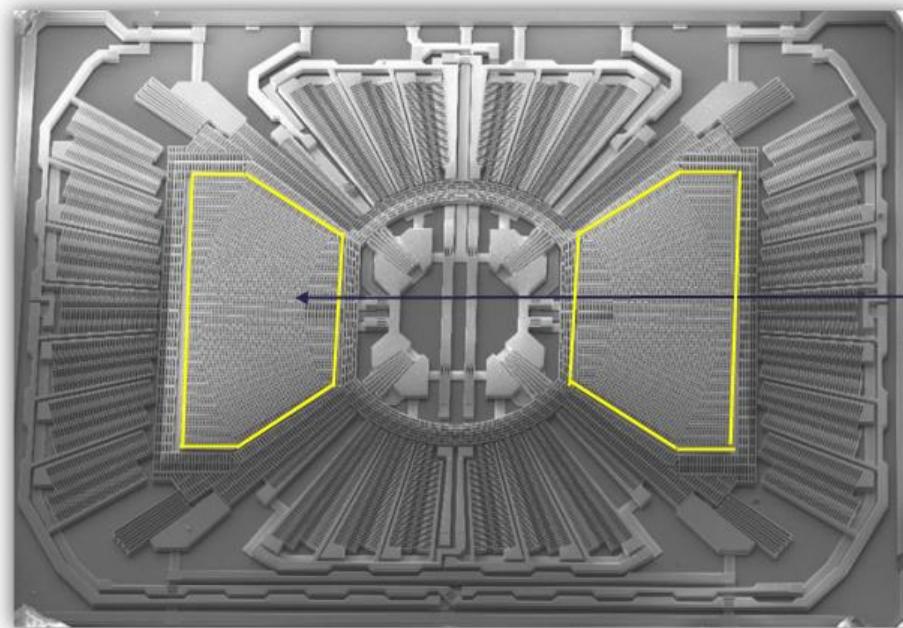
- Moving disk in plane
- Vibrating, oscillation
- Coriolis force causes out-of-plane displacement
- Differential capacities are measured

$$\vec{F}_C = 2m(\vec{v} \times \vec{\Omega})$$
$$= -2m(\vec{\Omega} \times \vec{v})$$



Interesting e-Learning Tutorial:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l75liNVRdfg>

Gyroscope working principle



Sensing mass
Driving mass
Driving direction
 Ω

Driving capacitive plates

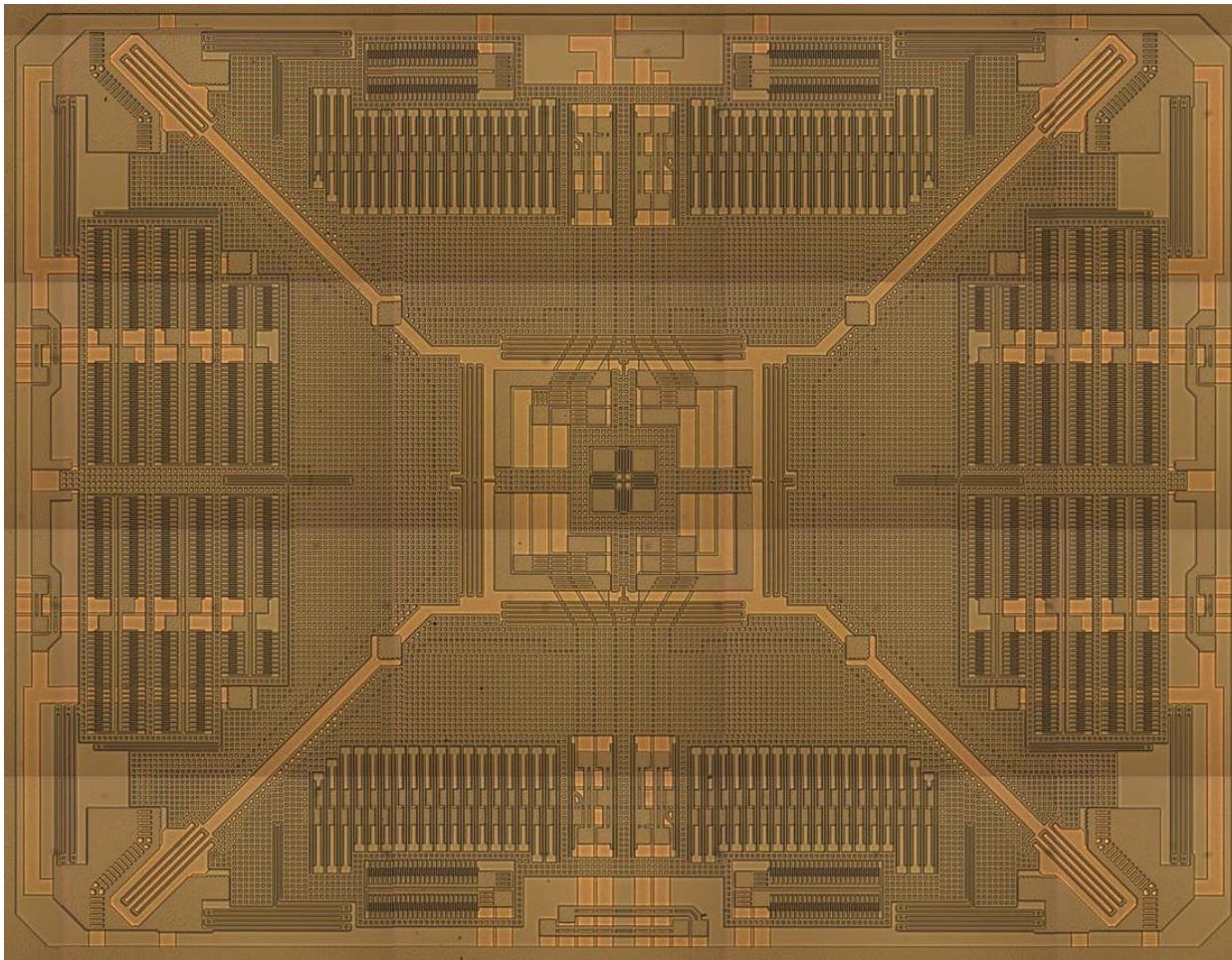
Capacitance variation
due to angular
velocity is read by the
electronic interface

Source::

<http://www.st.com>

Apple – iPhone 4 Gyroscope From ST

- Comb-drive for in plane mass vibrations perpendicular to angular rate vector
- Parallel plate capacitor variations for roll and pitch measurements
- Large wings displaced in-plane for the yaw direction

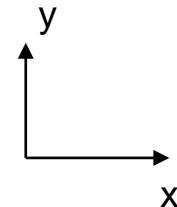


Source: www.ifixit.com

Apple – iPhone 4 Gyroscope

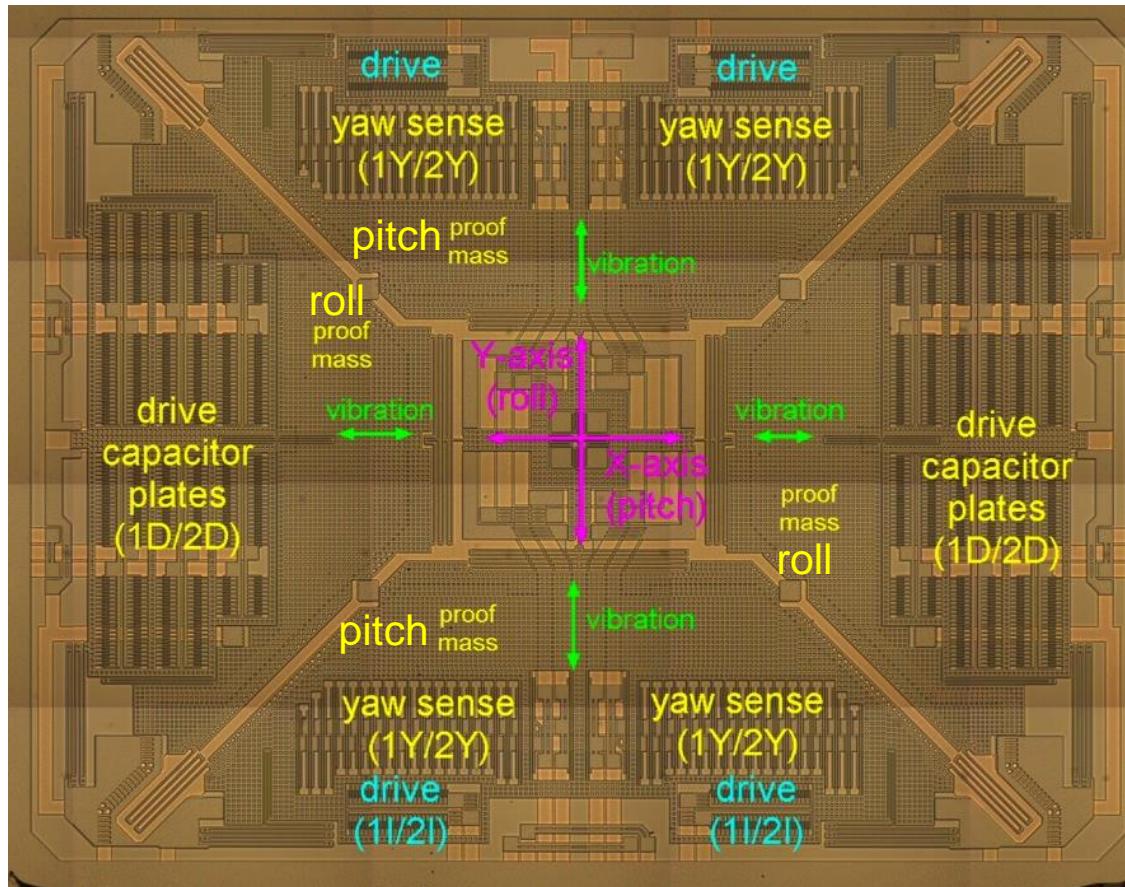
3-Axes Gyroscope with single mass

Coriolis forces out of plane for the roll and pitch angular rates



Ω roll

Ω pitch



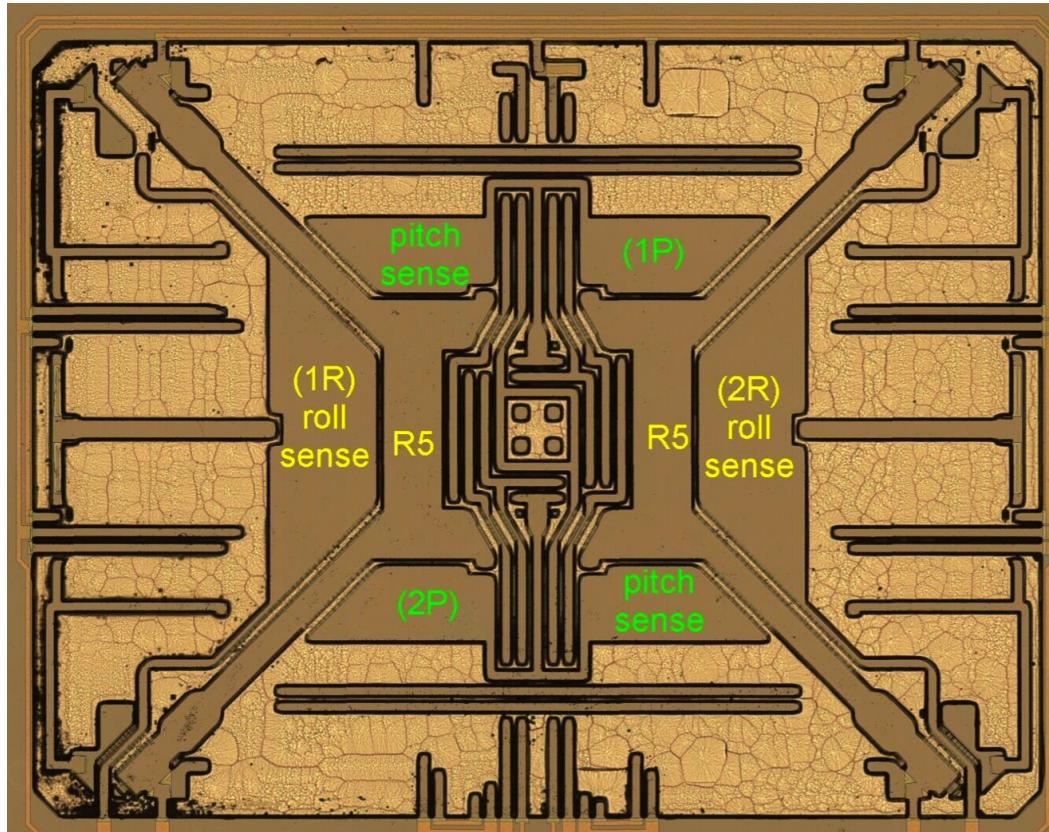
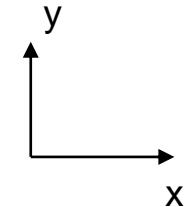
Explanations: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5BWerr7rJmU> x-y axis inverted !



Source: www.ifixit.com

Apple – iPhone 4 Gyroscope

Bottom electrodes for roll and pitch capacitive sensing



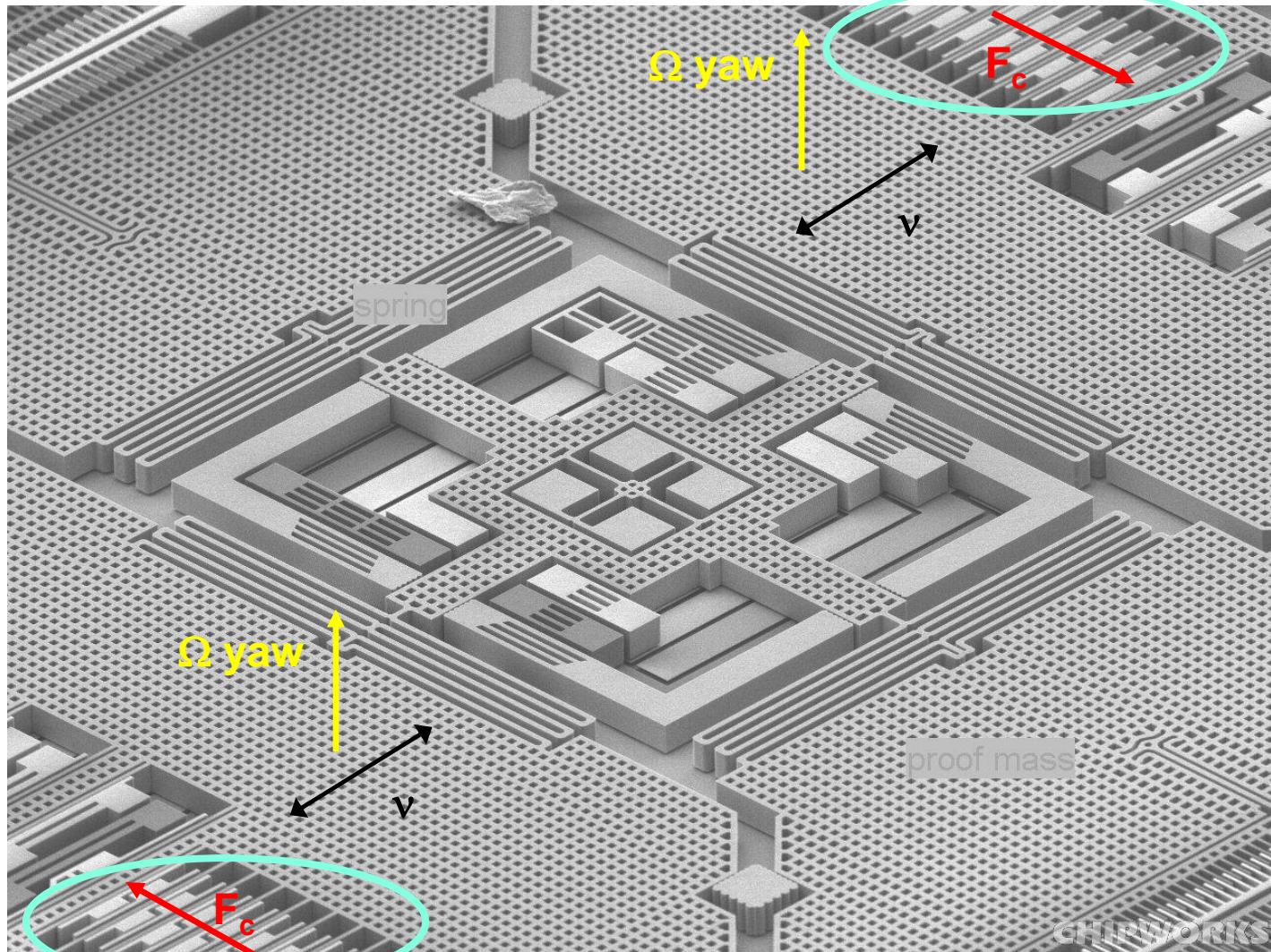
* In video: this picture is rotated 90° because of x-y axis rotation



Source: www.ifixit.com

Apple – iPhone 4 Gyroscope

Coriolis force in plane for the yaw angular rate



Vertical electrodes for yaw sensing

Vertical electrodes for yaw sensing

CHIPWORKS



Source: www.ifixit.com

Capacitive and Piezoresistive Sensing

SUMMARY

Piezoresistive Vs Capacitive sensing

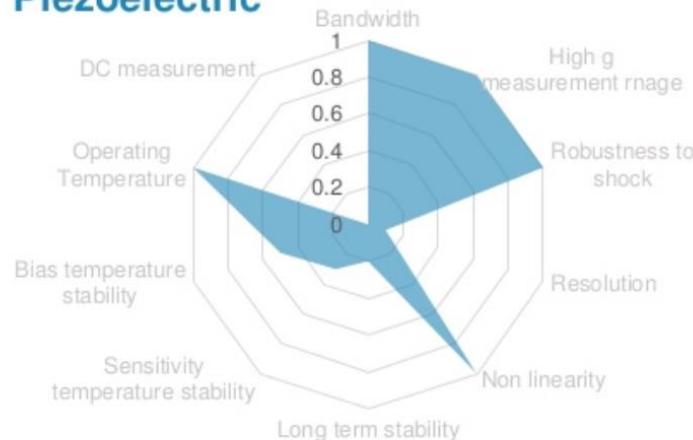
Capacitive sensing is perhaps the most dominant position-sensing technique for microfabricated sensors. However, there are a number of limitations imposed on capacitive sensors:

- The detection of position is constrained to small vertical movement (parallel plate) and horizontal movement (transverse or lateral comb drives).
- The area of overlapped electrodes must be reasonably large (as a rule of thumb, tens of μm^2). If the overlap area is small and the vertical displacement is large, capacitive sensors are not suitable.
- Parasitic capacitances requiring specific electronics circuitry

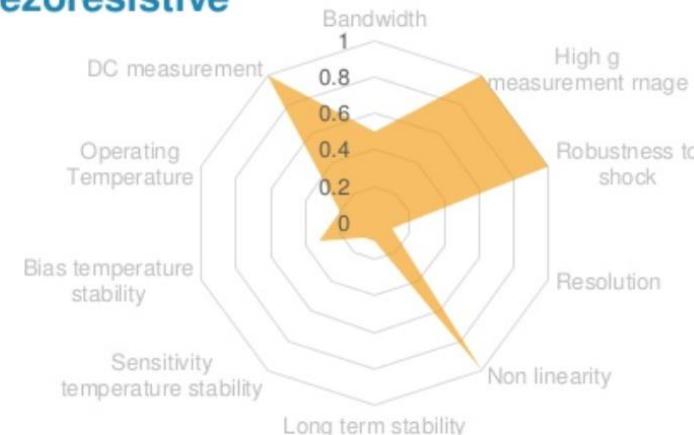
Accelerometer Technologies Comparison (Colibrys)

ACCELEROMETER TECHNOLOGIES COMPARISON

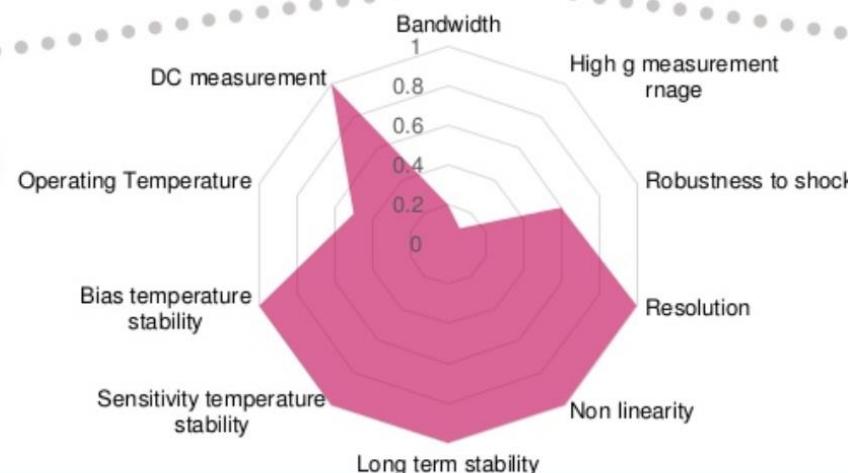
Piezoelectric



Piezoresistive

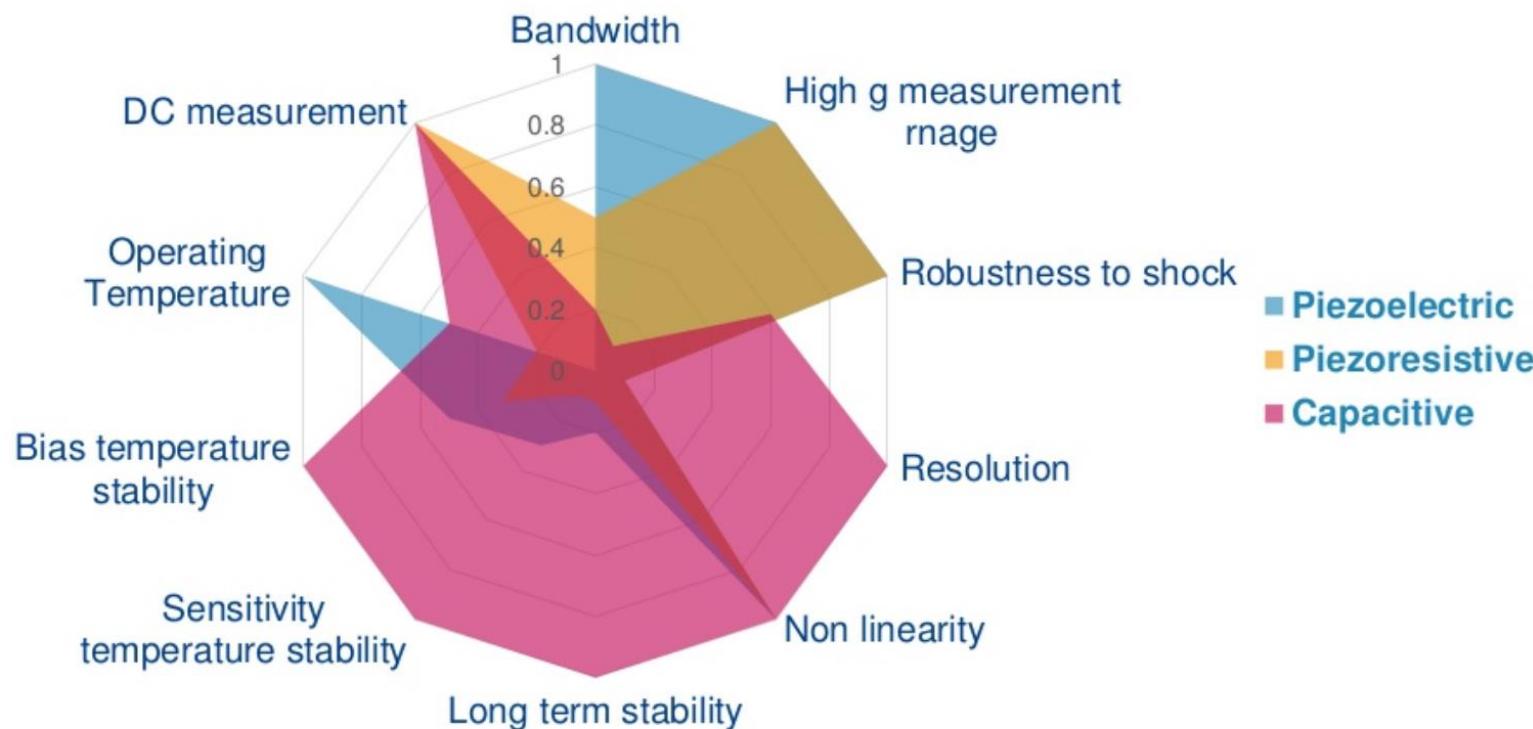


Capacitive MEMs



Accelerometer Technologies Comparison (Colibrys)

ACCELEROMETER TECHNOLOGIES COMPARISON



**“Merging data from multiple sensors — a process called sensor fusion—
to create the most precise representation of the environment”**

Current Developments and Trends

SENSOR FUSION

What's going on?

Motion Sensors

Inertial

Magnetic

Pressure

Position

- Magnetometer
- Direction
- Heading

- Pressure sensor
- Altitude

- GPS
- Coordinates
- Static
- Dynamic

Linear & Gravity

Rotational

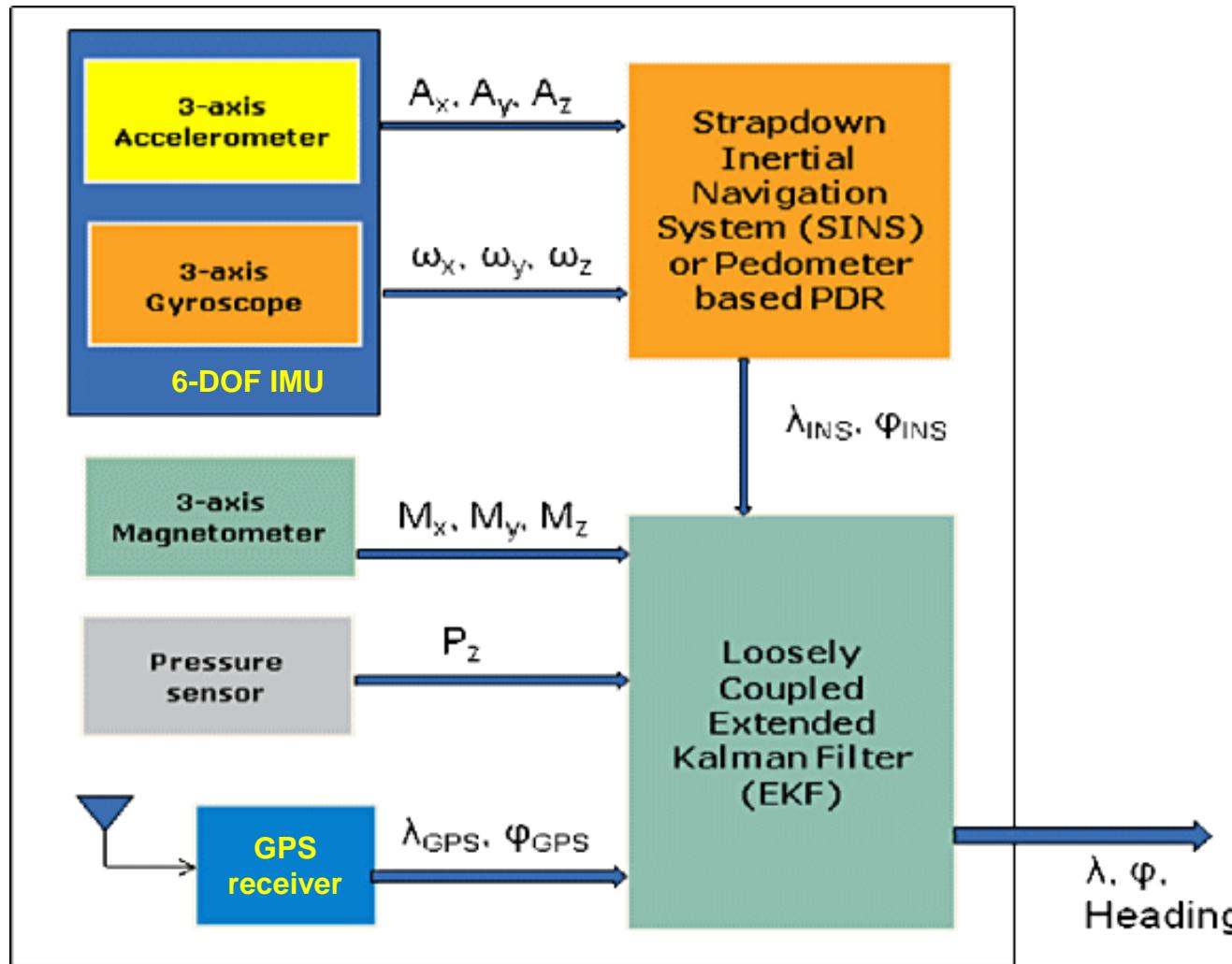
- Accelerometer
- Position i.r.t. gravity
- Change of speed
- Vibration & shock

- Gyroscope
- Angular rate
- Rotation direction

Motion Sensors Help Each Other

Sensor Fusion

→ Combining Sensors to get the «full picture»



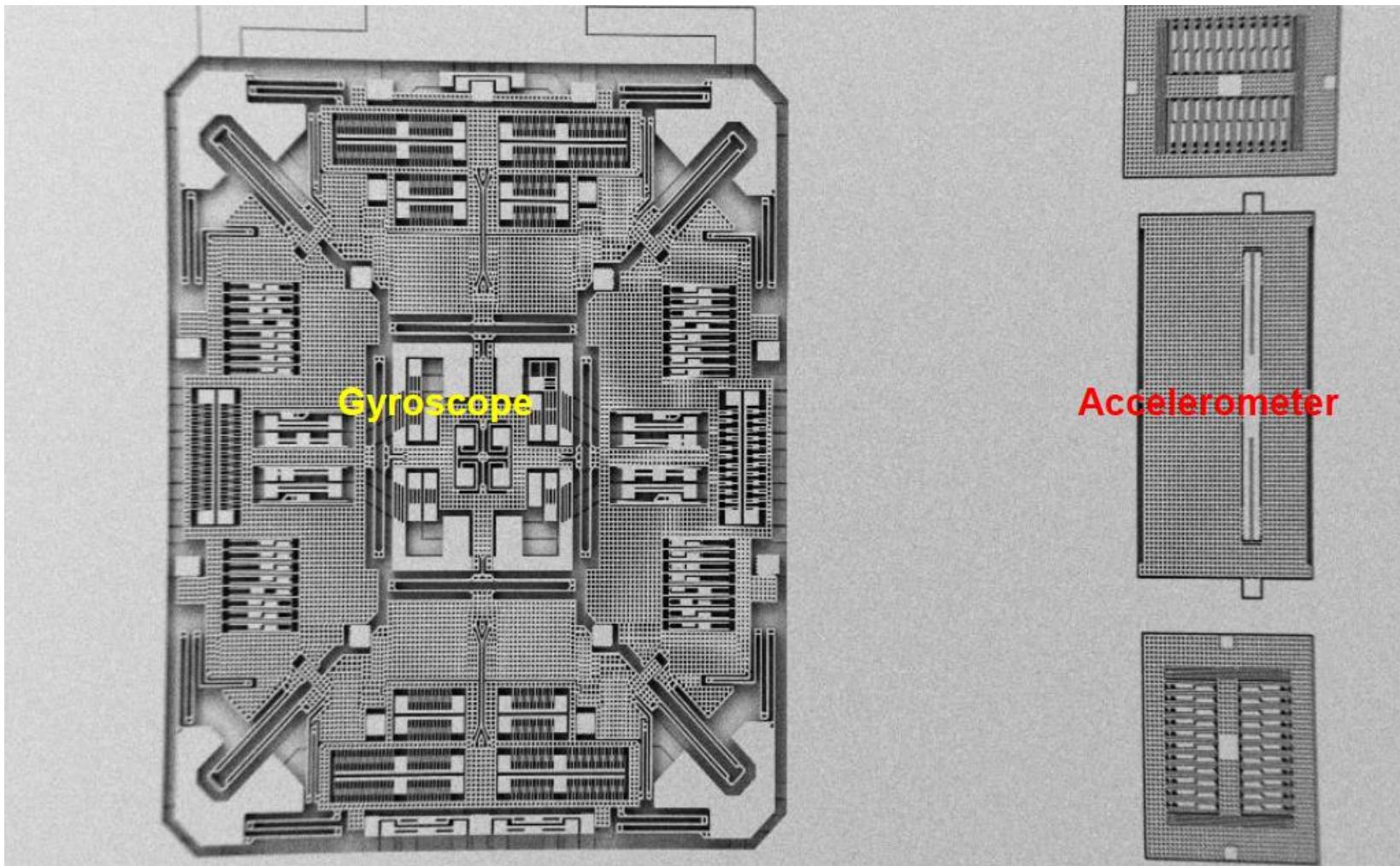
Example for “Fusion” – iPhone 4



© WeReviewer.com

<http://iphonegeartalk.com/tag/gyroscope-technology>

ST Sensor Fusion



**High performance Accelerometer and Gyro
on the same chip**

LSM303DLH: 6-Axis Module overview

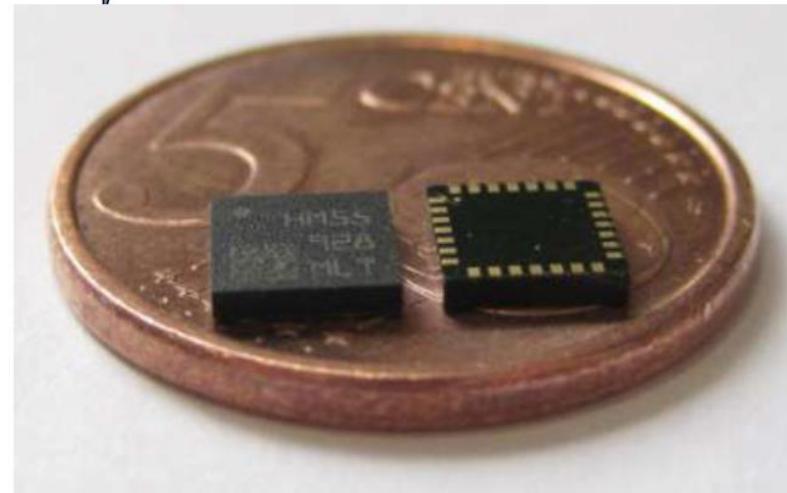
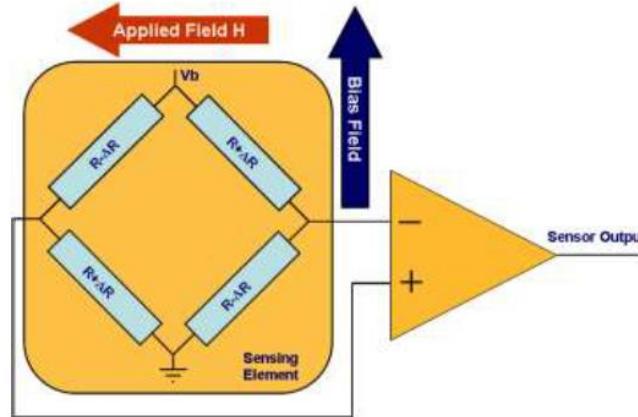
6D module: 3-Axis Accelerometer & 3-Axis Magnetometer



- 3A & 3M Module
- 1.0mA current consumption
- ± 1.3 to 8.1 gauss MAG full scale
- $\pm 2g/\pm 4g/\pm 8g$ Acc. full scale
- 1mg resolution (12 bit)
- Built-in Strap drive circuits
- Self test (Accel & Mag)
- I2C serial interface
- Power down mode
- LGA 28 – 5x5x1

Earth's magnetic field roughly 0.6 gauss

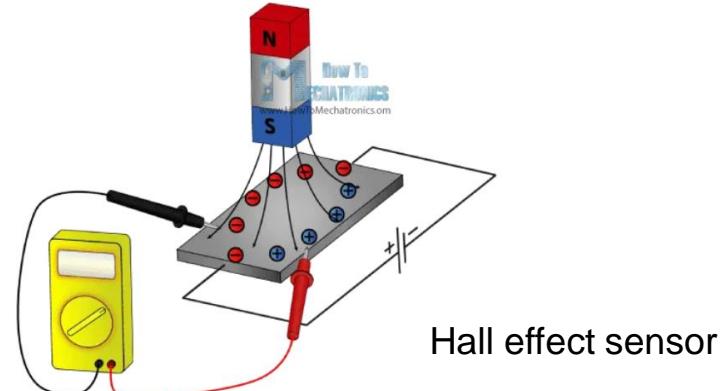
LSM303DLH cover all measurement range



Magnetometer technology

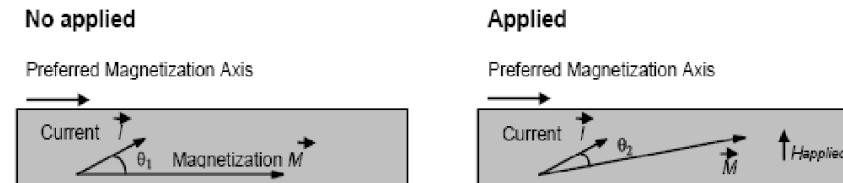
It measures the earth magnetic field by using Hall Effect or Magneto Resistive Effect.

Actually almost 90% of the sensors on the market use the Hall Effect.



Hall effect sensor

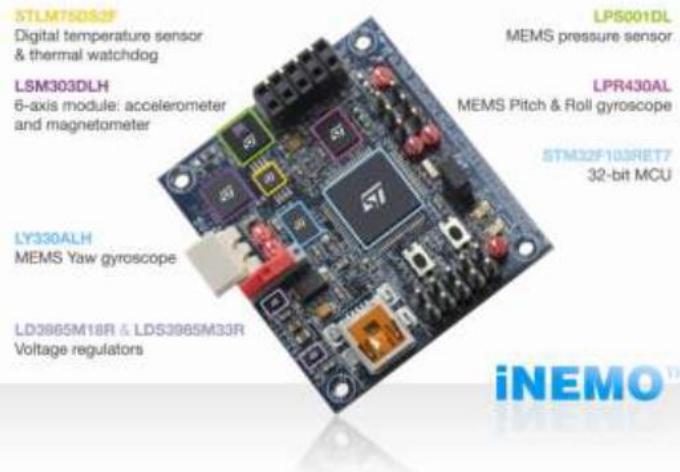
- AMR Sensor - Permalloy thin film material (NiFe alloy)



- Magneto-resistance is the property of a material to change the value of its electrical resistance when an external magnetic field is applied
- In AMR sensors, the sensing element is composed by material where a dependence of electrical resistance on the angle between the direction of electrical current and orientation of magnetic field is observed
- In Wheatstone Bridges AMR, the sensing element detects resistance change effects due to magnetic field change, that is translated into a digital word by the electronic section embedded into LSM303DLH

MEMS Challenge – Smart Chips and Sensors

STEVAL-MKI062V2 – iNEMO – 10-DOF

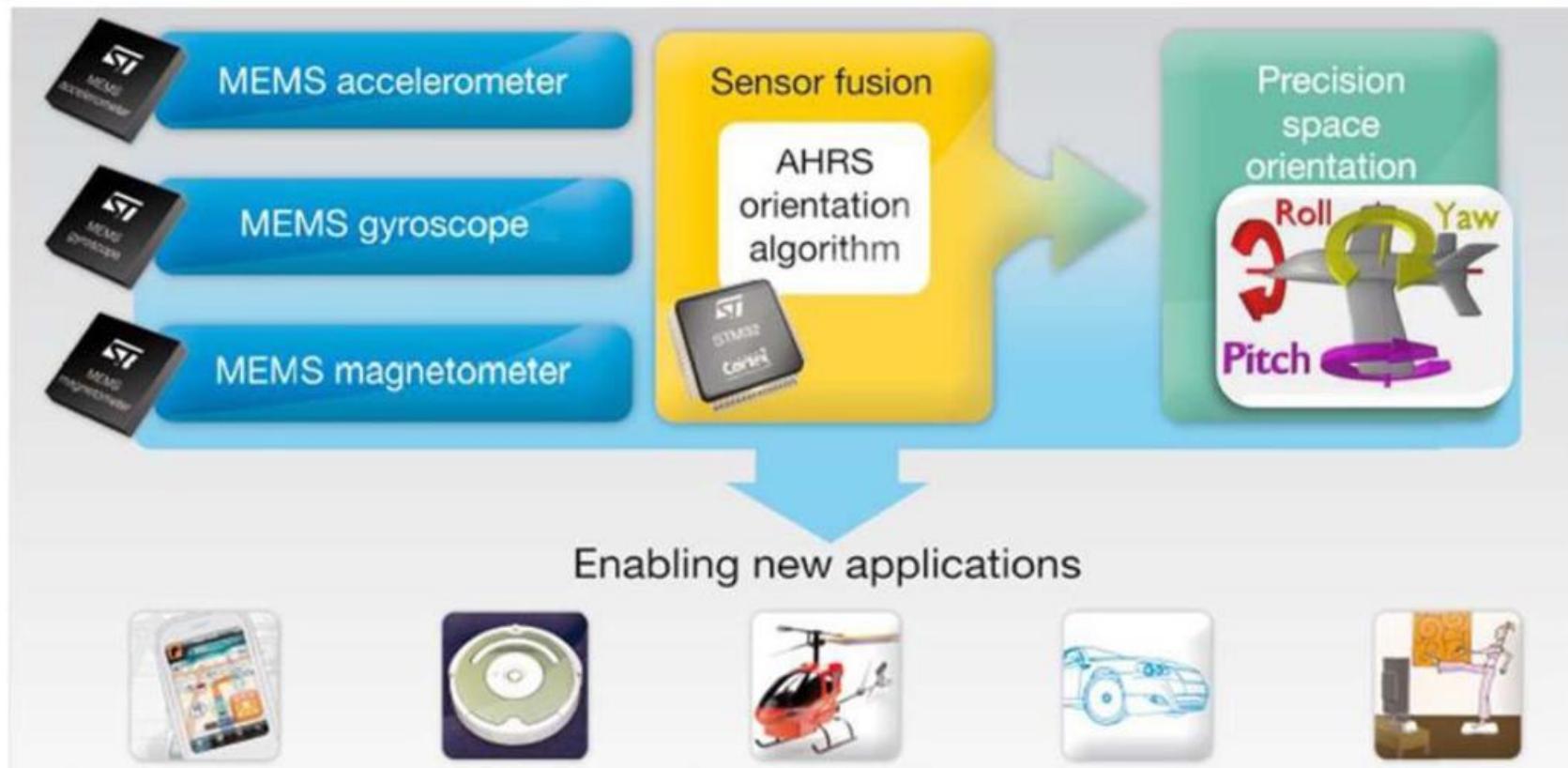


- 10-DegreesOfFreedom platform:
 - 3-Axis Accelerometer
 - 3-Axis Gyroscopes
 - 3-Axis Magnetometer
 - 1 Dimension of pressure information
- STLM75: temperature sensor with -55 to $+125^{\circ}\text{C}$ range and I²C
- MCU - STM32F103RE



MEMS Challenge – Smart Chips and Sensors

The iNEMO platform enables New Applications through sensor fusion



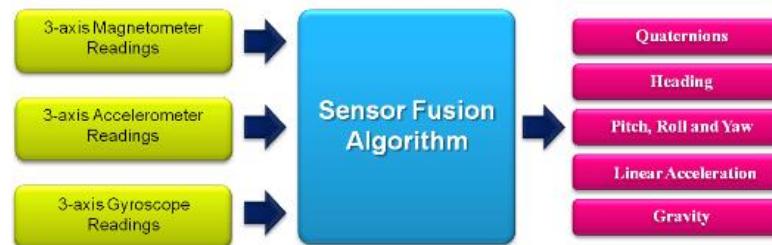
Note: AHRS = Attitude Heading Reference System

MEMS Challenge – Smart Chips and Sensors

iNEMO® Engine: the Software

ST solution fully deployed in Android and Windows platforms

28



- Sensor fusion combines the signal from multiple sensor and compensates the non idealities of standalone sensors
- The SW provides also advanced features such as:
 - Dynamic signal distortion (hand jitter) from inertial components
 - Magnetic distortions correction
 - Full calibration support



COMPANY CONFIDENTIAL

Inertial Sensors – Costs and Main Suppliers

Sensor Type	Cost Range	Suppliers
MEMS gyro (2 or 3 axis)	< \$0.70 per axis	ST Micro InvenSense Epson
MEMS accelerometer (3 axis)	< \$0.20 per axis	ST Micro VTI ADI Freescale
Magnetometer (3 Axis)	< \$0.70 per axis	Honeywell AKM
MEMS pressure sensor	< \$1.50	Bosch

Copyright 2011 MEMS Investor Journal, Inc.

Source: <http://www.memsinvestorjournal.com/2011/09/mems-motion-sensors-market-overview-and-a-system-integrators-perspective.html>

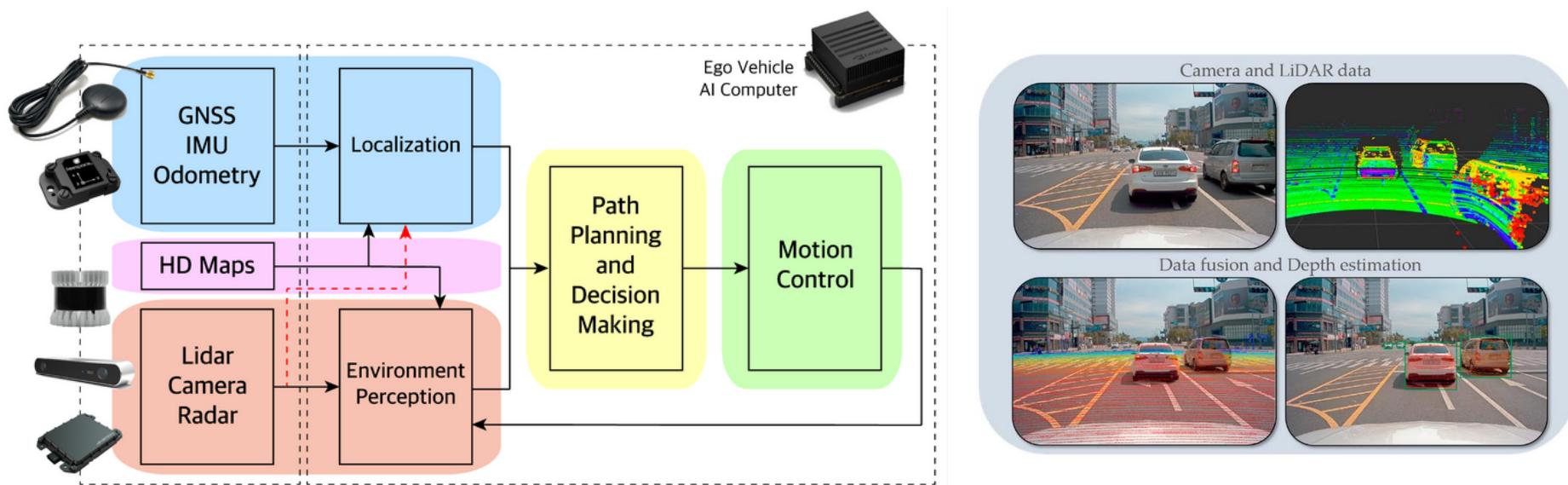
Motion Sensor Fusion

	Pros	Cons
GPS Receiver	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ can provide initial position before entering buildings▪ can retrieve the earth's declination angle to compensate the magnetometer heading to the appropriate geographic heading▪ can calibrate pedometer step length when the device has a clear view to the sky outdoors▪ can provide bounded accurate position (longitude and latitude) outputs and pseudo-range raw measurement outputs for loosely or tightly coupled Kalman filtering with INS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ cannot tell heading when the pedestrian is not moving▪ cannot distinguish small variations in height (altitude)
Accelerometer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ can be used for a tilt-compensated digital compass when the smart phone is static or moving slowly▪ can be used for pedometer step-counter detection▪ can be used to detect if the pedestrian is in motion or at rest	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ cannot differentiate the true linear acceleration from the earth gravity components when the smart phone is rotating▪ is sensitive to shaking and vibration
Gyroscope	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ can continuously provide the rotation matrix to INS▪ can aid the digital compass in calculating heading when the magnetometer is disturbed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ bias drift over time leads to unlimited INS positioning error
Magnetometer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ can calculate absolute heading with respect to earth's magnetic north▪ can be used to calibrate gyroscope sensitivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ is sensitive to environmental magnetic interference fields
Pressure sensor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ can distinguish between floors for indoor navigation▪ can aid GPS for altitude calculation and positioning accuracy when the GPS signal is degraded	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ is sensitive to wind flow and weather conditions

source: <http://www.findmems.com>

Autonomous driving and vehicles

- Higher autonomy levels demand higher levels of accuracy and precision in object detection, classification and tracking and environmental modeling
- Sensor fusion combines raw data from all available sensors on the vehicle and provides rich data to accurately detect and classify an object



Sensors 2019, 19(20), 4357

Symmetry 2020, 12(2), 324

Summary Questions

- **How does capacitive sensing work? Why to use MEMS?**
- **Why is differential capacitive readout beneficial?**
- **For a capacitive MEMS sensor, what material or geometric properties can be used for sensing? If a higher sensitivity is required, what parameters can an engineer consider in the sensor design?**
- **Describe the design and operation of MEMS Accelerometers and Gyroscopes**
- **What applications use MEMS Accelerometers and Gyroscopes and why?**
- **What is the self-test function in a capacitive MEMS Accelerometer?**
- **What are advantages of piezoresistive sensing compared to capacitive sensing and vice-versa?**
- **What is Sensor Fusion and what it is good for?**

Capacitive Readout vs. Piezoresistive Readout 2020

	capacitive	piezoresistive
properties	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Measure capacitance- Distance change- Parallel Plate- Change in Common Surface- Comb Drive- « etched into silicon » $C = \frac{\epsilon A}{g}$	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Strain->stress->resistor change- Doping / thin film deposition- $\frac{dR}{R} = G\epsilon$
advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Differential Readout - linearize- 'integrated in microsystems technology'- More easily manufactured--	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Create an integrated readout- 'integrated' in microsystem technology- Linear (within the material limits)- 'can tolerate large displacement'--
drawbacks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-- Parallel plate - nonlinear- Higher sensitivity requires larger capacitors- Requires more space- Pull-in instability- Fabrication tolerances in geometry--	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Fabrication tolerances due to doping (can actually be well controlled)- temperature sensitivity (wheat stone bridge can solve it)- power consumption!- Thermal noise- Self-heating

Capacitive Readout vs. Piezoresistive Readout 2019

	capacitive	piezoresistive
properties	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- change in capacitance- $C = \epsilon \cdot A / d$- combs / interdigitated- parallel plate- differential readout-	$C = \frac{\epsilon A}{g}$ <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Change in resistor due to stress/strain- Sensor by ion implantation / diffusion doping $\frac{dR}{R} = G \epsilon$
advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- differential readout - linearize- good sensitivity in uSystems- low power consumption- no heat-up upon readout- integrate well with MST-	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- integrate well with MST- compact- larger displacements (no pull-in)---
drawbacks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- complex structure?- nonlinear / readout -> linearize?- combs might stick- pull-in instability- frequency measurement- less compact (surface requirement)- sensitive to humidity (package)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- power consumption (high)- self-heating- thermal noise----

Capacitive Readout vs. Piezoresistive Readout 2018

	capacitive	piezoresistive
properties	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Capacitive change due to movement or change in ϵ- small movements- large areas- parallel plates or comb drives- ... $C = \frac{\epsilon A}{g}$	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- change in resistor due to stress/strain- sensor element by ion implantation or by diffusion implant $\frac{dR}{R} = G\epsilon$
advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- stability- low power- good repeatability- can be integrated using MEMS technology- ...	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- can support large movements- small footprint- integration with electronics/process- ...
drawbacks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- nonlinear response<ul style="list-style-type: none">- linearization / more complex readout required- can be sensitive to discharges- sensitivity to humidity- ...	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- thermal noise- power dissipation- drift- ...